



DISTRICT B NEWSLETTER



Ruth Johnson

FEBRUARY 2008

District B

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

SCHOOL WILL NOT BE IN SESSION
ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

02/18/08.....President's Day

03/17-21/08...Spring Break

For a complete list of calendar dates access

[Important Dates 07-08.pdf](#)

REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS:

February 14, 2008, 4:00 p.m.

February 28, 2008, 4:00 p.m.

The above board meetings are held at:

Edward A Greer Education Center, Board Room
2832 E. Flamingo Road,
Las Vegas, NV 89121

Access the district's website at www.ccsd.net

SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS:

February 11, 2008, 9:00 a.m.

Location: TBA

NORTHEAST REGION OPEN ENROLLMENT INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS

February 5, 2008 6:00 p.m.

Monaco Middle School

February 13, 2008 6:00 p.m.

Perkins Elementary

PROGRESS REPORTS UNSATISFACTORY NOTICES DISTRIBUTED:

In addition to the parent communication system available on school websites, Progress Reports/Unsatisfactory Notices will be distributed to students on 2/22/08 and 5/2/08. If your child is absent on the above date, please contact your child's school to make arrangements to receive the notice. **PLEASE NOTE:** Notices will not be mailed home.

TEACHERS WILL ISSUE QUARTER GRADES FOR THE 2007- 2008 SCHOOL YEAR ON:

Quarter:	Quarter Ends:	Report Cards
Two	January 18	February 6
Three	March 28	April 16
Four	June 4	June 13-mailed

Dear District B

As 2008 gets underway, I handed over the gavel to Mrs. Mary Beth Scow who will serve as the Board President for this year. Mrs. Scow has an impeccable reputation as a leader among her District A constituents as well as strong leadership on the School Board. Each year the trustees are asked to take assignments to work with district committees and organizations outside the district. This year I will be representing you and the School Board on the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Commission, the Clark County Debt Management Committee, and the School Naming Committee. See the list below for information about where each of your Board members will be serving this year. These are important assignments as we share information and work as strong partners with many organizations that help children.

A new endeavor this year will be the Audit Committee. We are now taking applications from members of the committee with financial backgrounds to serve on a volunteer basis to review district audits and advise the Board of Trustees. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please call our office at 799-1072 to arrange for a job description and a one page application. The deadline is fast approaching!

February 25-29 is Nevada Reading Week. Please ask your favorite school if you can arrange to be a volunteer reader. We need our children to see that adults read for fun, for business and that reading can make a difference in their lives. Thank you for all you do to help your children and grandchildren. Thanks for making our community better through your efforts!

Ruth Johnson

2008 Board Committee Assignments

American Education Week Committee

Ruth Johnson and Sheila Moulton

Attendance Zone Advisory Commission (AZAC)

Carolyn Edwards

Audit Committee

Sheila Moulton

Bond Oversight Committee (BOC)

Terri Janison

Council of Great City Schools

Mary Beth Scow

Clark County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee

Carolyn Edwards

Debt Management/Southern Nevada Regional Planning Commission

Ruth Johnson

Nevada Association of School Boards Director

Carolyn Edwards

2008 Board Committee Assignments

NIAA Board of Control

Larry Mason and Sheila Moulton

Oversight Panel for School Facilities (AB 353)

Terri Janison

Parks and Recreation

TBA

PBS & APTS

Carolyn Edwards

Public Education Foundation

Sheila Moulton

School Name Committee

Ruth Johnson, Larry Mason, and

Sheila Moulton

Sex Education Advisory

Mary Beth Scow

Student Council Advisory

Carolyn Edwards

2007: The Year in Review

As the Clark County Board of School Trustees begins a new year, they remain hard at work to ensure the continued success of students in the community. With new board officers and the superintendent's reminder to "Keep Your Eye on the CAP," trustees have begun 2008 energized and proud of the school district's accomplishments from the past year.

In January 2007, trustees elected Ruth Johnson as Board President, Terri Janison as Vice President and Mary Beth Scow as Clerk. Throughout the year, trustees worked with the superintendent and his staff as well as outside organizations and agencies to provide the community with a high-quality public education system. In determining how to best serve the community, they received reports from the year-round school calendar study group, the committee to study school start times, the policy ad hoc committee and the 50th anniversary committee.

The board received several awards and honors through the year for their work in music education programs, building programs and office management systems while receiving commendations for their fiscal responsibility in the last legislative audit. Trustees were honored by the Nevada Association of School Boards. Carolyn Edwards was nominated for Director of the Year while Sheila Moulton was awarded Officer of the Year for her work representing Clark County District G.

To provide the public with better access to information that affects the school district, trustees installed new computer software that allowed them to create and post agendas electronically along with the minutes from past meetings. Not only did these efforts provide the community with a better opportunity to stay involved, it resulted in savings of close to \$55,000 in just one year. To help meet

the busy schedules of community members who wished to take an active role in education, trustees moved the start of their regular board meetings to 4 p.m. and took the first steps towards web-casting the meeting to a broader audience. Finally, trustees re-designed their newsletters and created a new "Special Edition" to help the public stay informed on key district-wide issues.

Last year, in addition to visiting many of Clark County's schools for open houses and other important events, trustees held more than 56 public hearings and heard issues ranging from policy and school safety to zoning and budget cuts. They conducted a pair of community linkage meetings, including one meeting with parents on federal regulations and another for feedback from recent school district graduates. Trustees launched and subsequently aired five "School Matters" programs, a live, call-in television program that encourages feedback from the community on important education issues in Southern Nevada. As a result of the success of the "School Matters" television program, four additional shows have already been planned for 2008.

In February and July, trustees conducted their evaluation of Superintendent Walt Rulffes and found him to both be in compliance and making reasonable progress with the district. Trustees accepted all 11 of the superintendents monitoring reports, which monitor the progress of the school district in educating students, and also provided three commendations for jobs that were done exceptionally well. Thanks to the superintendent's hard work and that of CCSD staff and students, trustees saw significant increases in the number of schools making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), the number of graduates attending UNLV and also were pleased to see the entire school district make AYP for the first time. Additionally,

the district saw a decrease in both the dropout rate and the achievement gap in 2007.

In keeping up with the CCSD's growth and evolving needs, trustees approved and monitored six charter schools and nine new schools. Trustees opened two replacement schools, one of which is the first green building in the district while the other is the first of several new career and technical centers. Trustees also attended several new school dedications and the ground breaking for the new KLVX television station and Virtual High School campus.

Moving forward, trustees are committed to working with the community to provide quality education and opportunity for students. Communicating with the public will be central to all school board goals for 2008. Trustees have outlined plans to have staff produce all board minutes within 30 days of a meeting and will work hard to develop public speaking guidelines that are more user friendly. They also will work to improve the community linkage process and continue the development of the "School Matters" television program. Trustees also are developing a Board Audit Committee that will help the board evaluate the areas of service it can improve upon. Additionally, trustees hope to once again participate with the school district in a community service project during the holiday season, a tradition that began this past December.

While this year will undoubtedly bring a new set of challenges and opportunities, the board of school trustees will continue to work closely with the talented staff, teachers and students who proudly call Clark County home.