



DISTRICT G NEWSLETTER



Sheila Moulton

AUGUST 2008

District G

The first day of the 2008-09 school year is

August 25, 2008!

Welcome back and here's to another great year!
You can find 2008-09 calendars online at www.ccsd.net. Just click on "Calendar."

REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS:

August 14, 2008 4:00 p.m.

August 28, 2008 4:00 p.m.

The above Board meeting are held at
Edward A. Greer Education Center Board Room
2832 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89121

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING:

Work Session

August 18, 2008 9:00 a.m.

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

DISTRICT G PAC MEETING:

September 10, 2008 9:15 a.m.

East Region Office

Corner of Eastern/Vegas Valley

Registration - 2008-2009 school year

Registration for the 2008-09 school year will be held during August at local schools. Specific registration information is available from the child's school. Families who arrive after August 25 are asked to enroll their students as soon as possible. Call the Zoning Office at 799-6430 for information or access the website at: <http://ccsd.net/parents/enrollment.phtml>

**Change of Date
SCHOOL MATTERS:
Back to School**

Join the Board of School Trustees in a television discussion about all your Back to School needs.

Thursday, August 14

8:00 p.m.

Vegas PBS – Channel 10

Dear PAC Members:

The summer is quickly moving forward and our 9-month schools will begin the end of this month, and our year-round schools will have a brief break for a few days before gearing up for another educational year. I hope all of you have enjoyed your families and innovative, educational experiences with your children and family during the summer.

CCSD is encouraging all students to register as early as possible to let schools know what their student population will be for the 2008-09 school year. Because of economic conditions, we are not anticipating the significant growth that has taken place over the last several years. In fact, at the end of May CCSD was down over 4,200 students from the count day in September. Although we know we will increase in numbers--there always seems to be plenty of kindergarteners and first graders--we do not really know what the enrollment will be. For that reason, we have conservatively hired teachers, and as soon we know firm numbers, we can ensure that all classrooms are filled with qualified and prepared educators.

You may have heard on the news that the Board voted to postpone the 2008 Bond Election for up to two years. This decision was made because of the lower number of students anticipated and the new schools that will bring an additional several thousand seats this fall to CCSD capacity. We will discuss this action in September, and I will willingly answer any questions you may have on the effect of this action on District G schools. Our new Career and Technical School will open in August, and I hope that we can have one of our PAC meetings there to show you what opportunities this school brings to the east end of the Valley. We also have the new high school being built at Los Feliz and Carey and an elementary school being built near Rundle that will open in the fall of 2009. Lots to talk about!

I am sure you are all aware of the difficult money crisis the state of Nevada is experiencing. We are anticipating the 2009 legislature will deal with these issues; for this reason, I would encourage all of us to make sure we are registered to vote and to look carefully at candidates that are supportive on education issues. As a School Board Member, we have given direction to Dr. Ruffes to stay away from the classroom. Class size increase has been the means of meeting these significant cuts before; but I believe we cannot continue to increase our already largest class sizes in the nation and ensure that students receive a good education. Discussions have also looked into cutting transportation and extracurricular programs. Please know that public input will be taken if further cuts are needed, and of course we will have these discussions at our **SEPTEMBER 10th PAC MEETING** held at the **EAST REGION OFFICE at 9:15 a.m.** I need your **INPUT** to make good decisions on this issue. At this meeting we will also discuss topics and guests for the 2008-09 school year. It is important that every school in District G has a representative there for this all important discussion.

At our last Board Meeting, we heard the results of AYP for the last school year. Because of the process of meeting 100% grade level proficiency by the year 2014, student scores toward this goal needed to increase between 10 and 13%. This was significant growth, and many schools were able to reach this goal. Every school in the district made progress, and we will have the 2008-09 school year to meet the same numbers as we move toward the 2014 goal. This means the current methods of individual student help and assessment must be continued. I commend those that made AYP and will continue to advocate for support of schools that are working hard to make sure that truly No Child is Left Behind. Each and every student will receive the support at school they need to succeed. Of course, in these times of fiscal challenges, it is important that families support their children 24/7 in all their homework assignments, and when you are able, support teachers in the classroom.

I thank all of you for your continued support as your School Board Member. It is an honor and privilege for me to serve you. I look forward to seeing you at the Open Houses and also our first District G PAC Meeting in September. As always please feel free to call me with your concerns and questions.

Sheila Moulton 431-8575
Trustee

PARENTS – Set a Goal and Get Involved

Parent involvement increases student achievement

to set goals with your children for the coming year. But don't forget to set a goal for yourself – to become more involved in your children's education.

Why Is Parent Involvement Important?

Research shows when parents are involved in their children's education, the students do better in school.

In study after study, researchers discover how important it is for parents to be actively involved in their child's education. Here are some of the findings of major research into parental involvement:

- When parents are involved in their children's education at home, they do better and go farther in school.
- A home environment that encourages learning is more important to student achievement than income, education level or cultural background.
- Reading aloud to children is the most important activity that parents can do to increase their child's chance of reading success.
- When children and parents talk regularly about school, children perform better academically.
- The earlier that parent involvement begins in a child's educational process, the more powerful the effects.
- Positive results of parental involvement include improved student achievement, reduced absenteeism, improved behavior, and restored confidence among parents in their children's schooling.



How Can Parents Get Involved?

Ways to get involved in your child's education include:

- Reading to your child
- Checking homework every night
- Discussing your children's progress with teachers
- Voting in school board elections
- Helping your school to set challenging academic standards
- Limiting TV viewing on school nights
- Becoming an advocate for better education in your community and state.
- Asking your children, "How was school today?"

Some parents and families are able to be involved in their child's education in many ways. Others may only have time for one or two activities. Whatever your level of involvement, do it consistently and stick with it because you will make an important difference in your child's life.

Source: www.nea.org

School Bond Postponed

After careful consideration, the Clark County School District Board of School Trustees voted Friday, July 18 to withdraw the 2008 bond question from the November ballot. Based on staff recommendations, the board also approved extending the 1998 bond to continue planned school construction and renovation for two more years and to prepare for a bond question on the ballot in 2010.

The decision came after a review of latest growth projections and considerable input from the public. The opportunity to extend the current bond-funded building

efforts results from expert management of the program, careful planning and fiscal responsibility by the district and bond related committees.

The 1998 bond provided for construction of more than 100 schools and countless renovations at existing campuses. Projects identified under the previous bond **will still take place**, and the revenue generated by the bond, as with similar programs, will continue in the coming months, although at a diminishing pace.

A progress report on the 1998 bond program is available online at www.ccsd.net.

GOOD NEWS & CONGRATULATIONS

to the Clark County School District for making Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) as a district for the SECOND year in a row under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).

Each spring, students across the nation participate in tests in accordance with mandates established by NCLB. AYP reflects achievement in meeting the specific state-defined standards that increase over time. Schools must meet all 37 targets – for proficiency as well as participation in English, mathematics and other indicators for nine subgroups – to earn AYP status. If even one subgroup does not meet the targets, the entire school does not make AYP.

Highlights from this year's assessment include:

- Overall, the district met 94.2% of the targets – an "A" grade
- 186 schools made AYP and all schools improved in at least one area.
- All targets increased over last year, some more than 12%
- Two schools achieved Exemplary status and 17 schools reached High Achieving

Preliminary results by school are available at www.ccsd.net.

LOOK OUT! It's Coming!

Watch for the annual

Back to School Reporter

to arrive in the mail in the next few weeks. Inside you'll find everything you need to know about the start of school.

To see the Reporter in English and/or Spanish, go to www.ccsd.net.

