

## SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE

### New Elementary School Name Application

For instruction regarding submitting an application to name a school, please see the Call for Nominations available on the [School Name Committee](#) page on CCSD.net.

<b>PERSON SUBMITTING THE NOMINATION:</b> Terri Janison			
<b>ADDRESS:</b> ██████████			
<b>CITY:</b> Las Vegas	<b>STATE:</b> NV	<b>ZIP CODE:</b> ████████	
<b>EMAIL:</b> ██████████	<b>HOME PHONE:</b> ██████████	<b>CELL PHONE:</b> ██████████	
<b>INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUGGESTED NAMESAKE</b>			
<b>FULL NAME OF NOMINEE</b> (first, middle, and last): Orton Dennis Ortwein			
<b>PROPOSED SCHOOL NAME:</b> Dennis Ortwein Elementary School			
<b>NOMINEE'S OCCUPATION:</b> Retired Educator			
<b>IS THE NOMINEE:</b>			
A FORMER CCSD EMPLOYEE?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED? 30
A FORMER BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED?
CURRENTLY SERVING IN ANY PUBLIC OFFICE?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
A CURRENT OR FORMER CCSD SUPPLIER, CONTRACTOR, OR CONSULTANT?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
A RELATIVE OF ANY PERSON CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE OR BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO			
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
<b>DATE OF BIRTH:</b> ████████	<b>CITY:</b> ████████	<b>STATE:</b> ██████	<b>COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP:</b> USA
<b>DECEASED?</b> <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<b>YEARS IN CLARK COUNTY:</b> 60	<b>CURRENT RESIDENT CLARK COUNTY?</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
<b>SUPPORT FOR THIS NOMINATION</b>			
<b>EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION</b> (please summarize the nominee's extraordinary and lasting contributions to education benefitting the Clark County School District):			
See attached - question 1			
<b>EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP</b> (please explain the nominee's demonstrated exceptional leadership locally toward the advancement of education and/or humanity in Clark County):			
See attached - question 2			

**NOTABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE** (list relevant education positions or experience inside and/or outside of the Clark County School District, length of time in each position, and impact on K-12 achievement in Clark County):

See attached - question 3

**INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE** (please explain how the nominee's activities have contributed to children, education, or to the betterment of Clark County):

See attached - question 4

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY** (please describe the estimated number of children/people impacted by the nominee's activities):

Dr. Ortwein's service as a teacher, administrator and community leader from 1956 to 2016 has easily impacted over one million (1,000,000) students and thousands of adults.

**POSITIVE ROLE MODEL/SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, TALENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, OR CONTRIBUTIONS** (please describe the nominee's demonstrated character to inspire students and any other special attributes, talents, accomplishments, or contributions not listed elsewhere):

See attached - question 6

**IS THERE AN AREA OF TOWN/TRUSTEE DISTRICT MOST RELEVANT FOR THIS NOMINEE** (please note that all nominations will be considered for all new school locations, but this answer may help with final placement decisions):

A school near the Sun City Summerlin neighborhood would make it easier for Dr. Ortwein to visit and assist a school named in his honor.

You may attach no more than five (5) additional sheet(s) to complete your answers to the questions if needed.

**REQUIRED REFERENCES:** In a separate document, please provide five (5) names of references, including addresses, email and phone numbers. References may not be related to the nominee.

**OPTIONAL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:** In addition, the committee will consider no more than three (3) letters of recommendation for each individual or joint nominee(s).

**Please submit application and supporting documentation by September 16, 2016:**

Clark County School District c/o Community and Government Relations

5100 West Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89146

or via email to [snc@ccsd.net](mailto:snc@ccsd.net).

## 1. EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION

Dr. Dennis Ortwein's lifelong work in education both locally and internationally made a significant impact on millions of students during his professional and volunteer careers. But more importantly, his enduring commitment and tireless work to bring educational equality to the Clark County School District (CCSD) impacts each and every district student today, and will continue to benefit generation upon generation of future students. These significant contributions include his district-wide leadership in desegregation, his pioneering civil rights advocacy work, and his groundbreaking leadership in the inclusion of students with disabilities.

These historic contributions are the result of Dr. Dennis Ortwein's extraordinary ability to be a productive bridge builder throughout his over 60-year school and community career. He began his tenure with the Clark County School District as a teacher during CCSD's inaugural year in 1956. His career spanned 30 years, serving as a teacher and as an administrator. Then, after he "retired," he served another 13 years as a substitute principal.

A champion for equality and human rights causes all his adult life, Dr. Dennis Ortwein played a critical role in local school desegregation, as well as furthered educational equality internationally in Nigeria. He was a leader in the CCSD's movement to eliminate de-facto-segregation and to organize a plan to integrate the public schools of Clark County. In 1966, after 10 years as a teacher and principal for CCSD, Dr. Ortwein took a leave to help the US Government and Ohio University develop a "teacher of teachers" training program for the Government of Nigeria. He was hired to be the coordinator of a lab school to assess and evaluate student teachers, coordinating the training of teachers for work in remote villages and to demonstrate master teaching while teaching education classes at the college.

Additionally he acted as an ambassador for the United States in the newly developed and independent country of Nigeria, travelling the country with two Peace Corps members and performing musical renditions, as Dr. Ortwein has an exceptional singing voice that he used to bridge cultures.

Upon his return from Nigeria Dr. Ortwein was assigned as the principal of the still segregated Jo Mackey Elementary School. At Mackey he began working with civil rights advocates Mabel Hoggard and Edythe Katz to bring about the integration of the schools, and to ensure equal educational opportunities for every student in Clark County. His efforts led to the establishment of a CCSD lighthouse plan called POSE (Program of Social Enrichment), a voluntary integration program that paired 5th grade classes at the seven all African-American schools with 5th grade classes in the broader community. This laid the groundwork for the District's 6th Grade Center plan.

Championing educational equality for students with disabilities or special needs, Dr. Ortwein became the CCSD's Federal Programs Coordinator in charge of oversight regarding the 1975 Education for All Handicapped Children Act (P.L. 94-142). Dennis worked tirelessly with school and parent groups on this historic law. This act was instrumental in making sure handicapped students were able to participate in an inclusive classroom setting. The act also insured: the least restrictive environment for all children; a just dispute resolution process for parents; continuing parental review; and supplementary Federal Funds for the programs.

Dr. Ortwein represented the CCSD on monitoring committees for the Nevada Department of Education to review compliance with State and Federal regulations in special programs like Vocational and Indian Education, and private schools throughout the state. He was employed by the Nevada State Department of Education to revise the Nevada Charter School Handbook and assisted the CCSD Human Resources

Department in interviewing prospective teachers from across the country, utilizing his experience to identify and recruit top teaching talent for Clark County.

In addition to this extensive work in educational equality, Dr. Ortwein was one of the architects of the workable classroom model in the face of severe student overcrowding.

In all positions throughout his 60+ year professional and volunteer career in education, he brought significant results by placing emphasis on the teacher-pupil level, especially for those with special needs. Each of these changes has, and to this day, continues to impact all the children in the district, meaning his efforts have benefited and continue to benefit the educational success of over a million students.

## **2. EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP**

Dr. Ortwein's leadership in the face of adversity, and his ability to rally and mobilize community leaders, administrators, teachers, and parents to adopt bold, new, and innovative ways to further educational equality serves as a model for current and future CCSD leaders. He demonstrated exceptional leadership during his CCSD career and continued it upon his retirement, to the benefit of Clark County and Nevada.

Serving as a perfect example of this leadership, Dr. Ortwein was recruited by CCSD and Nevada Superintendents Bob Wentz and Eugene Paslov to assist Esmeralda County with mid-year superintendent/Board turmoil. In one semester he conducted a nationwide search for a permanent superintendent, established libraries in the schools, installed CCSD Board procedures, and brought harmony to the community, allowing teachers, parents, and residents alike to take pride in their District.

Another specific example that highlights Dr. Ortwein's exceptional leadership is his work with the National Conference of Christians and Jews (NCCJ). He was contacted by NCCJ board members Thalia Dondero, first female Clark County Commissioner and Bill Martin, President of the Nevada State Bank and was hired as Executive Director of the NCCJ. At the time of his hire, the organization was in debt and dormant. Dr. Ortwein expanded a working board of directors, increased fundraising, and directed an energetic activity program, including the Mayors' Prayer Breakfast and Camp Anytown (for high school students). With his leadership, the NCCJ worked with Governor Bob Miller to pass the first Nevada hate crimes bill and founded the still active Southern Nevada Interfaith Council, chaired by Gard Jameson. Dr. Ortwein continues working with the NCCJ to this day, conducting interfaith forums in various houses of worship. , # , ,

## **3. NOTABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE**

### **1956-1962 - Lincoln ES, Grade 5 teacher and Jim Bridger Hr. High, Grade 8 English/Social Studies teacher**

- Served on the PTA as the teacher representative.
- Coordinated student council and numerous school activities

### **1962-1966 - Tom Williams ES - Principal**

- Facing skyrocketing growth (exploding from 800-1300 students) and hostility relating to potential overcrowding developed a half-day session/team-teaching program in conjunction with teachers, parents and business community.
- Worked with Young Audiences and Assistance League to bring culture programs to the students
- Collaborated with City of North Las Vegas to develop a joint-use park/playground on school property.

### **1966-1968 Advanced Teachers College Kano (Nigeria)**

- Was an effective “Ambassador” for America at time of civil war in Nigeria and civil rights struggles in the U. S. During the assassinations of Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, he helped African students understand the American values and complexities that led to these tragedies.

#### **1968-1970 - Jo Mackey ES - Principal**

- Returned to the still racially segregated district (after his international educational work in Nigeria and volunteered to house and work with two programs preparing for racial desegregation:
  1. Westside Council directed by Mabel Hoggard
  2. Volunteers for Education directed by Edythe Katz
- Developed and administered the pilot program for school desegregation - POSE (Program of Social Enrichment) where classes from seven African-American schools were matched with cross-town classes for monthly social/academic exchanges.

#### **1970-1981 - Federal and Special Programs Coordinator**

- Insured grants submitted met all Federal requirements, resulting in millions of supplementary funds for students over ten years.
- In this period of struggles for school desegregation and the least-restrictive environment, Dr. Ortwein was often the District voice and a strong advocate for public and agency relations with state/federal representatives, service clubs, advisory committees, university classes, and media.
- Wrote and coordinated two Teacher Corps cycles with UNLV personnel, preparing and motivating many new teachers to work in “at-risk” schools
- Played a major role in developing a workable system to meet the dictates of P.L. 94-142 (The Education of the Handicapped Act)
- Helped conceive/develop an innovative plan that resulted in a daily one hour duty free instructional planning period for teachers as well as specialist art, music, library and Physical Education instructors for students. The plan also solved a negotiation impasse with the local education association.

#### **1981-1986 - C.C. Ronnow ES- Principal**

- Implemented a year-round school schedule in a community that opposed a change from the traditional nine month schedule. His leadership and organization skills won over parents and teachers alike with approaches that became a model for success and inspiration among year-round schools.

After 30 years, Dr. Ortwein retired and began his “second career” with education in Nevada.

#### **1987- Esmeralda County School District. - Interim Superintendent**

- During a time when the county was experiencing a conflict between the current Superintendent and the Esmeralda County Board of Trustees Dr. Ortwein served as Interim Superintendent and worked with the Board and Administration, improving their processes and advancing their education structure.
- Organized a series of team building activities that allowed the various factions within the district to use a framework for cooperative problem solving.
- In addition he provided leadership for a first ever contract negotiation between Trustees and district employees and led the charge to establish a children's library in each school of this rural district.

#### **1991-2007 - Acting/Interim Administrator**

- Served as an on-call licensed administrator for periods of two days to three months in over eighty (80) elementary/middle schools, covering sixteen years after retirement. Three goals were accomplished:
  1. Insure all student needs were met
  2. Provide a smooth transition for the permanent principal
  3. Identify needs that could be met by Rotary and other service organizations

#### **4. INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE**

Dr. Ortwein served as the Regional Director for the National Conference of Christians and Jews, providing an ecumenical approach that brought the people and resources together and impacted intergroup problems in a positive way.

Dr. Ortwein was also appointed and served 11 years on the Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners by Governor Richard Bryan and Governor Bob Miller and six years on the Governor's Committee on Education relating to the Holocaust. The Committee was responsible for bringing Holocaust survivors to teacher workshops for a full understanding of this critical time in history. In addition they developed a Holocaust curriculum for the secondary schools.

Dr. Ortwein has been a member of the North Las Vegas and Summerlin Rotary clubs since 1963. In that time he set the procedures for numerous teacher mini grants, which provided thousands of dollars to teachers. He was named a Paul Harris Fellow six times for major contributions to the Rotary International Charitable Foundation; led a group of young business professionals on a cultural exchange to the Philippines and conducted activities with the Filipino group during their Clark County visit, including interactions with local school groups. He was a leader in developing the Happy Feet program for Rotary, providing over 600 pairs of shoes for needy children in North Las Vegas schools.

In additional Rotary-related work, Dr. Ortwein has been a leader with the Interact and Kideract service clubs in elementary and secondary schools teaching students the importance of giving back to their community. The students, with Rotary assistance, participate in planning service projects as Junior Rotarians. These programs have reached hundreds of children over the last 20 years. Dr. Ortwein and the Summerlin Rotary Clubs continue to work with Palo Verde High School, Johnson Middle School and McMillan Elementary School on these programs.

Additionally Dr. Ortwein served as President of the Education Service Club, Phi Delta Kappa, where he conceived, developed and moderated a gubernatorial debate on educational issues between then candidates Robert List and Robert Rose. He also sponsored the first woman for membership in the PDK, Elise Wolff, during a time of civil rights struggles for women.

He volunteered to serve on the CCSD 50th Anniversary and Archive Committee, bringing an unmatched wealth of knowledge to the group, which will live on for generations of students to come. The group consists of retired administrators and teachers collaborating on writing the history of the school district and is still active today.

He provided important counsel while schools were being designed, to insure the buildings were constructed to support teaching the arts. He was part of the Nevada Arts Advocates which provides student scholarships.

Dr. Ortwein was recognized for his efforts by The Alliance for Arts Education at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. for his contribution to and support of Arts Education.

Dr. Ortwein was particularly visible and accessible for students, bonding with his student body at every school he served. For example, when fifth grade students learned he was leaving as substitute principal at Mitchell Elementary School, they picketed the office with "Ortwein Stay" signs.

## **6. POSITIVE ROLE MODEL/SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, TALENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, OR CONTRIBUTIONS**

Dr. Ortwein has set an important example throughout his life and served as a supportive role model for administrators, teachers, and community leaders. He believes that all human beings are, by their nature, good and that when society approaches problem solving with that belief in mind, cooperation and goodwill are the result. State and local leaders have recognized his significant influence on the community, and over the years called on him to represent Las Vegas when the times required a man of good will to help mend, repair, and restore a sense of community. Governors Bryan and Miller took advantage of his skills in problem solving which resulted in positive action. Governor Bryan honored Dr. Ortwein in a written commendation saying, "As Dennis joined hands and served with distinction in these roles he demonstrated a strong and committed voice for all people of good will. His efforts made our community a better place for all of us".

Music has always been a major part of Dr. Ortwein. He chose to provide his students wonderful opportunities to share in that love; opening their eyes and ears to how music can assist in their education and everyday lives. As a fifth grade teacher he developed programs in his class incorporating academic lessons with music. His students would then perform for the whole school.

He was a founding member and served for fifteen years as a working board member for the Nevada School of the Arts. Additionally, he was a founding member of FAYM (Foundation to Assist Young Musicians) with Hal Weller, Founder of the Las Vegas Philharmonic. FAYM provides violin instruction for at-risk children at the Pearson and East Las Vegas Community Centers.

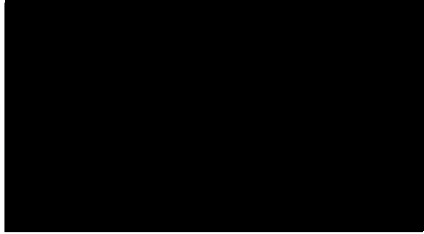
Dr. Ortwein has been a parishioner and an active volunteer, while serving on committees and as a lector and vocalist of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church in Summerlin since 1991. As a recognized leader in the field of education in Southern Nevada, he was asked by the parish council to assist their chosen architect in designing the school envisioned by the church community. The project resulted in the Elizabeth Ann Seton parochial School, opening in the year 2000.

Dr. Ortwein has served as President of the Clark County Elementary Principals Association, School Masters, Phi Delta Kappa and the NLV Rotary Club. He was selected as Rotarian of the year several times. His avocation as an accomplished vocalist included: church cantor, wedding/memorial soloist, and musical comedy performer and at many school related events.

In 1978 Dr. Ortwein was one of the first doctoral candidates to be awarded a doctorate in the Nevada System of Higher Education.

**References for Dr. Dennis Ortwein**

Senator Richard Bryan



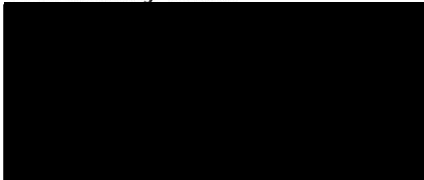
Mr. Harold Weller



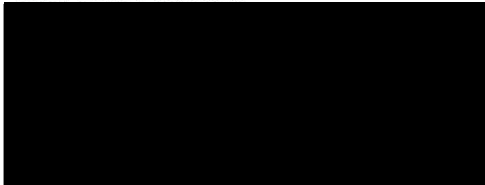
Ms. Ann Lynch



Dr. P. Kay Carl



Mr. Bill Martin





August 29, 2016

Clark County School District School Naming Committee

5100 West Sahara Avenue

Las Vegas, NV 89146

Dear Members:

This letter is to encourage your support and action to name one of the new Clark County School District's elementary schools in honor of Dr. Dennis Ortwein.

Dr. Ortwein has been a long time Clark County educator who served the district and the state in many capacities. I have known Dr. Ortwein, both personally and professionally, for over thirty-five years and have worked with him on many local and state projects.

My interactions with Dr. Ortwein in the District's Federal Programs Office fostered a collaborative relationship between your school district and the Nevada Department of Education leading to improved opportunities for additional programs which benefitted many students in Clark County schools. These included funds for school library/media resources, career educational and workforce exploration and training, integration models, services for special needs children and programs in the arts and physical education.

One of the noteworthy district advancements occurred as a result of a special project to allow elementary teachers a preparation period during the school day. Dr. Ortwein devised a program of specialists who would relieve the regular classroom teacher and offer students programs in art, music, physical education and library classes.

As Nevada Director for Federal Programs, I was especially appreciative of Dr. Ortwein's contributions in helping the state office find ways to innovate and experiment with new educational models, such as through the ESEA Title III mini-grant program. He encouraged teachers to present innovative ideas that would enhance and improve academic skills for all students, and especially those children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

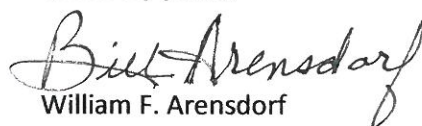
At the state level, Dr. Ortwein served on the state-wide ESEA Title II Advisory Council. The Council approved and monitored programs throughout Nevada's schools and communities. Many of these programs are still operational with local funding. Several years ago our state office engaged Dr. Ortwein to develop a charter schools application manual.

During our professional association Dr. Ortwein served as interim superintendent in Esmeralda County School District. Our state office assisted him in this capacity. A legacy of his work in that school district is the establishment of school and community libraries.

It would be a most fitting honor for your committee to name a school for him in recognition of his many contributions to your school district and to the Las Vegas community.

Please feel free to contact me at [REDACTED] for more information should you desire it.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Arensdorf". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

William F. Arensdorf

Director, Office of Fiscal Accountability, (Ret)

Nevada Department of Education

School Name Committee  
5100 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

I had the privilege of being the Deputy Chief of Party of the Ohio University /USAID project in Kano, Nigeria, from 1965 to 1967. I was in charge of the project when Dr. Dennis Ortwein was hired by Ohio University to be our laboratory school coordinator. His responsibilities were to assess and evaluate student teachers, to coordinate training for teachers in the remote villages, to demonstrate master teaching and to teach education classes at the college.

Ohio University's task in Nigeria was threefold: 1) to develop an advanced teacher's training college with a language and television laboratory (the first in the Northern Region of Nigeria), 2) to provide in-service training materials and courses for the many untrained teachers in remote schools throughout the then Northern Region, and 3) to act as ambassadors of America in a newly developed and independent country. Dennis was very active and successful in all three of these endeavors. He did demonstration lessons which were taped for our language laboratory, provided in-service training for teachers in remote villages, developed a staff handbook for the college and was an outstanding ambassador for America.

Dennis served during the assassinations of Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King. He helped students understand the American system of government with its values as well as its complexities. I was most impressed with his professional and personal reaction to the Biafra war which took place shortly after he arrived in Nigeria. It was a time of great turmoil and the American community was in some peril. Dennis was able to remain focused on his responsibilities and continue his excellent work at the college.

I must also mention his outstanding musical talent. He has a most remarkable singing voice. He and two Peace Corps volunteers would travel to various schools and attend community events to perform musical renditions. It was really an excellent vehicle for bringing an important part of the American culture to Nigeria.

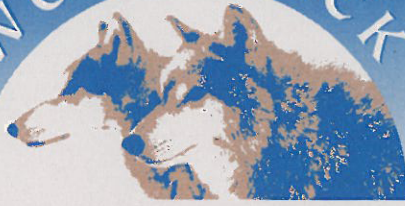
It is an honor for me to be able to recommend Dennis as a candidate to have an elementary school named for him. He is truly an outstanding educator.

Sincerely,



Luther Haseley  
Professor Emeritus, Ohio University

WOLFF PACK



Elise L. Wolff

Elementary School

August 31, 2016

School Name Committee  
5100 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

Dear Members:

Over the years, I have watched distinguished community, business and educational leaders who have been selected to have a school named after them. I am writing to you today in support of a school being named to honor the years of service and dedication of an outstanding education, Dr. Dennis Ortwein.

Dr. Dennis Ortwein is best known to me as an advocate for the educational needs of "at risk" children. With every position he has held, he has insured the quality educational programs and resources be provided to all children. He was exceptionally resourceful in garnering federal grant dollars to augment district funding to address unmet needs.

Dr. Ortwein's tireless involvement in and support of civic, community and educational service has been absolutely exemplary. He has received a myriad of awards and tributes from various agencies and organizations in recognition of his services to the people of the great State of Nevada.

I am quite certain that you and the Board will wholeheartedly agree that naming a school after an individual of Dr. Dennis Ortwein's caliber is most appropriate and will serve to promote the standards of excellence, courage, creativity, leadership, and community service that the school district experts to achieve and promote in all the students and staff members.

Thank you for considering a school named after Dennis Ortwein

Sincerely,

Elise L. Wolff  
Retired Assistant Superintendent of  
Compensatory Education  
Namesake of the Elise L. Wolff Elementary

September 12, 2016

Clark County School District  
SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE  
c/o Community and Government Relations  
5100 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with great pride that I submit Don and Dee Snyder for your consideration for the prestigious honor of a school dedication. I cannot think of anyone in Southern Nevada more deserving.

The Snyders have worked as a team to improve quality of life in our community for nearly three decades, and they have done more for Clark County than anyone I know. Their extensive list of accomplishments includes Don serving as chairman for many local nonprofits, including Nathan Adelson Hospice and United Way, through which he has played a significant role in providing vital resources for local residents in need. But their love is education.

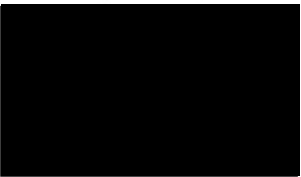
The governor appointed Don to chair the Governor's Commission on Medical Education, Research and Training, and he has also served as dean and later president of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where he applied his extraordinary leadership abilities to place the school on a path to Tier 1 status.

Dee has done more than her share of supporting education, including serving for 10 years on the Discovery Children's Museum board, where she has helped guide the museum's many programs and initiatives to engage children in learning activities.

On a personal level, Don has been the best mentor I have ever had the pleasure of working with. I've talked to other business and community leaders



THE SMITH CENTER  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



who have said the same thing. He provided me with extraordinary support during the fundraising, design, construction, and operation phases of The Smith Center. He pushed me to do my best and then encouraged me to exceed that. I can honestly say that there would be no Smith Center without Don Snyder.

Throughout the process of developing our performing arts complex, Don emphasized education and the need to find ways to encourage, inspire and enrich the lives of our students in Clark County. Nothing excited him more than seeing school busses parked in front of a performing arts center. Long before we opened our doors, Don encouraged a strong focus on education programs.

With his support, our first hire was 33-year Clark County School District veteran Candy Schneider, who further enhanced our vision to make a difference for our kids. Schneider will tell you that Don was there every step of the way, from town hall meetings to greeting school busses full of enthusiastic kids. Inspiring local children brings him great joy.

Don's impact also extends to improving academic resources. Joyce Haldeman told me the story of how Don raised funds supporting a successful bond initiative for new schools. This epic achievement alone should make the decision to name a school after Don and Dee an easy one. Our school district owes them a great debt of gratitude.

The Snyders have always been there when the community needed them. Don's professional resume shows a smart and committed Nevadan, and both of their volunteer efforts reveal caring and responsible human beings who are willing to step up and help wherever needed - especially when it comes to education.

We are blessed to have some extraordinary leaders in our community, many of whom should be considered for a school naming. I hope that you will agree with me that Don and Dee Snyder should go to the top of this list. Don and Dee Snyder Elementary School will serve as a source of pride for our community and a symbol of what happens when people put children first.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Myron G. Martin', written in a cursive style.

Myron G. Martin  
President and C.E.O.

## SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE New Elementary School Name Application

For instruction regarding submitting an application to name a school, please see the Call for Nominations available on the [School Name Committee page on CCSD.net](#).

<b>PERSON SUBMITTING THE NOMINATION:</b> Myron Martin			
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]			
CITY: Las Vegas		STATE: NV	ZIP CODE: [REDACTED]
EMAIL: [REDACTED]		HOME PHONE: [REDACTED]	CELL PHONE: [REDACTED]
INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUGGESTED NAMESAKE			
FULL NAME OF NOMINEE (first, middle, and last): Donald D. Snyder			
PROPOSED SCHOOL NAME: Don and Dee Snyder Elementary			
NOMINEE'S OCCUPATION: Retired / UNLV Presidential Advisor			
<b>IS THE NOMINEE:</b>			
A FORMER CCSD EMPLOYEE?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED?
A FORMER BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED?
CURRENTLY SERVING IN ANY PUBLIC OFFICE?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
A CURRENT OR FORMER CCSD SUPPLIER, CONTRACTOR, OR CONSULTANT?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
A RELATIVE OF ANY PERSON CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE OR BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO			
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]	CITY: [REDACTED]	STATE: [REDACTED]	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: USA
DECEASED? <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	YEARS IN CLARK COUNTY: 30	CURRENT RESIDENT CLARK COUNTY? <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
SUPPORT FOR THIS NOMINATION			
EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION (please summarize the nominee's extraordinary and lasting contributions to education benefitting the Clark County School District):			
<p>Don Snyder has made extraordinary and lasting contributions to CCSD including:</p> <p>Served on CCSD Advisory Committee for ballot and legislative efforts for funding school construction starting with the innovative 10-year funding program in mid-1990s.</p> <p>Has served as Vice Chairman of the legislatively mandated Oversight Panel for School Facilities starting with the 1998 Capital Improvement Building Plan.</p> <p>Led, as CEO of First Interstate Bank, the Bank's involvement with the CCSD Partnership Program.</p> <p><b>EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP</b> (please explain the nominee's demonstrated exceptional leadership locally toward the advancement of education and/or humanity in Clark County):</p> <p>Snyder is known for his exceptional leadership abilities and he has used these skills to advance education and humanity in Clark County. He stepped up when needed at UNLV to serve not only as Dean, but as President. He has a long history of supporting CCSD.</p> <p>Led volunteer efforts to build The Smith Center, including championing the partnership with CCSD.</p> <p>Being called on by CCSD leadership over the years to advocate on behalf of CCSD, including bond issues.</p> <p>Used his platform as a business leader and corporate executive to advance the cause of public education.</p>			

**NOTABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE** (list relevant education positions or experience inside and/or outside of the Clark County School District, length of time in each position, and impact on K-12 achievement in Clark County):

Nearly 30 years of engagement with education both as a volunteer and academic leader.

While serving as UNLV Acting President in 2014, advocated for enhanced relationship between CCSD and UNLV (especially the College of Education).

Served CCSD in various roles (see above). His service has impacted K-12 in many ways.

**INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE** (please explain how the nominee's activities have contributed to children, education, or to the betterment of Clark County):

Through the years Don and Dee have volunteered in many ways to benefit kids, including serving the Discovery Children's Museum, The Smith Center and the United Way. They have contributed their time and money to make significant educational programs possible. Many students have written to The Smith Center to thank them for a field trip or master class, and one such letter is attached.

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY** (please describe the estimated number of children/people impacted by the nominee's activities):

Two of the Snyder's legacies, The Smith Center and the Discovery Children's Museum, have changed the educational landscape for CCSD students. Each institution has hosted countless bus loads of kids for educational activities. The Smith Center alone has greeted more than 200,000 students for daytime performances, workshops and master classes and in addition has hosted numerous workshops for teachers.

**POSITIVE ROLE MODEL/SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, TALENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, OR CONTRIBUTIONS** (please describe the nominee's demonstrated character to inspire students and any other special attributes, talents, accomplishments, or contributions not listed elsewhere):

The Snyders are people of impeccable character who never say no to our community. Don has inspired students, teachers and others in the community as a true leader and mentor. His contributions made the creation of The Heart of Education possible. Their collective efforts will have a lasting effect on our city.

**IS THERE AN AREA OF TOWN/TRUSTEE DISTRICT MOST RELEVANT FOR THIS NOMINEE** (please note that all nominations will be considered for all new school locations, but this answer may help with final placement decisions):

They have made a difference throughout our community but all things being equal would enjoy participating in a new school where they and their grown children (and future grandchildren) reside, like the location on Antelope Ridge Drive in Summerlin.

You may attach no more than five (5) additional sheet(s) to complete your answers to the questions if needed.

**REQUIRED REFERENCES:** In a separate document, please provide five (5) names of references, including addresses, email and phone numbers. References may not be related to the nominee.

**OPTIONAL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:** In addition, the committee will consider no more than three (3) letters of recommendation for each individual or joint nominee(s).

**Please submit application and supporting documentation by September 16, 2016:**

Clark County School District c/o Community and Government Relations

5100 West Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89146

or via email to [snc@ccsd.net](mailto:snc@ccsd.net).



September 7, 2016



Clark County School District  
SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE  
c/o Community & Government Relations  
5100 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Dear Members of the School Naming Committee,

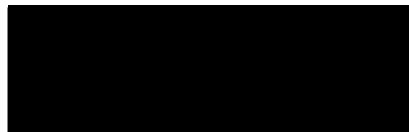
As chairman of the Public Education Foundation and a strong proponent of education in Nevada, I have had the opportunity to work with many people who have made a significant difference to Las Vegas. However, in all of those years, few have shown the level of commitment and passion for improving our community, particularly in the realm of education, as Don and Dee Snyder. As long-time Nevadans, each in their own ways, they have demonstrated a steadfast dedication to Southern Nevada by going above and beyond to create opportunities for learning and to support educational initiatives and scholarships for our local students.

The Snyders have become an integral part of our community and have had a widespread positive impact on the quality of life, culture and education in Southern Nevada. Dee has served on the board of the Lied Children's Discovery Museum for more than a decade, helping to guide the organization's many education-focused efforts. Don has worked for, and with, several organizations devoted to encouraging and supporting children, students and education in our valley.

Among some of Don's more significant accomplishments towards education include securing the funding for a bond initiative to allow the Clark County School District to build new schools while serving as vice chairman of the CCSD Oversight Panel for School Facilities and helping to create the education model at The Smith Center, which serves to incorporate the arts into education. In addition, as president of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Don pushed to strengthen the relationships between K-12 classes and the university's programs. He is a true champion for our students and a strong advocate of strengthening education at all levels through collaborative efforts and programs within the community.

Having worked with Don on numerous projects and efforts over the years, I can attest to the fact that he is one of the most dedicated champions and committed to the greater good of our community. Don has been successful in his endeavors in large part because he picks projects that have significance to the larger community and then supports those efforts by setting high standards for development, execution and completion. Together, he and Dee have been the driving force behind some of our community's greatest achievements in education, culture and the arts.

THE  
ROGICH  
COMMUNICATIONS  
GROUP



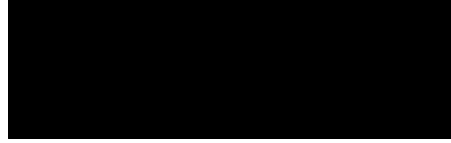
The Snyders have consistently demonstrated that they recognize the importance of education, culture and the arts to the future generation of Las Vegas. They represent the best that our community has to offer and I highly recommend that a Clark County school be named after these amazing community leaders – Don and Dee Snyder.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sig Rogich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "R".

Sig Rogich  
President, Rogich Communications Group

**Michael W. Yackira**



September 12, 2016

Clark County School District  
School Naming Committee  
c/o Community and Government Relations  
5100 W. Sahara Ave  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am honored to recommend that you name an elementary school after Don and Dee Snyder.

I had the pleasure of working with Don during my tenure as Chief Executive Officer of NV Energy. He became a member of the Board of Directors in 2005 and served in many capacities, including the head of the Nominating and Governance Committee. Don was always constructive and elevated the level of the Board's governance and dialog. He worked very well with management and inspired excellent performance. He is the epitome of professionalism and always gets difficult things accomplished. I told him on several occasions that he was my inspiration regarding how to continue being involved in the community after retirement. He has amazing energy and is always at the forefront of important community matters. I have had the good fortune of knowing Dee for as long as I have known Don. Her involvement in activities in the community is both supportive of Don's work as well as her own passions.

Renee and I have supported many community initiatives as a result of Don's support and leadership. As an example, his work on the formation of the UNLV Medical School led to our support of a scholarship for a member of the first class of the School. His passion for education is constant, and as a result, education is an important part of the Smith Center for the Performing Arts. I think of Don as the Father of the Smith Center and there is no doubt that his vision, including music education for CCSD, has led to tens of thousands of students visiting to get a glimpse first-hand of what the Smith Center does. As a child growing up in New York City, I remember going to Carnegie Hall to attend the Young People's Concerts which engendered my love of music and the arts, and I believe Don's vision will lead to the same result for many children who might not otherwise have an opportunity to appreciate these important elements of life. The Smith Center prides itself on working with countless teachers and students in the CCSD, and has created programs like the Nevada High School Musical Theater Awards, Camp Broadway, and the Heart of Education Awards. I am proud to serve on this board, and thank Don for his great leadership. To date, more than 250,000 students have been served!

Not only did he advocate for education with my NV Energy board, but he simultaneously helped to lead the effort to support the passage of a bond issue to build new schools. He used his successful banking career to help the CCSD pass this important initiative.

When the System of Higher Education needed leadership, the Board of Regents asked Don to serve as interim president of UNLV, where once again he pushed for greater support of and involvement with K-12 education in Clark County. He is a visionary who does everything he can to support our children.

Don and Dee have done so much for our community and for our students, and I cannot think of a more deserving couple to receive of this honor. I encourage you to name a school after Don and Dee Snyder.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mind W. Jordan". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

12 Jazmin 2 11/7/16



Dear Smith Center,

Thank you for inviting us to

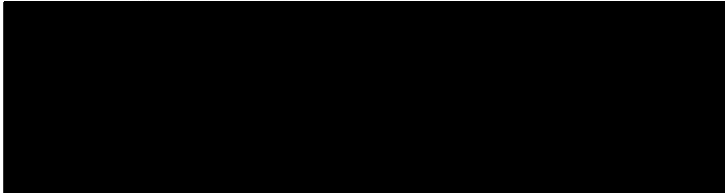
see "Elephant and Piggie. My

favorite part was All of It.

From Jazmin

## REFERENCES FOR MR. DON SNYDER

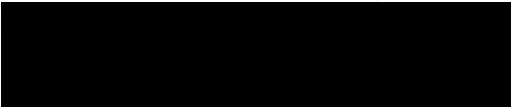
1. Former Senator Richard Bryan  
Fennemore Craig, P.C.



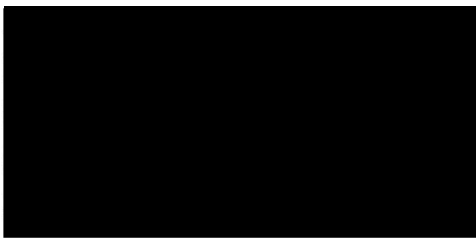
2. Former Nevada First Lady Dema Guinn



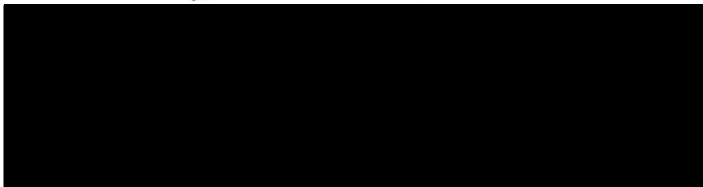
3. Walt Rulffes, Former Superintendent of Schools



4. Dr. Kim Metcalf, Dean of UNLV College of Education



5. John Guedry, President of Bank of Nevada



## SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE

### New Elementary School Name Application

For instruction regarding submitting an application to name a school, please see the Call for Nominations available on the [School Name Committee](#) page on CCSD.net.

<b>PERSON SUBMITTING THE NOMINATION:</b> Jennifer Morss			
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]			
CITY: Henderson		STATE: NV	ZIP CODE: [REDACTED]
EMAIL: [REDACTED]		HOME PHONE: [REDACTED]	CELL PHONE: [REDACTED]
INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUGGESTED NAMESAKE			
FULL NAME OF NOMINEE (first, middle, and last): Joshua Dennis Stevens			
PROPOSED SCHOOL NAME: Josh Stevens Elementary School			
NOMINEE'S OCCUPATION: Student			
IS THE NOMINEE:			
A FORMER CCSD EMPLOYEE?	YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS
RETIRED? A FORMER BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE?	YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS
RETIRED? CURRENTLY SERVING IN ANY PUBLIC OFFICE?	YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
A CURRENT OR FORMER CCSD SUPPLIER, CONTRACTOR, OR CONSULTANT?	YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
A RELATIVE OF ANY PERSON CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE OR BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES? YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO			
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]	CITY: Henderson	STATE: NV	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: USA
DECEASED? <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	YEARS IN CLARK COUNTY: 9 years	CURRENT RESIDENT CLARK COUNTY? <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
SUPPORT FOR THIS NOMINATION			
<p><b>EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION</b> (please summarize the nominee's extraordinary and lasting contributions to education benefitting the Clark County School District):</p> <p>Josh Stevens attended both Vanderburg Elementary School and Bob Miller Middle School within the Clark County School District. Josh was always very involved and enthusiastic when it came to school related activities. Unfortunately, his life was cut short on September 5, 2008 in a tragic accident.</p> <p>Shortly after losing Josh, dozens of strangers, friends and community members alike, shared heartwarming accounts of Josh's genuine kindness and excitement for life. Josh Stevens' family was showered with love and support because of the way Josh had impacted the people of the community by simply "being kind". The Stevens' family felt the message that needed to be shared was clear. With the intentions to honor Josh's legacy, the Josh Stevens' Foundation was born.</p> <p>Years later, the impact of the simplest message, "Be Kind... Like Josh" has spread not only across the CCSD but the entire nation. Clark County Schools have embraced The Josh Stevens Foundation with open arms and attribute the positive changes including a more kind and caring environment to adopting The Josh Stevens' Foundation. Josh's commitment to Kindness, lives on through his legacy. Be Kind... like Josh.</p> <p><b>EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP</b> (please explain the nominee's demonstrated exceptional leadership locally toward the advancement of education and/or humanity in Clark County):</p> <p>Even though Josh's life ended far too early, he made a lasting impression on his peers, teachers and other community members. At Josh's funeral there were countless stories shared, applauding Josh's acts of kindness. Josh's family was overwhelmed by the impact that Josh had on so many lives.</p> <p>During Josh's life, it was his mission to make everyone feel included and loved. Josh was always known as "well-liked" or the "jock" in his class, so he deemed it important to use his influence in a positive light. At Josh's funeral a neighbor admitted, he was always the last one to be picked for the recess football team. But when Josh was the "the captain", (the one with the power to pick teams) he was consistently chosen first, making him feel worthy and accepted. They became good friends, even though this kid was considered to be a "nerd".</p>			

The Stevens' family also heard accounts from the "nerd", the "bullied kid", and the kid that just didn't quite fit in, about how Josh was the first, or only person to include them. They admitted to feeling cooler and more accepted because of Josh. Josh was in no way perfect, but he did reach out to the kids that are typically considered "uncool". The world needs more genuine acts of kindness like this, especially in schools, so the decision to carry on Josh's legacy was easy. The Josh Stevens Foundation was created not long after losing him, simply to inspire more kids to "Be Kind... Like Josh".

Because of the Josh Stevens Foundation, Josh is now a role-model to thousands of Clark County School District students. His leadership and genuine kindness have showed kids that it is cool and easy to be kind! The beautiful thing about Josh's legacy is that everyone can participate and join the revolution to "Be Kind like Josh".

**NOTABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE** (list relevant education positions or experience inside and/or outside of the Clark County School District, length of time in each position, and impact on K-12 achievement in Clark County):

Josh Stevens attended both Vanderburg Elementary School and Bob Miller Middle School.

**INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE** (please explain how the nominee's activities have contributed to children, education, or to the betterment of Clark County):

The Josh Stevens Foundation has caught on like wildfire among Clark County Schools. The Josh Stevens' Foundation is now in over 115 schools within the district, about 34% of CCSD schools. Schools that have incorporated the foundation's message of catching and rewarding kind acts, have noticed huge improvements within their schools morale. Staff members of the participating schools have praised The Josh Stevens' Foundation for significantly reducing bullying and other negative acts. Students have also reported that they feel as if their peers have warmly embraced the contagious message of being kind like Josh.

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY** (please describe the estimated number of children/people impacted by the nominee's activities):

Josh's message can be seen and heard in schools throughout the Clark County School District. One of the most advantageous ways to share the foundation's message of kindness, is to proudly wear the "Be Kind... Like Josh" t-shirts. Thousands of kids now wear the t-shirts to "Live the message" of being kind like Josh. The foundation has also made it a priority to award genuine acts of kindness. Both students and staff members have been awarded with the "You've Been Caught Being Kind" green silicone bracelets. They wear them with pride and excitement about spreading the message of kindness.

Every school that has embraced the foundation has had overwhelming success in creating a more kind and compassionate environment. Students and staff members alike, have noticed such a positive change in the morale of the participating schools, by encouraging the simplest message to "Be Kind".

More than 1 million students and faculty of Clark County School District schools have chosen to Be Kind... at school, at home, and in their communities. An estimated 600,000 students have been caught engaging in random acts of Kindness, while at school. Josh's legacy of kindness is being facilitated in 34% of schools in the Clark County School District. On November 14, 2013, Josh Stevens was inducted into the Clark County School District Excellence in Education Hall of Fame in recognition of his outstanding, extraordinary, and lasting contributions in support of public education.

**POSITIVE ROLE MODEL/SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, TALENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, OR CONTRIBUTIONS** (please describe the nominee's demonstrated character to inspire students and any other special attributes, talents, accomplishments, or contributions not listed elsewhere):

The way Josh lived his life is positively impacting students and entire schools across the valley. Because of The Josh Stevens Foundation, Josh is now a role-model to thousands of Clark County School District students. Josh's legacy of leadership and genuine kindness has showed kids that it is cool and easy to be kind! The beautiful thing about Josh's mission is that everyone can participate and join the revolution... "Be Kind... like Josh".

**IS THERE AN AREA OF TOWN/TRUSTEE DISTRICT MOST RELEVANT FOR THIS NOMINEE** (please note that all nominations will be considered for all new school locations, but this answer may help with final placement decisions):

The Josh Stevens Foundation's simple message of Be Kind... can be encouraged anywhere. Currently, the majority of Be Kind... schools are located within the Clark County School District.



A few examples of the thousands of school shirts custom-designed, since 2009, with schools choosing to Be Kind... like Josh. Students in the Clark County School district are choosing to Wear the Shirt and Live the Message.







# Spring Valley High School

Tam Larnerd  
Principal

September 8, 2016

Dear CCSD School Naming Committee Members:

I am very pleased to have the opportunity to write a letter in support of naming a new Clark County School District elementary school in honor of Josh Stevens, the namesake for the Josh Stevens – Be Kind Foundation.

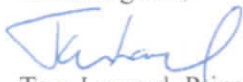
Throughout Clark County, Nevada, and the United States, thousands of students and teachers have heard Josh's story, as told by his courageous father, Drew Stevens. On September 5, 2008, exactly one month before his 13<sup>th</sup> birthday, Josh died in Drew's arms after a tragic accident. Out of this tragedy, rose the spirit of the legacy of kindness that Josh left behind. While Josh was universally recognized in the community as an outstanding athlete and student, it was his personal commitment to kindness to all of those around him that provided the spark for his family and friends to create the Josh Stevens - Be Kind Foundation in his memory.

At Bob Miller Middle School, where Josh was a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student and I was his principal, Josh was known as the "Nerd Rescuer." If there was a lonely student sitting in the cafeteria eating lunch by himself, Josh would make it his mission to forego sitting with his friends so that the student could feel that he was welcome at our school and not alone. In PE, Josh would often be chosen to be a team captain. When choosing teams, Josh made it a point to always pick the boy who was normally picked last as his first choice. It was his willingness to do the right thing, regardless if anyone was watching, that made Josh Stevens a truly unique young man.

Losing Josh's young voice and his commitment to kindness in 2008 was clearly a loss for all of us. However, Josh's commitment to kindness has now evolved into a foundation that has helped change the fabric of hundreds of schools and impacted thousands of students around the world. It would clearly be extraordinary to name a school after a 12-year-old boy, but Josh was truly an extraordinary individual, regardless of his age. Imagine the example and impact it would have on generations of students who would pass through Josh Stevens – Be Kind Elementary School, a school built upon a foundation of kindness. Students would learn about their school's namesake and clearly identify with him because their school would be named after an individual that they could relate to and emulate.

Josh Stevens' legacy of kindness will continue to impact people, both young and not-so-young, through the Josh Stevens - Be Kind Foundation. He represented everything that was right about a young person and I believe that memorializing his contribution of kindness by naming a school after him would be an honor that is commensurate with the impact that Josh has made on our world, even after he has passed. I sincerely encourage the CCSD School Naming Committee to give "Josh Stevens – Be Kind Elementary School" your full consideration.

Warm regards,



Tam Larnerd, Principal



*BOB MILLER MIDDLE SCHOOL*  
*"Home of the Bobcats"*



September 14, 2016

Distinguished Panel:

It is an honor to show my support for the naming of a school after Josh Stevens. While Josh was lost to a tragic accident, his legacy of kindness will forever endure. By placing his name on a school, we as a community recognize the value and importance of benevolence.

While a devastating tragedy might have eliminated Josh's impact on society, his parents used their anguish to benefit others and humbly set out to fill a void in this world. The ripple effect of his parents' selfless gesture in creating the Be Kind Foundation has ensured that Josh's character and reputation for kindness will serve as a model for the Bob Miller Middle School community and the world for years to come.

In just over seven years, the Josh Stevens Foundation has made a significant impact on our local community and in communities across the world. Thousands of Be Kind bracelets are awarded annually to kids caught being kind. Be Kind shirts are a staple in many people's wardrobe and are worn with pride. The efforts of the Be Kind Foundation have extended to partnering with local hospitals to spread kindness and have been recognized by the CCSD Board of Trustees with the Excellence in Education Hall of Fame Award.

I am confident that the positive impact of Josh Stevens' Be Kind message will multiply exponentially when we honor his legacy by naming a school after him. Josh Stevens Elementary School will serve as a model for students, schools, organizations, and communities around the world. I certainly can't think of a more deserving school namesake.

Sincerely,

Nicole Donadio, Principal

September 9, 2016

Dear Selection Committee,

Can you look back on your life experiences and recall a person that has significantly impacted your life? One that you never will be able to say thank you too or meet in person? I have. That person is Josh Stevens.

Josh was a young, vibrant, athletic, outgoing and kind twelve year old boy that left this world much too soon. I am sure you have already heard about Josh's kindness and his legacy that is being spread across Clark County School District Schools and across the world. Through the Josh Stevens Foundation unbelievable work in spreading Josh's message to "Be Kind" many lives have been changed and as a result have made schools and communities much kinder. As a former CCSD school counselor at Dean Allen Elementary School, I saw that change happen every day! We brought Josh's message to our school and immediately could see and feel the impact that Josh had on these young lives. The message of positive affirmation of "Be Kind" resonated throughout our halls. Often I would hear students correcting each other's behavior in the hall, classroom, and/or playground – asking them "is that being kind, like Josh?" And just like that, change happened in both of those students. These students were both impacted by just thinking and understanding the importance of being kind to one another.

All too often, we hear of what is bad with kids these days and not about what is right with kids. Josh Stevens' legacy has taught so many of us, children and adults, on what is right – the simple act of kindness. We need to recognize the good in children more often. By naming a Clark County School District elementary school in Josh's name would do just that – honor what all of us hope for each other – KINDNESS.

I am honored to be able to share Josh's message with students of Clark County and hope it will continue through an elementary school in his name. If you need any further information, I can be reached by cell at [REDACTED]

Respectfully,



Kristin Barnson



Five (5) References:

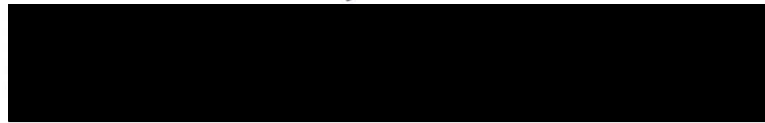
- 1) Molly Teal  
Richard H Bryan Elementary



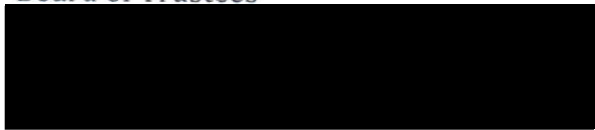
- 2) Tam Larnerd  
Spring Valley High School



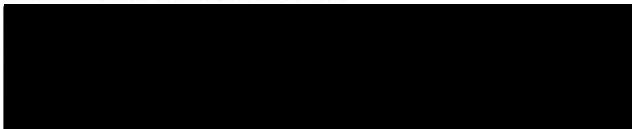
- 3) Domenic Russo  
Lee Antonello Elementary



- 4) Deanna Wright  
Board of Trustees



- 5) Jennifer Manzanares  
Bob Miller Middle School



**SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE**  
**New Elementary School Name Application**

For instruction regarding submitting an application to name a school, please see the Call for Nominations available on the [School Name Committee](#) page on CCSD.net.

PERSON SUBMITTING THE NOMINATION: Linda Barnett			
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]			
CITY: Las Vegas	STATE: Nevada	ZIP CODE: [REDACTED]	
EMAIL: [REDACTED]	HOME PHONE: [REDACTED]	CELL PHONE: [REDACTED]	
INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUGGESTED NAMESAKE			
FULL NAME OF NOMINEE (first, middle, and last): Frances Diane Summers			
PROPOSED SCHOOL NAME: Francie D. Summers ES			
NOMINEE'S OCCUPATION: Retired CCSD Administrator			
IS THE NOMINEE:			
A FORMER CCSD EMPLOYEE?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED? 8
A FORMER BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED?
CURRENTLY SERVING IN ANY PUBLIC OFFICE?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
A CURRENT OR FORMER CCSD SUPPLIER, CONTRACTOR, OR CONSULTANT?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
A RELATIVE OF ANY PERSON CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE OR BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO			
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]	CITY: [REDACTED]	STATE: [REDACTED]	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: USA
DECEASED? <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	YEARS IN CLARK COUNTY: 49	CURRENT RESIDENT CLARK COUNTY? <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
SUPPORT FOR THIS NOMINATION			
EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION (please summarize the nominee's extraordinary and lasting contributions to education benefitting the Clark County School District):			
<p>With a focus on thematic teaching that integrated the science of how the brain learns and processes information, Francie Summers was ahead of her time. The 21st century skills that are focused on today--problem solving, collaboration, effective communication--were always integral to her approach to education. As an instructional leader, Ms. Summers was at the forefront of this focus, which she nurtured through her commitment to the MicroSociety curriculum, where students were taught to be productive and enterprising citizens. Approaching education as a collaborative process, she constantly challenged teachers and students to make the most of their talents. Teachers who worked under Ms. Summers continue (cont.)</p>			
EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP (please explain the nominee's demonstrated exceptional leadership locally toward the advancement of education and/or humanity in Clark County):			
<p>A true leader leads by example, and that is exactly what Francie Summers did throughout her career. Ms. Summers has worked tirelessly to continue to press the importance of implementing the best teaching practices, grounded in learning theory and brain research, as well as the innovation of programs such as MicroSociety. No one believes more in the power of what an effective educator can do when given the tools to teach a diverse community of learners than Ms. Summers does, and she often modeled these teaching practices for her staff, which are carried through in their classrooms to this day. In her career, Ms. Summers has served as (cont.)</p>			



**NOTABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE** (list relevant education positions or experience inside and/or outside of the Clark County School District, length of time in each position, and impact on K-12 achievement in Clark County):

While Principal of Paul Culley Elementary School (1985-1990), student performance on norm referenced tests increased 10-25 percentile points. By 1989, 80% of the students were proficient in state and district mandated tests.

During her time as Principal of Walter Jacobson Elementary (1990-2008), Ms. Summers chaired the CCSD Research Based Strategies Committee consisting of Jacobson teachers who developed a "Strategies Handbook," which was utilized district (cont.)

**INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE** (please explain how the nominee's activities have contributed to children, education, or to the betterment of Clark County):

In 2004 Ms. Summers received the Community Bridge Award from the Las Vegas Neighborhood Congress and on May 22, 2008 she was honored by the City of Las Vegas, Nevada as it proclaimed "Francie Summers' Day" in recognition of her many years of exemplary service as an educator and citizen of Las Vegas.

After her retirement in 2008, Ms. Summers became involved in the Rotary Club of Las Vegas and served a term as President. During her tenure as a member (cont.)

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY** (please describe the estimated number of children/people impacted by the nominee's activities):

It would be hard to quantify the numbers of children and educators impacted by Ms. Summers. She began as a teacher in 1971 and retired as principal of Edith Garehime Elementary School in 2008. Since her retirement, she has continued to stay actively involved in education as a trainer for MicroSociety and as an adjunct instructor for Sierra Nevada College. Her impact continues today through the teaching practices she nurtured in her teachers who are still in the classroom.

**POSITIVE ROLE MODEL/SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, TALENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, OR CONTRIBUTIONS** (please describe the nominee's demonstrated character to inspire students and any other special attributes, talents, accomplishments, or contributions not listed elsewhere):

Francie Summers was the type of principal who was truly guided by the belief of doing what was best for students. Led by this caveat, Ms. Summers went to great lengths to create a school that felt like a family, where her students, parents, and staff were treated with respect. The message was clear: A school where all stakeholders felt they were important would make for a stronger school. As the principal of Garehime, (Cont.)

**IS THERE AN AREA OF TOWN/TRUSTEE DISTRICT MOST RELEVANT FOR THIS NOMINEE** (please note that all nominations will be considered for all new school locations, but this answer may help with final placement decisions):

Southwest area

You may attach no more than five (5) additional sheet(s) to complete your answers to the questions if needed.

**REQUIRED REFERENCES:** In a separate document, please provide five (5) names of references, including addresses, email and phone numbers. References may not be related to the nominee.

**OPTIONAL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:** In addition, the committee will consider no more than three (3) letters of recommendation for each individual or joint nominee(s).

**Please submit application and supporting documentation by September 16, 2016:**

Clark County School District c/o Community and Government Relations

5100 West Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89146

or via email to [snc@ccsd.net](mailto:snc@ccsd.net).

## **Continuation of Application Questions**

### **Extraordinary and Lasting Contributions to Education**

her legacy every day in the classroom. Upon retirement as an elementary school principal, Ms. Summers continued to work and impact education through her mentorship of principals, as Coordinator of the Practicum Program, as well as a Supervisor to Administrative Interns at Sierra Nevada College. For the last 13 years, Ms. Summers has been a trainer for MicroSociety and travels across the country, continuing her message of the importance of educating students to become global, competent citizens of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **Exceptional Leadership**

as Co-chairperson for the Curriculum and Instruction Administrator's Task Force and has mentored and trained administrators as she conducted over 700 in-service trainings for CCSD administrators and teachers in reading, classroom management, problem solving, science and social studies. Though she retired from the school district in 2008, Ms. Summers continues to train educators through MicroSociety.

### **Notable Education Experience**

wide and directed at improving achievement.

While Principal of Edith Garehime Elementary School (1998-2008), Ms. Summers provided tours and provided information about the school's programs to numerous visitors and groups. These groups came from other school districts, private enterprise and innovative school reform groups as well as foreign countries including Dubai and China.

Following her retirement, Ms. Summers presented at yearly national conferences including the International Reading Association (IRA), and was a presenter at the 2010 Highly Effective Teaching Conference.

### **Involvement in Organizations or Activities Benefitting Children and/or Relevant Public or Govt. Service**

and President, the Club has sponsored charitable groups including Dress for Success and Santa Clothes and provided service to at-risk youth in the community.

### **Positive Role Model/Special Attributes, Talents, Accomplishments, or Contributions**

Ms. Summers encouraged the development of the Garehime Citizens Club. Parent volunteers worked closely with Ms. Summers to ensure that funds would be raised to support the special programs in the school and that teachers would have the supplies they needed to do their job. With everything she did, Ms. Summers modeled what she expected: professionalism, a passion for children and education, and the fundamental belief that students benefit when grown-ups around them are working together.



# Congressional Recognition

AWARDED TO

*Francie Summers*  
Education



2003 COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
LAS VEGAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

September 13, 2003

*Jon Porter*  
JON C. PORTER  
United States Congressman



# Northwest Association of Accredited Schools

"... advancing excellence in education through the process of accreditation."

## 2007-2008 CERTIFICATE OF ACCREDITATION

### Edith Garehime Elementary School

is accredited as an Elementary School for the school year 2007-2008 by the Commission on Schools of the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools with member schools in states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, along with other geographical areas of the United States and the world. This school is recognized for promoting and maintaining a well-balanced education program and for meeting or exceeding standards considered essential for quality education.

First Year of Accreditation 2001

The signatures below certify the authenticity of this document.

*Patrick Charlton*  
Dr. Patrick Charlton, President Elect

*David G. Steadman*  
David G. Steadman, Executive Director

*Leonard Paul*  
Leonard Paul, Associate Director



## Certificate of Recognition

Awarded to

**Francie Summers**  
CCSD/Edith Garehime Elementary School  
2003 Community Achievement Awards

*The State of Nevada congratulates you on your outstanding achievement and commends you for your dedicated service to our community.*

September 13, 2003  
Date

*Spencer Abbott*  
Governor

## The Most Creative Man in Silicon Valley

# FAST COMPANY

# ENOUGH TALK!

IT'S TIME FOR RESULTS—  
ARE YOU GETTIN' IT DONE?

PLUS  
STREET TALK:

CNBC  
LIKE YOU'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE

IN NET COMPANY  
What Talent Shortage?  
Time is Money  
Image Isn't Everything  
Privacy, Please!

## LESSONS FOR LIFE

**WHAT IS A GREAT TEACHER?** THE ANSWER IS SIMPLE: A GREAT TEACHER IS ONE WHO CAN INSPIRE A CHILD TO LEARN. AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT FRANCIE SUMMERS DOES AT EDITH GAREHIME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN LAS VEGAS. SUMMERS HAS TAUGHT FOR OVER 30 YEARS, AND HER CLASSROOM IS FULL OF STUDENTS WHO ARE THRIVING. "FRANCIE IS A GREAT TEACHER BECAUSE SHE KNOWS HOW TO GET THE BEST OUT OF EVERYONE," SAID ONE STUDENT. "SHE KNOWS HOW TO MOTIVATE US AND HELP US REACH OUR GOALS."

Summers' success is not just in the classroom. She has also been instrumental in the development of the school's curriculum. "I've been involved in the development of the school's curriculum for many years," she said. "I've helped to create a curriculum that is both challenging and fun for our students."

Summers' dedication to her students is evident in every aspect of her teaching. "I believe in every child's ability to learn," she said. "I believe in the power of a good teacher to make a difference in a child's life."

Summers' impact on her students is not just academic. She has also helped to shape their character. "I believe in the importance of character education," she said. "I believe in the importance of teaching our students to be kind, honest, and responsible."

Summers' success is a testament to her hard work and dedication. "I believe in the power of a good teacher to make a difference in a child's life," she said. "I believe in the power of a good teacher to inspire a child to learn."

### Aileen Frosini Technical Education School District

is a highly educated  
for the Clark County  
a Day event in 2001.  
principal to observe in  
tion of its Workforce  
able to provide the  
y opportunities that  
Frosini has chaired  
CCSD and served as  
technical Education.



### Carol Harter President Vada, Las Vegas

fastest growing public  
of more than \$300  
n of 72 new degree  
be awarded \$2.2



## EDUCATION FINALISTS

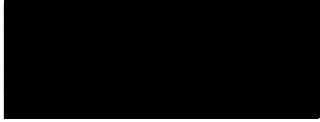


**Francie Summers**  
Principal  
Edith Garehime Elementary

Edith Garehime Elementary principal for 30 of those years with the Clark County the CCSD from 1980-1985 and was inst also chaired the committee that wrote in the district and designed a curricula experiences so science skills would be future guides written at the district level risk school. During her five years at the and test scores improved dramatically, involved with the Ronald McDonald Ho

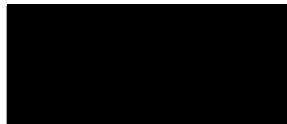
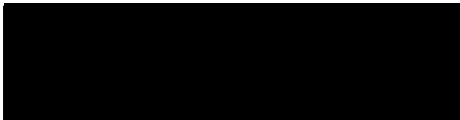
References

**Kurt Garehime**

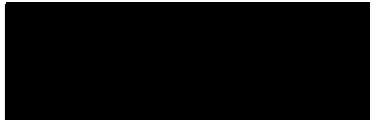


**William Pierce, CRPC**

UBS Financial Services Inc.



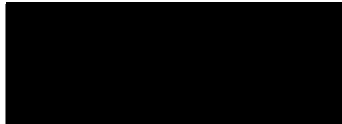
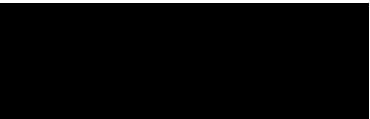
**Billie Rayford**



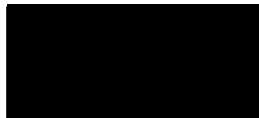
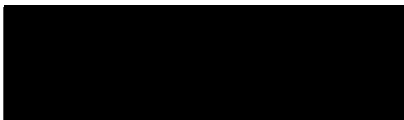
**Carolyn King-Richmond**

MicroSociety International

Innovation Center, Drexel University

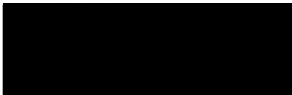


**Dr. and Mrs. E. Spoon**



August 30, 2016

Bob Barnes

  
CCSD  
C/O Community and Government Relations  
5100 W. Sahara Ave.  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Dear School Naming Committee:

In 1985 I was a fairly new teacher with five years under my belt—having worked for three different principals at as many schools—when Francie Johnson (Summers) took over as administrator at Paul Culley Elementary School and inherited me. Little did I know that I would spend the rest of my teaching career working for her. As it turned out, we worked together for the next 21 years, until my retirement in 2007. During those two plus decades, through her leadership, I was always inspired to go the extra mile so that I would become the best teacher I could be.

When preparing for this application, a large group of her former staff members got together and talked about the many reasons we respected her and the admiration we had for her. Most importantly, we discussed why we loved her and why we truly loved working for her. While we could easily provide many pages of accolades, stories and examples of her excellence, here is a brief summation of our sentiments on why we believe Francie Summers is so special!

We were excited to go to work every day and looked forward to it. There were always fresh ideas to inspire new learning activities. Students were always engaged while learning to become responsible citizens of their own community. Nothing was routine and not only were the students and staff engaged, but Francie provided every opportunity possible to have the Jacobson and Garehime family members participate in as many school events as they were willing or able to.

Staff meetings and work days were never boring, as Francie made sure that we were ALL involved. If involved in presenting information to the rest of the group during a Staff Development Day, and if that took us out of our “comfort zone,” Francie would build our confidence by encouraging us to explore our hidden talents. We then used those talents to make our presentations much more entertaining with music, singing, theatrics and sometimes even dancing. Learning and fun...what a concept!

Francie cared about us and about the kids equally. It was not uncommon to see her walking inside and outside of the building, before, during and after school, stopping to chat with students and parents. She greeted everyone she saw by name, remembering all of them.

On the first day of school, each staff member was welcomed with a personal note from Francie, which was on our desk when we arrived. We also received notes at the end of the year and whenever she visited our classroom, which were handwritten and specific to each recipient. They might have contained compliments and some general coaching, but they also served to uplift us, empower us and help us become better educators.

On the last day of school every year, Francie presented each of us with a book that reflected our personality, teaching style, or some specific characteristic. She was able to purchase the perfect book

because she spent a great deal of time getting to know each of us and this was her way of saying "thank you" for a great year. She was an expert at making us feel special.

Getting hired by Francie was being accepted into a family. We stayed in this family for a long time. Whenever possible, you would find Francie at our own personal events, which included weddings, graduations and funerals. One employee (who had no family in town) had a surgery that resulted in her being on life support. Who was the first person she saw when she awoke? Yes, it was Francie, assuring her that everything was going to be fine.

We worked very hard at Francie's schools. She expected a lot from us, but she never asked more than she was willing to do herself. She always "had our backs" in personal and professional situations. It was never hard to do what she asked because if the tables were turned, she was there and we always knew she was in our corner.

We recently received a message from a past teacher of Francie Summers. Here is a small part of it:

"I am now referred to as Dr. Danielle Miller, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Design and Professional Development, but once upon a time I was Danielle Miller, first grader in Francie Johnson's (Summers) first grade class. Ms. Johnson (Summers) brought lessons alive for me and she is why I decided that school was for me and that someday I would like to be a teacher. So from age six I had a career mentor and guide. Fast forward 20 years and now I had been hired to be a teacher on her staff. I began to learn the art of teaching under Francie's tutelage. Through her guidance, I formed my philosophy of education that holds true to this day and is the cornerstone for the decisions I now make in curriculum including ideas such as: education is all about the children, make learning interesting and challenging, meet the needs of all students, value teachers, train them rigorously and continually and provide the materials needed so that teachers can be successful. These are just a few of the lessons Francie taught me. I am just one branch of the tree of learning that Francie Summers has grown throughout the years."

Danielle Miller is just one of the many people to come through "Francie's Teaching Camp." There are many teachers, principals and assistant principals in the Clark County School District who have been impacted by and still use her philosophies, ideas and methods. I am proud to say that we are among them.

In closing, I have to say that I am but one small cog in the machine of teaching excellence that Francie developed through her guidance over the years and her inspiration continues to bear fruit a hundredfold to this day. There is no one more deserving of having a school named after her than Francie Summers.

Sincerely,



Bob Barnes

LARRY BROWN  
Vice Chair



*Board of County Commissioners*

CLARK COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER



The Honorable Board of Trustees;

It is with great pleasure I offer my ardent support for Francine Summers to have an elementary school named after her in recognition of her service to the Clark County School District (CCSD) and Southern Nevada community.

Education has played a significant role in my own life. As a graduate of public high school and then Harvard University, I credit the countless teacher/mentors that helped shape my career. In Las Vegas, I am a proud parent of three grown children, all products of the CCSD. One an Army veteran, another earning a Master's Degree and the youngest entering graduate school. From the PTA meetings to the candy drives, from the classrooms to the athletic fields, our family's experience with the CCSD is memorable.

In the twenty three years of engagement with our school system, I have never met anyone as innovative, as dedicated and as passionate in serving our children as Francine Summers. Her resume highlights an amazing career and lifelong commitment to education. In addition, it is noteworthy to recognize the years Francine spent in mentoring teachers in Nevada and across the nation.

The most profound influence Francine Summers had on me began with her opening the Edith Garehime Elementary School in 1998. To this point, my interaction with the CCSD primarily dealt with the Bond Oversight Committee and collaborating with district officials on siting future schools in the fast growing northwest valley. Francine invited me to become more involved with the school's MicroSociety, Garehime Heights. This involvement culminated with the opening in 2003 of Garehime Heights neighborhood park. The Garehime Heights City Council, along with its' citizens (students), joined the City of Las Vegas planning officials in the design, naming, groundbreaking and dedication of the park. This unique experience brought together students, the school district and government to create a community asset that will be enjoyed for generations to come.

The CCSD nomination form consists of terms such as "extraordinary and lasting contributions", "exceptional leadership", "significant impact on children and education" and "positive role model". I believe Francine Summers meets and exceeds all these criterion and exemplifies everything that education represents.

I thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry Brown".

Larry Brown  
Vice-Chairman  
Clark County Commission





## City of Las Vegas

**Lois Tarkanian**  
Councilwoman, Ward 1

September 1, 2016

Re: Nomination for Naming a New Elementary School in Honor of Francie Summers

Dear Clark County School District (CCSD) School Naming Committee:

Francie Summers, without a doubt, was one of the most outstanding principals to ever work in the Clark County School District. I remember the first time we met at Paul Culley Elementary School over 30 years ago. She enthusiastically described the student curriculum and the teacher training she had developed. I was enthralled. It contained a vision for high student achievement by developing skills within a real world environment. It attracted students and gave strong meaning to their need for proficiency in academic skills. It made learning exciting and it proved the need for math, science, reading and language skills in everyday life. It made sense to the students and they inhaled it. Within four years student achievement at Culley increased substantially.

Next, Francie went on to Walter Jacobson Elementary School, where she used the same program with even greater success. She developed a micro-society entitled "Jacobsonville" which had every student in the school participating. They developed their own government agencies and responsibilities, their own currency and ways of earning and losing money. They held elections for mayor, council, postmaster, banker and other similar positions. They also



## City of Las Vegas

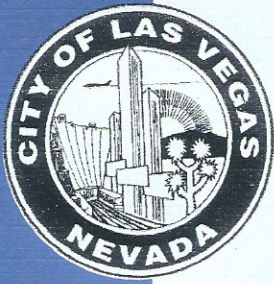
**Lois Tarkanian**  
Councilwoman, Ward 1

started their own businesses and brought them to fruition. The inside courtyard of the school held "Jacobsonville" and it was always buzzing with learning.

After another award winning tenure at Jacobson, she was appointed to open the new Edith Garehime Elementary School as a micro-society with a focus on body/brain compatible learning. All 1200 students in the school were hired for jobs in the Garehime Heights Community. Her highly respected program again received national accolades. Numerous reform educators, national and international, came to observe. CNN Financial News recorded the students at work for a national broadcast. Even foreign news agencies reported about Francie's innovative program. In 2001 Garehime became the first elementary school in Nevada to be given membership in the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools and Colleges.

In 2003, her program was recognized by the Las Vegas City Council and on May 22, 2008, Francie Summers' Day was proclaimed by the City of Las Vegas in honor of her many years of exemplary service. Following her work as a principal, she went on to serve as an educational trainer and consultant on the college level. I feel, however, that her most magnificent contributions to education were made while she was an elementary school principal directly overseeing her programs. It is often not realized how important it is for a principal to have knowledge and passion because both can affect every aspect within a school. A school's heartbeat is truly its principal.

I served on the Clark County School Board for twelve years and had contact with numerous administrators. If I could pick anyone to be the principal of my grandchildren's school, I can honestly say I would choose Francie. Every place she went she made learning exciting and helped students to achieve.



## City of Las Vegas

**Lois Tarkanian**  
Councilwoman, Ward 1

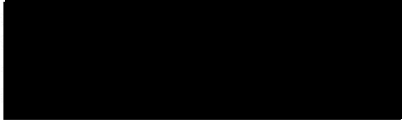
As a member of the School Board I served for several years on the School Naming Committee. At that time, I emphasized the importance of naming our schools after educators. Who else honors these dedicated and hard-working individuals as they should be honored?? We know what it takes to be a great educator, often against strong odds. I truly believe we should honor our own and so I respectfully and hopefully request that you honor Francie Summers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lois Tarkanian".

Dr. Lois Tarkanian  
City Councilwoman  
City of Las Vegas, Ward 1

LT/kr


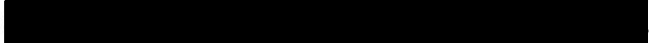


September 16, 2016

School Name Committee  
Clark County School District  
c/o Community and Government Relations  
5100 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Dear Committee Members,

I appreciate the opportunity to submit the attached New Elementary School Name Application on behalf of my father, E. Parry Thomas. I have also attached a list with five (5) references as well as a letter of recommendation from Mr. William S. Boyd. It is my understanding that a letter of recommendation has been emailed to your offices by Mr. Irwin A. Molasky and that your office has granted an extension until Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> to receive the third letter of recommendation from Ms. Elaine P. Wynn. Thank you for this accommodation as Ms. Wynn has been out of town for the last ten days.

Should you have any questions regarding this application I can be reached at my office,   My family appreciates your kind consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Thomas A. Thomas".

Thomas A. Thomas  
Managing Partner



**SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE**

**New Elementary School Name Application**

For instruction regarding submitting an application to name a school, please see the Call for Nominations available on the School Name Committee page on CCSD.net.

<b>PERSON SUBMITTING THE NOMINATION: Thomas A. Thomas</b>			
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]			
CITY: Las Vegas		STATE: NV	ZIP CODE: [REDACTED]
EMAIL: [REDACTED]	HOME PHONE: [REDACTED]	CELL PHONE: [REDACTED]	
<b>INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUGGESTED NAMESAKE</b>			
FULL NAME OF NOMINEE (first, middle, and last): <b>Edward Parry Thomas</b>			
PROPOSED SCHOOL NAME: <b>E. Parry Thomas Elementary School</b>			
NOMINEE'S OCCUPATION: <b>Banker</b>			
IS THE NOMINEE: A FORMER CCSD EMPLOYEE? YES <b>NO</b> IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED? A FORMER BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE? YES <b>NO</b> IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED? CURRENTLY SERVING IN ANY PUBLIC OFFICE? YES <b>NO</b> A CURRENT OR FORMER CCSD SUPPLIER, CONTRACTOR, OR CONSULTANT? YES <b>NO</b> IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP: A RELATIVE OF ANY PERSON CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE OR BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES? YES <b>NO</b> IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]	CITY: [REDACTED]	STATE: [REDACTED]	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: <b>USA</b>
DECEASED? <b>YES</b> NO	YEARS IN CLARK COUNTY: <b>72</b>	CURRENT RESIDENT CLARK COUNTY? <b>YES</b> NO	
<b>SUPPORT FOR THIS NOMINATION</b>			
EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION (please summarize the nominee's extraordinary and lasting contributions to education benefitting the Clark County School District):  <i>E. Parry Thomas supported public education and the Clark County School District in many significant ways. As the CEO of the largest state chartered bank in Nevada, Parry directed the bank to purchase bonds issued by the CCSD over a period of three decades. This financial support enabled the district to fund hundreds of campuses in Clark County, thereby helping to establish its vast physical infrastructure and support its growth to meet the demand for schools created by record population increases.</i>  <i>(Continued on pg. 1 of supplemental information)</i>			
EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP (please explain the nominee's demonstrated exceptional leadership locally toward the advancement of education and/or humanity in Clark County):  <i>E. Parry Thomas' contributions to education and humanity are demonstrated by the organizations he founded and supported. As one of Nevada's leading philanthropists Parry Thomas provided more than 30 years of leadership and financial support to dozens of local charities, religious organizations and the education system.</i>  <i>(Continued on pg. 1 of supplemental information)</i>			

**NOTABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE** (list relevant education positions or experience inside and/or outside of the Clark County School District, length of time in each position, and impact on K-12 achievement in Clark County):

*E. Parry Thomas was a staunch supporter of public education. His five children attended public schools in Clark County and graduated from Ed. W. Clark High School. Eight of his grandchildren attended public schools in Clark County and graduated from Palo Verde High School. As a loyal southern Nevadan, he believed in the quality of education provided by the Clark County School District.*

*At the request of several Nevada Governors, namely Grant Sawyer, Paul Laxalt, Mike O'Callaghan and Robert List, Parry Thomas served on various government committees and provided financial advice on the funding of education in the State and Clark County. His bank served as the custodian and financial agent for many of the bond issues to finance local schools.*

**INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE** (please explain how the nominee's activities have contributed to children, education, or to the betterment of Clark County):

*E. Parry Thomas chaired and/or served on the Boards of numerous local organizations that benefitted children. As previously noted, he founded the local chapters of the United Way and NCCJ. He served for more than 20 years on the UNLV Foundation, an organization that he, Irwin Molasky and Jerry Mack founded. Parry Thomas actively supported the local district of the Boy Scouts of America and was honored with that organization's Good Scout Award. He was a long-time supporter of the Variety School, the YMCA, the Boys and Girls Club and Opportunity Village.*

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY** (please describe the estimated number of children/people impacted by the nominee's activities):

*The number of students benefiting from E. Parry Thomas' leadership and financial support easily numbers in the tens of thousands.*

*Because of Parry Thomas' critical role in the assemblage, purchase and funding of the land forming the bulk of the campus of UNLV, as well as the leadership and financial support he gave to the creation of the Thomas & Mack Center, the Thomas & Mack Legal Clinic, the Thomas & Mack Moot Court Facility and UNLV President's Chair, there is no question he has had a dramatic impact on education in Clark County.*

**POSITIVE ROLE MODEL/SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, TALENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, OR CONTRIBUTIONS** (please describe the nominee's demonstrated character to inspire students and any other special attributes, talents, accomplishments, or contributions not listed elsewhere):

E. Parry Thomas mentored and supported hundreds of Nevadans who are on record as stating they owe their success to his support as both their mentor and role model. The following are statements from some of Nevada's community leaders on the impact Parry Thomas had on education and their personal lives:

*"Parry and Jerry's number one legacy could well be their vision for UNLV and what they were able to accomplish for the school."*

**Irwin Molasky**

*"Parry Thomas understood where Las Vegas was going before all of us did. So when Parry talked about the University and the land and having the foresight to see that the campus was soon going to be landlocked, and that if they didn't acquire everything they could get their hands on at that moment, that it was going to be too late, well, everyone listened."*

**Elaine Wynn**

New Elementary School Name Application  
Supplemental Information  
E. Parry Thomas

**Extraordinary and Lasting Contributions to Education** (Continued from Application):

The best known contribution Parry Thomas made to education in Clark County was the work he did in the late 1960's to establish the campus of UNLV with his partner, Jerry Mack. While this story has been documented in a number of publications, the short version is as follows:

In 1966 Parry Thomas and Jerry Mack were looking for a location to build a computer center for the Valley Bank of Nevada. The research led to the discovery that the then named Nevada Southern University only controlled about 55 acres. Parry and Jerry realized that a major University would require a much larger campus. Through their extensive business contacts and influence they quietly started assembling and gaining control of over 360 acres surrounding the small campus. They formed the Southern Nevada Land Foundation (later it would become the UNLV Foundation) and set out to sell general obligation bonds to fund the purchase of the surrounding land. Because it proved difficult to get the other local banks to purchase the unsecured bonds, Parry Thomas had the Valley Bank of Nevada, of which he was CEO, purchase the vast majority of the bonds. The federal regulators overseeing Valley Bank determined that these bonds would be listed as "classified" since the State of Nevada did not have a legally binding requirement to pay off the bonds. Parry and Jerry satisfied the regulators by personally guaranteeing the bonds. By acting decisively and pledging their personal financial resources, Parry and Jerry acquired the land for the University at very favorable prices and created what is now the bulk of the UNLV campus.

**Exceptional Leadership** (Continued from Application):

Parry Thomas, along with his friends Hank Greenspun, Irwin Molasky and Jerry Mack, organized the local chapter of the National Conference of Christians & Jews, "NCCJ" (now called the "National Conference for Community Justice") to assure the protection of all religious rights and worship.

Parry Thomas, again with his partner Jerry Mack, organized and founded the local chapter of the United Way in Las Vegas and served as that organizations campaign chair on several occasions. Under Parry Thomas' direction, the Valley Bank was consistently one of the largest contributors to the United Way for many years.

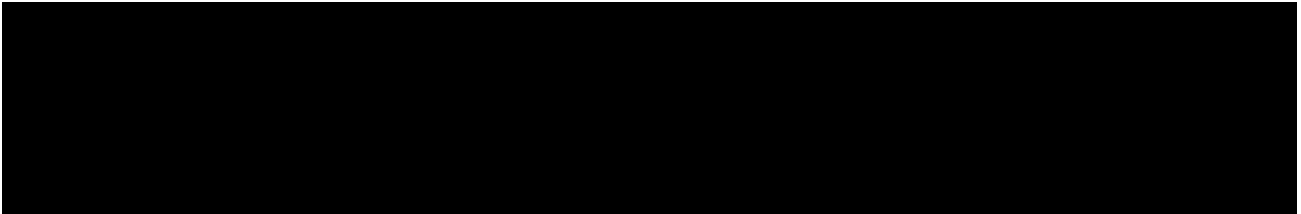
Parry Thomas and his partner, Joyce Mack, provided the funding for the Thomas & Mack Legal Clinic at the UNLV Boyd School of Law where every year dozens of law students provide free legal services to needy Las Vegas citizens with special emphasis on the families of recent immigrants to the valley.

New School Name Application  
List of References For  
E. Parry Thomas

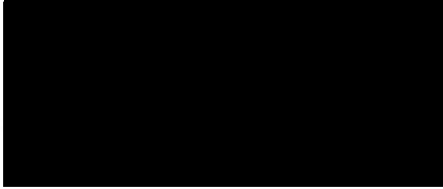
Mrs. Joyce R. Mack



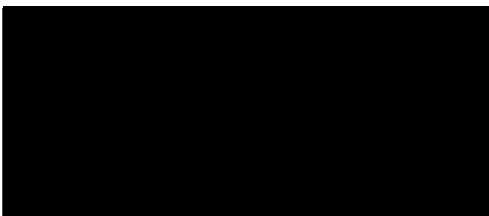
Mr. Stephen Wynn  
Wynn Resorts Ltd



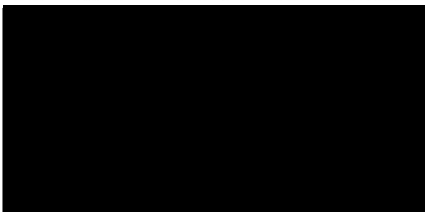
Mr. Alan Molasky  
Ovation Development



Mr. Russell Goldsmith  
City National Bank



Mr. Brian L. Greenspun  
Las Vegas Sun, Greenspun Media & American Nevada Corporation





# BOYD GAMING

September 13, 2016

Board of Trustees  
Clark County School District  
c/o Community and Government Relations  
5100 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Dear Trustees,

I am honored to write this letter of recommendation in support of naming an elementary school in Clark County after my friend, E. Parry Thomas.

Parry's impact on this community as a businessman, philanthropist and friend of education was profound. I cannot imagine where Las Vegas would be today without him.

As the president (and later chairman) of Valley Bank, Parry was the very first banking executive willing to extend loans to casino operators. Such loans are routine today, but back in the 1950s and 1960s, it was unheard of for any bank to consider making a loan to a casino or to individuals investing in a casino.

As the first banker to extend loans to casino companies and to me personally, Parry helped finance the construction of many of Las Vegas's most iconic resorts – establishing Las Vegas as the Entertainment Capital of the World, and creating hundreds of thousands of jobs in our community.

Just as importantly, Parry helped provide our industry with credibility within the banking and financial community. In doing so, he helped lay the foundation for the expansion of the gaming industry into a nationwide, multi-billion-dollar business over the past 20 years. That growth and maturation has had a profound and positive impact on the entire southern Nevada community – and it would not have happened without Parry taking the first step.

But Parry's impact on our community went well beyond the gaming industry. The University of Nevada, Las Vegas has few friends more committed or impactful than Parry Thomas.

Board of Trustees  
Clark County School District  
September 13, 2016

Working with his long-term business partner, Jerry Mack, Parry established the Nevada Southern University Land Foundation in the late 1960s, and gave it the financial support needed to acquire land for the expansion of what we know today as UNLV. With Parry's support, the Foundation was able to purchase 400 acres for expansion -- more than seven times the land the University had available for development previously. There is a reason that Parry Thomas' name is so prominent on the UNLV campus; without his support, friendship and vision, UNLV would not be the successful and thriving university it is today.

Parry Thomas was truly a founding father of modern Las Vegas. This entire community owes our success and prosperity to his vision, foresight and support. It was truly a pleasure know him, and call him a friend. And I am tremendously honored to submit this letter of recommendation in support of naming a Clark County School District elementary school in his honor.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours very truly,

  
William S. Boyd  
Executive Chairman

September 15, 2016

Board of Trustees  
Clark County School District  
c/o Community and Government Relations  
5100 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

**Re: E. Parry Thomas School Name Application**

Dear Board of Trustees:

There is no higher honor for me than to write a letter in support of a school naming for E. Parry Thomas. Considering that so many longtime residents agree that Mr. Thomas has been the singular most influential person in our state's modern history, it is surprising that no school already bears his name.

If, as I believe to be the case, we name schools to provide our children with models of people to emulate, there is no more appropriate choice than this one. As we painstakingly identify individuals to receive this honor, we focus on their support of education, their love of children, their individual achievements, their example of good character, and their value to society. All of these criteria hold true for him as well.

My support of this consideration has a particularly special meaning for me. I can honestly say that no other person, outside of my own parents, has had as significant an influence on me than Parry Thomas. When I arrived in Las Vegas as a very young woman, I had completed my formal education. Little did I realize that I would have the good fortune to have a "life coach" who would guide me successfully through my years as a wife, mother, business partner, and ultimately civic leader. I did not fit the typical profile of someone that a successful banker and community leader would take interest in. Mr. Thomas took a special interest in me that resulted in my striving to be the best version of myself that I could become.

He became my teacher through both word and example.

He was consistent in every part of his life. In raising his family, in conducting his business, and in building a community, he used his intelligence, his creativity, his integrity, and his genuine warmth to show me and many others the way. Whether I walked into his home or his office, he received me with enthusiasm and gave generously of his time. In return he had high expectations and standards. If you fulfilled them, you received praise and support. If you fell short, there was patience and more instruction. For me the greatest accomplishment was to earn his trust and respect.

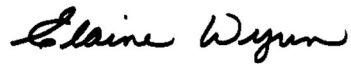
ELAINE P. WYNN & FAMILY FOUNDATION



He especially gave me a sense of how important it is to have gratitude for our good fortune and to use our gifts to help make life better where we can.

The example he set when reduced to its simplest form, is the one we wish all of our children could experience. I envy the students who might eventually occupy the building with E. Parry Thomas's name on it. It will be imbued with his spirit and goodness.

Sincerely,



Elaine P. Wynn



*Irwin A. Molasky*

September 15, 2016

Board of Trustees  
Clark County School District  
c/o Community and Government Relations  
5100 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

- ✓ Chairperson & Board of School Trustees representative – Deanna Wright
- Board of School Trustees representative – Kevin L. Child
- CSSD Administrator representative – Celese Rayford
- CSSD Teacher representative – Kevin Chamorro
- Parent representative – Jenn Blackhurst
- Community representative – Cindy Dreibelbis
- Community representative – Bob Brown

Dear Committee Members,

It gives me much pleasure to address this letter to each and every one of you. Some of you I have personally met and some I know by reputation.

Perhaps, many of you know that I have the honor of having a junior high school named after me in 1997. I am pleased to tell you that over the years I have interacted closely with the principals and many of the teachers of Molasky Junior High School. I attend numerous graduations and many school programs. I am also pleased to tell you that each year I add hundreds of books to the school library at the request of the librarian. This library is the best amongst junior high schools in Nevada.

The reason for this letter is to ask all of you to nominate my dear friend E. Parry Thomas as a nominee for naming rights for a junior high school or an elementary school at your preference.

I recently attended a memorial for Parry Thomas which was held at the Encore Hotel, where over 500 people attended. Parry Thomas was my friend and banker for over 50 years. When he came to Las Vegas some 60 years ago from Utah, he started the Bank of Las Vegas, which later became Valley Bank of Nevada (which is now Bank of America).

It was my honor to build two high rise buildings for Valley Bank of Nevada; one in downtown Las Vegas on 4<sup>th</sup> Street and the other on Buffalo and Summerlin Parkway. Parry was personally involved in the financing of 90% of the hotels on The Strip which allowed them to expand from their 200 +/- hotel rooms to their 1,000 to 3,000 rooms. Parry was primarily responsible for the success of many of our tourist attractions.

Instead of looking at his clients' lists of assets and liabilities, he looked into their hearts with keen judgement as to their ability to repay these loans. I personally got the money from Parry Thomas to build Sunrise Hospital and the Boulevard Mall as well as the 1 square mile subdivision called Paradise Palms. Without Parry's lending abilities, most of my projects like Sunrise Hospital and the Boulevard Mall would not have existed. These 2 projects alone have created thousands of jobs.

Parry Thomas was a proponent of education and continued to donate funds to the school district throughout his banking years.

I was privileged many years ago to join with Parry Thomas and his partner Jerome Mack to help them expand the campus of University of Nevada Las Vegas so that UNLV could grow into an urban university and not be land locked. Please note that the basketball arena is called Thomas & Mack in their honor. Parry was also instrumental in the Thomas & Mack Legal Clinic at the Boyd School of Law as well as the Thomas & Mack Moot Court Building. Parry received an honorary doctorate from UNLV in 1982.

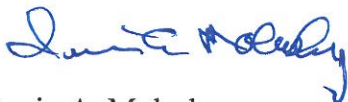
In closing, I want to apologize for the length of this letter; however, it is difficult to talk about Parry Thomas briefly. He was a giant among men and did more for Las Vegas than anyone I know.

I thank you in advance for your consideration in naming a school after E. Parry Thomas. I can't think of anyone more deserving.

With gratitude,

I remain,

Sincerely yours,



Irwin A. Molasky

## SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE

### New Elementary School Name Application

For instruction regarding submitting an application to name a school, please see the Call for Nominations available on the [School Name Committee](#) page on CCSD.net.

<b>PERSON SUBMITTING THE NOMINATION:</b> Marcia Robinson			
<b>ADDRESS:</b> [REDACTED]			
<b>CITY:</b> Las Vegas		<b>STATE:</b> NV	<b>ZIP CODE:</b> [REDACTED]
<b>EMAIL:</b> [REDACTED]		<b>HOME PHONE:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>CELL PHONE:</b> [REDACTED]
INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUGGESTED NAMESAKE			
<b>FULL NAME OF NOMINEE</b> (first, middle, and last): Mrs. Helen Toland			
<b>PROPOSED SCHOOL NAME:</b> Helen Anderson Toland			
<b>NOMINEE'S OCCUPATION:</b> Retired Educator			
<b>IS THE NOMINEE:</b>			
A FORMER CCSD EMPLOYEE?		<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/> NO
A FORMER BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE?		<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO
CURRENTLY SERVING IN ANY PUBLIC OFFICE?		<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO
A CURRENT OR FORMER CCSD SUPPLIER, CONTRACTOR, OR CONSULTANT?		<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
A RELATIVE OF ANY PERSON CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE OR BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES?		<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
<b>DATE OF BIRTH:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>CITY:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>STATE:</b> [REDACTED]	<b>COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP:</b> USA
<b>DECEASED?</b> <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	<b>YEARS IN CLARK COUNTY:</b> Since 1960	<b>CURRENT RESIDENT CLARK COUNTY?</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
SUPPORT FOR THIS NOMINATION			
<b>EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION</b> (please summarize the nominee's extraordinary and lasting contributions to education benefitting the Clark County School District):			
Please see attached pages			
<b>EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP</b> (please explain the nominee's demonstrated exceptional leadership locally toward the advancement of education and/or humanity in Clark County):			

# *Mrs. Helen Aileen Anderson-Toland, MA*



## **EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATION**

Mrs. Helen Aileen Anderson-Toland is the first African-American female principal hired in the Clark County School District, and assigned in 1965 to lead the Kit Carson Elementary School, 1735 North D Street, Las Vegas, NV 89106, in an area commonly known as the Westside. Mrs. Toland, an educational pioneer, publicly celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday at the Las Vegas - Clark County Library District West Las Vegas Library Theatre, May 28, 2016. Her host and hostess, Mr. Keith Brantley, a Nevada native, spoken work artist, and an employee of the Clark County School District and Mrs. Charlotte Fuller, a retired teacher from the Clark County School District, now living in Durban, South Africa. Her special guest speaker was the Honorable Bismarck Myrick, U.S. Ambassador (Ret.), of Lesotho, and South Africa, now lecturer in the College of Arts & Letters, at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia.

Mrs. Toland is famously known for her community yard sales to send and keep young people in school, both in Las Vegas and South Africa. She continues her international trips to Africa, to ensure and encourage young African youth a pathway to education. During apartheid at an unofficial Saturday school, she met a young man named Tulane Mkhwanazi, who had a dream to go to college. Back in the states she had yard sale, after yard sale to help raise money so he could continuously register and attend classes. Tulane graduated from electrical school and now works for South Africa's Electrical Plant.

**“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”**



Mrs. Toland’s educational journey began in a one-room elementary school, with all eight grades for black children, then ultimately working as the first African-American speech correctionist for the Louisville, Kentucky School District. Her international volunteer contributions continue to include the first pre-school speech therapy program created in Kubwa-Abuja, Nigeria, for the Daughters of Charity, a Catholic Nursery School for handicapped children. Mrs. Toland, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. an organization specifically created to promote academic excellence and provide assistance for those in need remains steadfast in giving hope through one-on-one outreach; she continues to make available her African Exhibits, consisting of artifacts from Senegal, Mali, the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria, and Liberia, Zimbabwe and South African; sharing them with multicultural programs in public schools and University level students of all nationalities, with the hopes of bridging those lost cultural gaps to Africa.



Mrs. Toland contracted an artist from Zimbabwe to create five (5) pieces of sculpture to represent family and community to be placed in her front yard. In her own words to the Review Journal, **“I don’t know how to put it, but everyone has a passion — and this African art is mine. I put the statues in my yard because I am happy to share them, and to show people the great things that are in Africa. So often, we don’t get to hear, touch, and see the greatness that comes out of Africa. We don’t get the positive information, mostly the negative.”**

After leaving Kit Carson as principal, she accepted a leadership position at the Robert E. Lake Elementary, when schools began busing the 6<sup>th</sup> grade centers during the transition of student integration. In a post interview with the University, Mrs. Toland was asked about her racial experiences at Lake, versus the ones she experienced with Black children at Kit Carson. Her response was simple and in the spirit of the late Rosa Parks. **“I Shall Not Be Moved.” We shall not be moved from loving kids. We shall not be moved from planning interesting experiences for them. We shall not be moved from the respect and regard we had for each other.”**

#### **EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP**

In the great State of Nevada eleven charter members of Delta Sigma Theta, had the wisdom and foresight to know that there was a need for black women to serve in the African American community. Mrs. Toland was a charter member along with Gwendolyn O’Neal Booker, Barbara Williams Curtis, Shirley Anderson Williams-Dean, Aquilla S. Williams Guy, LaFonde McGhee, Joanne Woodfork Pughsley, Eva Goins Simmons, Bobbie J. Smith, Dorothy York Taylor, and Margaret York.

**“Resistance fine-tunes clarity.”** Mrs. Toland had the vision as Principal of the Kit Carson Elementary School to instill the love of literacy through the creative strengths of first-hand, real-life situations.

**“Well now, they tell me they’re not going to learn to read, so I guess I have to show them.” So we went on field trips. We didn’t leave any children behind because we sold popcorn at the school, and the popcorn money made up for what a kid couldn’t bring. One of the trips was taking the class to the pancake house for breakfast. That meant that everybody brought forty-two cents for an order of pancakes. We went on the bus. The children had to be on their best behavior, their good manners; they had to know how to use forks and just all the things you’d teach your own child taking him out to eat.** (Oral History Research Center, University Libraries, UNLV 2012)

Small in stature but bold in fortitude and drive, Mrs. Toland, teachers and parents, empowered their 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade center students in a series of field trips, including bus trips to Disneyland under the umbrella of student enrichment. Now, faced with limited funding for an Outdoor Education Program to Mt. Charleston, Mrs. Toland petitioned the grants-receiving Foundation of the University of Nevada, for assistance. Because of her stellar record in programming past “nature–camp” science trips, the University of Nevada and Washoe Pines Ranch Camp, co-sponsored a short teacher training course to stimulate interest in science, ecology, history, and music at her school. The teaching curriculum consisted of lectures, laboratory studies, and teacher dialogue group sessions at Kit Carson and field trips with the students at the camp site in Lee Canyon, Charleston National Forest. Teachers were given stipends and students were expected to write on their experiences as part of the reading syllabus or in today’s terminology, the Language Arts. According to the archived records of the University of Nevada, Mrs. Toland’s pilot program created early history in the arena of **Community Education and Development:**

**UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA  
R.G. MILLER - FORESTA INSTITUTE, CARSON CITY, NV**

**This school is the first school in the state of Nevada to show initiative in starting such a 5<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade camping program. Such programs have been common and successful in schools in Southern California, notably in San Diego, Los Angeles, and Orange Counties. They are highly regarded and well-supported. If we can provide a short course for the teachers involved and thus increase their confidence and success, we expect the school will schedule annual camp programs.**

**Doubtless other schools in the state will take up this kind of camp schedule. It is notable that in this pilot case, the initiative is being taken by the school itself to which its promise is important. Enrichment is greatly needed for the children of West Las Vegas. The interest and efforts of the principal, staff and children of this deprived area deserve the endorsement and cooperation of the University and the community. Funds mentioned here are sufficient to the immediate need but very small in proportion to the good they can generate by the way of the proposed short course for the teachers.**



**WHEN:** Academic year, 1966-67, 67, 68-69

**WHY:** School is embarking on a camp experience program with no regular staff having camp experience. 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers need and want nature training sufficient to meet their class needs in camp.

**NOTABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE**

**Methods used in Hearing and Speech Therapy transferred to successful practices in Clark County Public Schools:** Booker T. Washington School; Louisville, Kentucky, 1949; Language Therapy – Veterans Hospital, Los Angeles; Enterprise School District; Los Angeles, California; 1962; Hearing & Speech Clinic, Children’s Hospital; Los Angeles, California; Kit Carson Elementary School; 1965; Robert E. Lake Elementary School

**INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN**

Mrs. Toland is presently working with a committee of CCSD educators in creating an accredited program at the Florence McClure Women’s Prison for High School students who did not graduate. The multicultural program, including music, dance, literature, drama and visual arts will be once a week, for 16-weeks, facilitated by professionals from the Las Vegas area.

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY**

During the 21-year tenure at the CLV West Las Vegas Arts Center, there have been grandmothers surprised to see Mrs. Toland lending her support to the many programs at the WLV Arts Center and WLV Library Theatre as a mentor and major cheerleader for the youth.

**Kit Carson, 700 students ... R. E. Lake, 700 students ... West Las Vegas Village: Incalculable**

**POSITIVE ROLE MODEL/SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, TALENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS,  
OR CONTRIBUTIONS**

Mother Helen Toland, a lifelong member of the NAACP, has volunteered her services and wisdom at the City of Las Vegas West Las Vegas Arts Center. With such grace and regal poise, Mrs. Toland lends herself above and beyond to ensure the success of all her “community” children. Since 2012 Mrs. Toland has accompanied the students of the West Las Vegas Arts Center Performance Ensemble to the International Association of Blacks in Dance Conference held nationally; including the Kennedy Center, in Washington DC. Each year Mrs. Toland supports and assists every effort to make sure students and staff has all that we need for a productive week. The greatest gift we receive is to see the joy on her face and hear her express with all the love in her heart “wonderful job as usual.” **Avree Walker**

**M**y name is Keith Brantley and I’m writing on behalf of the West Las Vegas community in favor of naming a school after Helen Anderson Toland. I’m sure that you have already received numerous accounts of the many accomplishments Mrs. Toland has achieved over her long career as an educator and administrator with the Clark County School District. I’d like to call your attention to what she means to her community. Helen Toland is affectionately known as Mother Toland in the Historic Westside community. She was given that name due in part to the fact that she has literally taken both children and adults under her roof. Mother Toland has opened her home to the less fortunate, the convalescing as well as visiting diplomats and dignitaries. She has been a source of cultural connection for many in the community who would otherwise have no connection with our African roots. Mother Helen Toland has spearheaded numerous programs within the community promoting education, political activism, and cultural awareness. Even at the advanced age of ninety, she shows no signs of slowing in her activism or in her support of those doing good works within the community. She is truly a gem worthy of having an educational institution named in her honor.

I hope that my brief account of just a few of Helen Anderson Toland’s deeds and works has positively influenced you to name a school in her honor. **Keith A. Brantley**



**We continue to stand tall on her shoulders.**

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NAMING APPLICATION  
(5) REQUIRED REFERENCES

*Mrs. Helen Aileen Anderson-Toland, MA*

Marcia R. Robinson, Ed.D  
Supervisor, City of Las Vegas

Alex Porter

Charlotte Fuller

Carla Alston Kelly

Dr. Rochelle Hooks



HARVEY J. MUNFORD

ASSEMBLYMAN

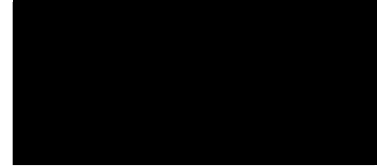
District No. 6



DISTRICT OFFICE:



LEGISLATIVE BUILDING:



COMMITTEES:

*Member*

Education

Government Affairs

Health and Human Services

Legislative Operations and Elections

State of Nevada  
Assembly

Seventy-Eighth Session

September 13, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

As a State Assemblyman representing Assembly District No. 6, in Las Vegas, NV, I am writing this letter in support for Mrs. Helen Toland to be recognized as a future candidate to have a school bear her name. Mrs. Toland is an iconic figure, and longtime resident of the historic West Las Vegas community. Not only was she the first African American female principal in the Clark County School District, she was also an outstanding educator and school administrator at Kit Carson Elementary School for over 30 years. She also has been a long-time supporter of improving education, and social fairness in her community since the early 1960's.

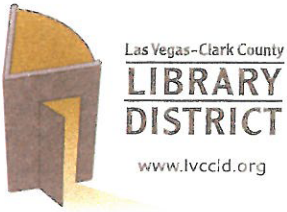
Mrs. Toland is known for putting kids first. She has been an inspiration to me during my years of being an educator when I was on the staff at Kit Carson Elementary School. During that time, she provided guidance, wisdom, and taught me the value of seeing the best in children. She is a true humanitarian, and has made many sacrifices to improve education and equality in her community. She is more than qualified, and long overdue, to have a school bear her name. I fully support Mrs. Toland for this honor.

Sincerely,

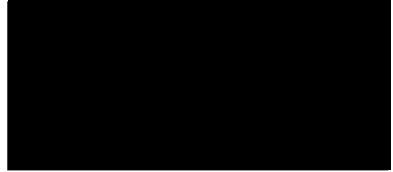
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harvey J. Munford".

Harvey J. Munford  
Nevada State Assemblyman  
Assembly District No. 6





Leo Segura  
Branch Manager  
West Las Vegas Library



Clark County School District  
c/o Community and Government Relations  
5100 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Dear Members of the CCSD School Name Committee:

It is a great honor for me to write a letter on behalf of Mrs. Helen Toland as our community seeks to honor her contributions as a life-long educator, community leader and role model for the children and adults of Southern Nevada. Mrs. Toland is a library advocate and supporter and a community educator. Mrs. Toland routinely visits the library for her informational needs and takes an active role in her community. She always makes herself available to assist with library programming and classes. She participated in the IMLS sponsored Teen Oral History project as an interviewee where we trained and assisted teens to act as oral history interviewers to learn about and document their community elders in film. She routinely participates in programs at the Library and next door at the West Las Vegas Arts Center to teach about her culture and experiences. She freely shares information about her trips to Africa and the arts and culture she brings back to her community. As the first Female African American Principle in CCSD at Kit Carson ES, Mrs. Toland shares a rich history and represents diversity of the Southern Nevada community. For these reasons among many others it, is our sincere hope that you will consider honoring her continued contributions by making her a school namesake.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leo Segura". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Leo Segura



**SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE**  
**New Elementary School Name Application**

For instruction regarding submitting an application to name a school, please see the Call for Nominations available on the [School Name Committee](#) page on CCSD.net.

PERSON SUBMITTING THE NOMINATION: Joyce Haldeman			
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]			
CITY: Las Vegas	STATE: Nevada	ZIP CODE: [REDACTED]	
EMAIL: [REDACTED]	HOME PHONE: [REDACTED]	CELL PHONE: [REDACTED]	
INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUGGESTED NAMESAKE			
FULL NAME OF NOMINEE (first, middle, and last): William Nicholas and Rosemary Ann Vassiliadis			
PROPOSED SCHOOL NAME: Billy and Rosemary Vassiliadis Elementary School			
NOMINEE'S OCCUPATION: Billy: CEO & Principal, R&R Partners; Rosemary: Clark County Director of Aviation			
IS THE NOMINEE:			
A FORMER CCSD EMPLOYEE?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED?
A FORMER BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED?
CURRENTLY SERVING IN ANY PUBLIC OFFICE?	<input type="radio"/> YES	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
A CURRENT OR FORMER CCSD SUPPLIER, CONTRACTOR, OR CONSULTANT? <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO			
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
A RELATIVE OF ANY PERSON CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE OR BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO			
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]	CITY: [REDACTED]	STATE: [REDACTED]	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: USA
DECEASED? <input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	YEARS IN CLARK COUNTY: 42	CURRENT RESIDENT CLARK COUNTY? <input checked="" type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
SUPPORT FOR THIS NOMINATION			
EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION (please summarize the nominee's extraordinary and lasting contributions to education benefitting the Clark County School District):			
<p>Perhaps the most notable Vassiliadis contribution to the Clark County School District is the "all-in" support of numerous bond campaigns to generate voter approval for ballot questions resulting in revenue used for the construction of hundreds of public schools. The significant work done by Billy Vassiliadis, personally, and through his advertising agency (under his direction) led directly to the successful passage of four ballot questions, resulting in the generation of over \$6.8 billion dollars used for the construction of 232 schools, the renovation and upgrade of all existing schools, and the creation of 4 new bus yards.</p> <p>The quantity and quality of work provided for the bond campaigns cannot be underestimated. (Continued on Addendum, page 1)</p> <p>EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP (please explain the nominee's demonstrated exceptional leadership locally toward the advancement of education and/or humanity in Clark County):</p> <p>Billy has a reputation of never-ending advocacy for public education. A few of the ways he has supported the Clark County School District include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All of Us Together (1992): The entire country faced a crisis during the spring of 1992 following the acquittal of Los Angeles police officers in the charges related to using excessive force in the beating of an unarmed motorist named Rodney King. With the close proximity of Las Vegas to Los Angeles, the likelihood of unrest coming to Las Vegas was strong. While riots were raging in Los Angeles, Billy V worked closely with Governor Bob Miller, Miller's chief of staff Scott Craigie, Las Vegas Mayor Jan Jones, and Sheriff John Moran to convene</li> </ul> <p>(Continued on Addendum, pages 1 &amp; 2 &amp; 3)</p>			



**NOTABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE** (list relevant education positions or experience inside and/or outside of the Clark County School District, length of time in each position, and impact on K-12 achievement in Clark County):

Although Billy and Rosemary have never been employees of the Clark County School District, nor have they been vendors for the District (since they have never charged for any of the many services provided to the Clark County School District over the years), they have been involved in the public schools their children were zoned to attend. While Nick and Lisa Vassiliadis attended Derfelt Elementary School, Billy and Rosemary were active in the Derfelt (Continued on Addendum, page 3)

**INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE** (please explain how the nominee's activities have contributed to children, education, or to the betterment of Clark County):

Work with the Nevada State Legislature to improve public education: For decades, Billy V's support for education has been reflected in his thoughtful consideration of the impact major legislation might have upon students, teachers, and education funding. He has often used his resources and influence to generate a positive outcome for bills related to education in Nevada, and specifically in Clark County. There hasn't been a session in recent memory (Continued on Addendum, pages 3 & 4)

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY** (please describe the estimated number of children/people impacted by the nominee's activities):

It is safe to say that Billy V's work on school bond ballot questions has impacted virtually every student who has entered a school in the Clark County School District since 1988. Within a decade, the passage of four successful bond campaigns had a lasting, significant impact on the students in Clark County as depicted by the following chart: (Continued on Addendum, page 4)

**POSITIVE ROLE MODEL/SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, TALENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, OR CONTRIBUTIONS** (please describe the nominee's demonstrated character to inspire students and any other special attributes, talents, accomplishments, or contributions not listed elsewhere):

The story of the Vassiliadis family could be a chapter in a book about obtaining the American Dream. Following World War II, Billy's father met his mother in Romania and eventually smuggled her out of the Soviet-occupied country. Billy was born in Athens, Greece, and when he was one-year old, his parents, who spoke limited English, moved from Greece to (Continued on Addendum, page 5)

**IS THERE AN AREA OF TOWN/TRUSTEE DISTRICT MOST RELEVANT FOR THIS NOMINEE** (please note that all nominations will be considered for all new school locations, but this answer may help with final placement decisions):

The new school to be located on Antelope Ridge Drive is near R&R Partners and not far from the Vassiliadis residence. It would be an excellent location for a school named after them.

You may attach no more than five (5) additional sheet(s) to complete your answers to the questions if needed.

**REQUIRED REFERENCES:** In a separate document, please provide five (5) names of references, including addresses, email and phone numbers. References may not be related to the nominee.

**OPTIONAL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:** In addition, the committee will consider no more than three (3) letters of recommendation for each individual or joint nominee(s).

**Please submit application and supporting documentation by September 16, 2016:**

Clark County School District c/o Community and Government Relations

5100 West Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89146

or via email to [snc@ccsd.net](mailto:snc@ccsd.net).

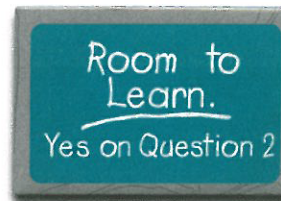
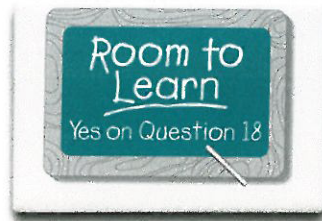
## ADDENDUM

Rosemary: [REDACTED]

Billy: [REDACTED]

**EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION**, *Continued from Page 1*

The wide-ranging support included strategic advice provided to the superintendent; media training for school board trustees and executive cabinet members; research, development of key messaging and logo design; the creation of brochures, grassroots campaign materials, yard signs, TV and radio ads; support and training for speaker's bureaus; generation of support from community leaders; fund-raising to pay for campaign materials; and whatever else needed to be done. All of the work done was completely *pro bono*, including the assignment of key employees for the duration of the campaign to complete the work. In addition to not charging the bond campaign for the work done, the agency declined the typical 15% placement fee for TV and radio ads, and often worked with their preferred vendors to provide the work at cost or for a substantially reduced price. It would be difficult to quantify the true value of the work that was done over the years to support the passage of these bond campaigns, and it is highly probable that without the expertise provided by R&R, the outcomes may not have been successful.

**EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP**, *Continued from Page 1*

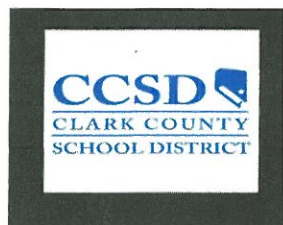
key leaders from West Las Vegas to forge a peaceful demonstration. Because of the existing personal relationships Billy had with West Las Vegas leaders such as Frank Hawkins, Jesse Scott, Joe Neal and Wendell Williams, he was able to quickly organize a meeting with the Governor, staving off violence that might have otherwise occurred. Those tense meetings are well documented elsewhere, and in the days and weeks that followed, Billy V continued to work with an expanded roster of community leaders to develop proactive solutions to the racial tension. In addition to other key leaders, Billy reached out to Dr. Brian Cram, then superintendent of schools, recognizing that schools need to be safe places to learn. R&R Partners hosted meetings; provided facilitators, materials and other support, including the development of the "All of Us Together" logo and collateral material; and worked with media outlets to help carry the message of unity. This tireless effort resulted in increased understanding of issues and significantly decreased tensions in schools and the community during a critical juncture.



## EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP, *Continued*

**Communications Audit (2000):** Following a transition in leadership, as CCSD struggled to communicate effectively with the public, R&R provided (pro bono) a communications specialist to conduct a complete audit of the District's communications functions and make recommendations of how to become more effective within its existing budget. Following the communications audit, and continuing to this day, R&R Partners has provided ongoing communications assistance to CCSD, particularly during key junctures.

**Logo Revision (2005):** As CCSD moved from the 17th largest school district in the nation (1992) to the 5th largest school district (2005), the 50-year old logo needed updating. Additionally, individual



departments had created logos that were widely used, resulting in more than 100 CCSD logos in use. Under the direction of Billy V, R&R developed a new logo (by utilizing key design elements following an art contest among CCSD students) and assisted in the implementation of a branding program to improve recognition of CCSD in the community. Logo development and organization branding is a significant effort, yet R&R provided all work and

advice completely pro bono.

**Paper Plane Palooza (2011-2015):** Under the direction of Rosemary Vassiliadis, this annual event, now in its fourth year, is co-sponsored by the Las Vegas McCarran International Airport and Boys and Girls of Southern Nevada, benefitting Clark County students. Airlines and airport tenants donate items for the students (such as back packs and other back to school supplies) and provide volunteers to work with the children. The event, held at the D Gates, combines learning and fun. Students from Boys and Girls Clubs take part in distance, accuracy, and creativity competitions with their paper airplanes as they rub shoulders with airport employees who help them design and fold airplanes, mentor them, and help them learn about the aviation industry.

**Calling All Heroes (2015):** In her capacity as Director of Aviation at McCarran International Airport, Rosemary Vassiliadis has used her influence to assist in CCSD's massive recruiting needs. When CCSD embarked upon their "Calling All Heroes" campaign to invite teachers to move to Clark County, Rosemary quickly facilitated the donation of advertising space in prime locations – such as the oversized monitors in the baggage area – to assist the district's recruitment efforts.

**Support for Superintendents (ongoing, for over two decades):** Because of Billy's personal interest in public education and his desire to improve communities by improving education, he has served as a personal advisor to every superintendent from Dr. Bob Wentz continuing through to the current superintendent, Pat Skorkowsky. CCSD's superintendents have each enjoyed a personal relationship with Billy V, usually initiated at the invitation of Mr. Vassiliadis. Billy is well known as a top political advisor for business leaders and public officials from Clark County to the White House; he is consistently ranked as one of the state's 10 most powerful leaders; yet he is always willing to take the time to meet with the superintendent. His willingness to devote significant time to superintendents as they grapple with local matters demonstrates one of his core beliefs: that we are all individually responsible for the well-being of our community. The range of assistance is vast – from political assistance to messaging for key addresses to strategy for thorny issues. Most recently, Billy V has assisted Superintendent Skorkowsky with his Pledge of Allegiance initiative, including the pro bono creation and rollout of the

accompanying website. When contacted for permission to include as references on the application, all five superintendents quickly agreed – each has his own personal story of how Billy influenced and supported his administration, and all feel a school named after Billy V is a long-overdue honor.

### **NOTABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE**, *Continued from page 2*

PTO. The Vassiliadis family also provided significant support for the Palo Verde High School football team while Nick played defensive back for the Panthers.

Billy V is a past recipient of the Clark County Public Education Foundation Hero Award and a Vassiliadis Family Scholarship is awarded to county high school graduates interested in pursuing degrees in communications, public relations or advertising.

### **INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE**, *Continued from page 2*

where Billy V hasn't played a major role in shaping education, but among the many pieces of education-related legislation he has influenced, a few are particularly noteworthy:

- **1997 session:** Billy personally lobbied for an increase in the amount of the hotel room tax and real property transfer tax that would be earmarked for school construction. These are permanent, ongoing revenue streams that have been a significant source of funding used to support school construction and renovation since they were enacted. The increased portion of the hotel room tax was diverted from the Las Vegas Visitors Convention Authority advertising budget – the very source of funds used by R&R to promote Las Vegas, resulting in a reduction of R&R's budget for this important client. More than perhaps anything else Billy has done for education, this particular action represents Billy's dedication to support public education.

Also during the 1997 session, Billy's behind-the-scenes lobbying resulted in the passage of a bill that allowed CCSD to seek funding for 10-year building programs rather than the 2-year authorizations previously allowed. Allowing the District to develop a 10-year plan was not only more cost-effective for school construction, but also allowed for long-term planning during one of the fastest-growing decades Clark County ever experienced. This change also led directly to the successful passage of the 1998 ballot question, resulting in the authorization of a school construction program that was, at the time, one of the largest in the history of the United States.

- **2011-2015 sessions:** anti-bullying laws updated. R&R worked closely with the school district and key legislators for three consecutive legislative sessions to craft anti-bullying legislation, and by the 2015 session, meaningful changes had been made to ensure student safety and a welcoming environment for all students. In a related effort, although not legislative in nature, in 2011 the R&R Foundation also developed and launched an awareness campaign called ***Flip the Script***, an innovative series of TV and radio messages that focus on middle and high school students with the goal of helping them understand bullying behavior and what they can do if they experience or see bullying take place.
- **2013 session:** support for legislation and additional funding that lead to the creation of Zoom schools. (And following the passage of the bill, R&R printed and donated "ZOOM School" t-shirts for students and staff on the first day of school.)

**INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE, *Continued***

- **2015 session:** R&R supported the landmark legislation that authorized the rollover of the existing tax rate for ongoing school construction, the impact of which is the new school construction program now underway. Billy V’s significant behind-the-scenes support of this legislation positively impacted its passage. Without his quiet influence, this legislation may never have even had a hearing.

**R&R Foundation**

R&R Foundation: Although much of the information in this application highlights R&R Partner’s donations and partnerships that directly benefit Clark County schools, the R&R Foundation list of Nevada projects exemplifies the more global approach Billy V and R&R Partners have taken to fulfill the responsibility individuals have to make the world a better place, beginning with one’s own neighborhood. The Foundation’s moto is *Transforming Lives, Strengthening Communities*, and Billy’s focus on community is obvious when you look a selection of current Foundation beneficiaries:

- Andre Agassi Foundation for Education
- Cleveland Clinic
- Flip the Script
- Human Rights Campaign
- Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
- Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada
- Lied Discovery Children’s Museum
- Nevada Museum of Art
- Opportunity Village
- The Animal Foundation

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY, *Continued***  
*from page 2*

1988	\$669 million	53,035 new seats
1994	\$605 million	25,324 new seats
1996	\$643 million	22,285 new seats
1998	\$4.9 billion	135,085 new seats
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6.8 billion</b>	<b>235,729 new seats</b>

In addition to the 232 new schools and hundreds of thousands of seats that were added during two decades of explosive growth experienced in Clark County, about one-third of the dollars generated were spent to renovate and update existing campuses, improving learning environments for thousands of students and ensuring existing schools could provide the educational programs as graduation requirements changed and as technology became more essential for the classroom. The impact of these new schools and renovation of older schools will continue to benefit all CCSD students for generations to come.

## **POSITIVE ROLE MODEL/SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, OR CONTRIBUTIONS** *Continued from page 2*

Chicago, Illinois, where they made their home. Billy's father was a church caretaker and taught Greek to students at an after-school program; his mother sold jewelry. They instilled in Billy the principals of being honest, working hard, and making and a strong commitment to family and community. In 1974 Billy moved to Las Vegas to attend UNLV, and Rosemary (also raised in Chicago) was not far behind him. Billy was hired by R&R Advertising Agency founder Sig Rogich in 1983; ten years later Billy purchased the agency from Rogich and renamed it R&R Partners.

Married for 33 years, Billy and Rosemary's love of family and sense of community has permeated the work they have done. They have not only made Las Vegas their home, they have made it a better place for everyone who calls it home. Their own two children, Nick and Lisa, are shining examples of the personal legacy they are creating. In typical Vassiliadis fashion, the efforts of their lives have been to focus outward, not inward, creating better lives for those outside of their personal circle.



Much of this application has focused on the sphere of influence Billy V has exerted on behalf of public education and the contributions he has made to the Clark County School District. However, although in a different sphere, Rosemary Vassiliadis, has also made an impact on Clark County in significant ways, as well. As a young newlywed, she took a position as a financial analyst for the City of Las Vegas, working her way up to Chief of Budget and Finance before she moved over to the County. At the County, Rosemary became finance director, and was then promoted to the Assistant Director of Aviation.

In March 2013, Rosemary was named Clark County Director of Aviation, the first woman to serve in this position. She currently manages a staff of over 1,500 and oversees all operations at McCarran International Airport, one of the busiest airports in the world, serving more than 45 million passengers a year. Additionally, Rosemary serves on a number of major boards related to aviation, including:

- Executive Board, American Association of Airport Executives
- Executive Board Member, U.S. Travel Association
- Advisory board member, International Aviation Law Institute
- Technical advisor, Southern Nevada Tourism Infrastructure Committee
- Member, Las Vegas Advisory Council of the United Service Organization (USO); established a USO lounge in each of McCarran's terminals
- In 2011, Governor Brian Sandoval appointed her as a Member, Nevada Homeland Security Commission

Rosemary was recognized on September 10, 2016 at the Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada's 8<sup>th</sup> annual *Dessert Before Dinner* as an outstanding woman whose vision, influence, and example define what it means to be a woman of courage confidence and character in the field of Science and Technology.

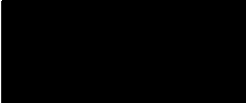
**SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE**  
**Application for the Billy and Rosemary Vassiliadis Elementary School**

**REFERENCES:**

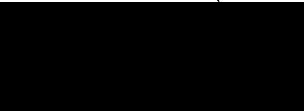
1. **Dr. Brian Cram** (Former CCSD Superintendent, 1989-2000)



2. **Carlos Garcia** (Former CCSD Superintendent, 2000-2005)



3. **Dr. Walt Rulffes** (Former CCSD Superintendent, 2005-2010)



4. **Dwight Jones** (Former CCSD Superintendent, 2010-2013)



5. **Pat Skorkowsky** (Current CCSD Superintendent, 2013 to present)



# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7020

July 12, 2016

Clark County School District  
School Name Committee  
5100 West Sahara Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Dear School Name Committee:

I write today to recognize the contributions that Billy and Rosemary Vassiliadis have made to Clark County and the Silver State, and I nominate them to become the namesake for a new Clark County School District (CCSD) school. Billy and Rosemary are two of our state's finest citizens, and a school named after them would represent their hard work, dedication, and love for Nevada. These attributes are synonymous with the Vassiliadis name.

Billy Vassiliadis is one of the most respected communications strategists in Nevada and throughout the United States. He has directed advertising and public relations campaigns for a myriad of Clark County organizations, including the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, the Southern Nevada Water Authority, and CCSD. Because of his strong contributions to public relations, the Public Education Foundation named a scholarship for him and his family, entitled the Vassiliadis Family Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a Nevada high school graduate pursuing a college degree in public relations, communications, or a related field at any institution of higher education in Nevada. Billy Vassiliadis is a strong supporter of public education, and his extraordinary contributions to children and education were recognized when he received the Clark County Public Education Foundation Hero Award.

Rosemary Vassiliadis has served Clark County and the state of Nevada since she moved to Las Vegas more than 30 years ago. She started her career as a financial analyst for the City of Las Vegas. Later, she joined the Clark County Department of Aviation as the Deputy Director of Aviation, and in 2013, she became the Director of Aviation. In this role, Rosemary oversees operations at several airports in southern Nevada, including McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas. Rosemary is the first woman to serve as the Director of Aviation, and under her leadership, she has facilitated the successful return of airport traffic at McCarran following the Great Recession. She is also responsible for leading several runway improvement projects, which cost hundreds of millions of dollars; the development of the new Terminal 3, which cost \$2.4 billion; and the development of the new Air Traffic Control Tower at McCarran, which cost \$99 million. Rosemary is also a member of the American Association of Airport Executives, the Nevada Homeland Security Commission, and serves on the advisory board for the International Aviation Law Institute.



For more than three decades, Billy and Rosemary Vassiliadis have helped transform Clark County into the dynamic county it is today. For these reasons, I am honored to lend my support for naming a new CCSD school after Rosemary and Billy Vassiliadis.

Sincerely,



HARRY REID  
United States Senator



## Office of the Governor

August 10, 2016

Clark County School District  
School Name Committee  
5100 West Sarah Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Dear School Name Committee Members:

I submit this letter in support of naming a CCSD school after Billy and Rosemary Vassiliadis. Their commitment and dedication to education is well known throughout the community in Las Vegas, and in the halls of the Nevada Legislature. Whether it's lending their expertise, or donating their time and resources, Billy and Rosemary Vassiliadis are always willing to assist in strengthening the education system for the children of Nevada.

Most people know Billy as the CEO of R&R Partners, and Rosemary as the Director of Aviation at McCarran International Airport. What most do not get to see is their passion for education and improving the lives of children throughout this State. For more than 25 years, Billy and Rosemary have been strong advocates for increased education funding and support services for children. I remember, as a young legislator in the Nevada Assembly, Billy marching through the halls of legislature, meeting with anyone who would listen, trying to piece together enough votes to pass legislation giving CCSD a greater bond capacity. Rosemary always donates ad-space at the airport for CCSD to promote its accomplishments and attract new teachers as they come to Las Vegas.

At the end of the 2015 legislative session, I was honored to sign Nevada's largest education funding bill into law. Billy worked tirelessly, as he's done for more than two decades, to ensure Nevada schools are funded properly. Rosemary offered her support any way she could, engaging other community leaders to explain the importance and necessity of increased funding. In the end, their passion and commitment paid off, literally, for the students in Nevada's schools.

Billy and Rosemary are dedicated to the long-term growth of Nevada. They've given portions of their personal and professional lives to improving the lives of children in this state. They've built their life in Nevada, watched their children grow and remain committed to strengthening the community in which they call home.

As a former legislator, judge, and now as Governor, I've had the opportunity to work with Billy and Rosemary in many different capacities. Though my title has changed, their unwavering support for what is right and best for the children of Nevada has remained consistent. I am honored to support naming a school after Billy and Rosemary Vassiliadis—the recognition for all of their hard work is long overdue.

Sincere regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Sandoval".

BRIAN SANDOVAL  
Governor

September 1, 2016  
Clark County School District  
School Name Committee  
5100 W. Sahara Ave.  
Las Vegas, NV 89146

Dear Members, School Name Committee:

The iconic What happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas tagline originated from a brainstorming session at R&R Partners. It's a fitting statement to describe the community-oriented actions of R&R's CEO, Billy Vassiliadis, and his wife, Rosemary. Transplants from Chicago, the Vassiliadis family has spent the last three decades nurturing deep roots in Southern Nevada. What they have made happen in Vegas – from persuading voters to supporting schools to developing the eighth busiest airport in the United States – will stay in Vegas for generations to come.

Many people know Billy V as the genius behind the many successful ad campaigns that have promoted Las Vegas as a top tourist destination. Or they know that he has served as an adviser to dozens of elected officials, from the White House to the schoolhouse. Rosemary is also well-respected in her own right – known for her savvy, steady leadership at the helm of McCarran Airport as it has undergone a major expansion and dealt with unprecedented security issues.

But what people may not know is the ongoing, significant dedication of the Vassiliadis family to building up the community side of Las Vegas – the part of Las Vegas that is not the well-known glitz and glamour of the Las Vegas Strip nor the roaring jets of the airport. The Vassiliadis family doesn't want Las Vegas to be known only as the entertainment capital of the world. They want Las Vegas to be a good place for families to live, enroll in quality schools, attend church and become friends with their neighbors. As they raised their own family in Southern Nevada, they also raised the standard of living of all families – working to make our community a place we can all be proud of.

When it's time for a bond campaign to support school construction, the full weight of resources Billy V has at his fingertips is devoted to passage of the ballot question. When CCSD needs to hire a record number of teachers, Rosemary works to provide donated ad space at the airport in prime locations to attract teachers to Las Vegas as they come here to vacation. When a superintendent needs help in communicating a message, that help is only one phone call away – a call that is always answered.

As they have raised their family here and made Las Vegas their home, they have made “extraordinary and lasting contributions to education benefitting the Clark County School District” (the first criteria listed on the school name application). To name a school after them would be a well-deserved and long-overdue honor. Students have much to learn from the history of these two dedicated individuals and their lasting legacy of improving our community through their advocacy for education.

It would be difficult to find a couple more deserving of this recognition than Billy and Rosemary Vassiliadis. We urge your support.

Sincerely,

Andre Agassi | Chairman and Founder, Andre Agassi Foundation for Education

Jeremy Aguero | Principal, Applied Analysis

Hugh Anderson | Partner & Managing Director, Hightower

Shelley Berkley | Former U.S. Congresswoman  
CEO & Senior Provost, Touro University Nevada

James H. Bilbray | Former U.S. Congressman

Jay Bingham | Former Clark County Commissioner

Susan Brager | Clark County Commissioner; Former CCSD Trustee

Larry Brown | Clark County Commissioner

Michael Brown | President, Barrick Gold Corporation

Richard Bryan | Former U.S. Senator  
Former Governor of Nevada

Barbara Buckley | Former Nevada Assemblywoman/Speaker;  
Executive Director, Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada

Donald G. Burnette | Clark County Manager

Yvanna Cancela | Political Director, Culinary Union Local 226

Kay Carl | Retired CCSD Assistant Superintendent Elementary and Curriculum

Bob Coffin | Former Nevada State Senator  
Councilman, City of Las Vegas

Thalia Dondero | Former Clark County Commissioner

John J. Entsminger | General Manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority

Ken Evans | President, Urban Chamber of Commerce

Alan Feldman | Executive Vice President, Global Government and Industry  
Affairs, MGM Resorts International

Greg Ferraro | President, The Ferraro Group

Jim Ferrence | Political Consultant

Helen A. Foley | Former Nevada State Assemblywoman and Senator;  
Principal, Faiss Foley Warren

Steve Forsythe | CEO, First Tuesday/FFEadventas

Chris Giunchigliani | Clark County Commissioner

Doug Gillespie | Retired Clark County Sheriff

Josh Griffin | Former Nevada State Assemblyman, Political Consultant

David Goldwater | Former Nevada Assemblyman; President, David Goldwater Consulting

Joyce Haldeman | Retired, CCSD Associate Superintendent

John Guedry | CEO, Bank of Nevada

Tim Harney | Retired CCSD Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services

Kathleen Harney | Retired CCSD Assistant Superintendent Community Relations

Guy Hobbs | President & Managing Director, Hobbs, Ong & Associates, Inc.

Scott Higginson | Vice President, Operations at Catapult Learning West, LLC  
Former CCSD Assistant Superintendent

Ruth Johnson | Former CCSD School Board Member

Marsha Irvin | Political Director, Culinary Union Local 226

Megan Jones | Partner, Hilltop Public Solutions

Dr. Craig Kadlub | Retired CCSD Chief of Staff

Jerry Keller | Retired Clark County Sheriff

Marilyn Kirkpatrick | Clark County Commissioner  
Former Nevada Assemblywoman

Dr. Karlene McCormick Lee | Retired CCSD Associate Superintendent

Duncan R. Lee | RDL Invsments, Inc

Mark Lipparelli | Former Nevada State Senator; Founder, Gioco Ventures

Betsy Fretwell | Manager, City of Las Vegas

Joseph Lombardo | Sheriff, LV Metropolitan Police Department

Ron Lurie | Former Mayor of Las Vegas; Executive Vice President and General Manager, Arizona Charlie's

Myron G. Martin | President & CEO, The Smith Center for the Performing Arts

Punam Mathur | Punam Mathur LLC

Dr. Robert S. McCord | Retired Assistant Superintendent, CCSD

Jim McIntosh | Former CCSD Chief Financial Officer Finance Director, City of Henderson

Rose McKinney-James | Managing Principal, Energy Works LLC

Kristin McMillan | President & CEO, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce

Otto Merida | President Emeritus, Latin Chamber of Commerce; Executive Director, Latin Chamber Community Foundation

Curtis Myles | President & CEO, Las Vegas Monorail Company

Bob Miller | Nevada Governor 1989-1999

Sandy Miller | Former First Lady of Nevada

Sheila Moulton | Former CCSD School Board Member

Pat Mulroy | Senior Fellow, William S. Boyd School of Law, UNLV Climate Adaptation and Environmental Policy, Brookings Institution

Terry Murphy | President, Strategic Solutions Honorary Consul of Ireland for Nevada

Jim Murren | CEO & Chairman, MGM Resorts International

William J. Noonan | Sr. Vice President Industry and Government Affairs, Boyd Gaming Corporation; Former Manager, City of Las Vegas

Ann O'Connell | Former Nevada State Senator

Kent Oram | Principal Partner, OIZ

Robert Ostrovsky | Principal, The Ferraro Group

Tina Quigley | General Manager, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada

Marilyn Dondero Loop | Former Nevada Assemblywoman

Rossi Ralenkotter | President & CEO, Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority

Jon Ralston | Journalist

Ray Rawson | Former Nevada State Senator

Rory Reid | President, Rogers Foundation  
Former Clark County Commissioner

Thom Reilly | Director, Morrison Institute for Public Policy at Arizona State University  
Executive Director, Caesars Foundation

Christine Robinson | Executive Director, The Animal Foundation

Sig Rogich | The Rogich Communications Group

Tony Sanchez | Sr. Vice President, NV Energy

Mary Beth Scow | Former CCSD School Board Member

Kirsten Searer | Senior Director of Communications, Education Pioneers;  
former CCSD Chief of Staff and External Relations

Julie Shaffer | Principal, The JGS Group

Pat Shalmy | Former Clark County Manager

Steve Sisolak | Clark County Commission Chair

Mike Sloan | Senior Vice President, Government Relations, Red Rock Resorts

Fred Smith | Retired CCSD Assistant Superintendent for Facilities

Keith Smith | President & CEO, Boyd Gaming Corporation

Don Snyder | Presidential Advisor, UNLV

Robert Stoldal | Chairman, Nevada State Board of Museums and History

Tod Story | Executive Director, ACLU of Nevada

Howard Stutz | Vice President of Corporate Communications,  
Golden Entertainment, Inc.

Mike Sullivan | Principal, The Ferraro Group

D. Taylor | President, UNITE HERE

Danny Thompson | Executive Secretary Treasurer, Nevada State AFL-CIO

*Sen. Randolph Townsend*

Randolph Townsend | Former Nevada State Senator

*Dina Titus*

Dina Titus | U.S. Congresswoman

*Virginia Valentine*

Virginia Valentine | President, Nevada Resort Association  
Former Clark County Manager

*Gail C. Tuzzolo*

Gail Tuzzolo | Owner, Gail Tuzzolo & Associates

*Jim Wadhams*

Jim Wadhams | Attorney, Fennemore Craig Jones Vargas

*Carole Vilardo*

Carole Vilardo | Retired President, Nevada Taxpayers Association

*Tom Warden*

Tom Warden | Sr. Vice President, The Howard Hughes Corporation

*Randall Walker*

Randall Walker | Retired Director, Clark County Aviation

*Bruce L. Woodbury*

Bruce Woodbury | Former Clark County Commissioner

*Lawrence Weekly*

Lawrence Weekly | Clark County Commissioner

*Bill Young*

Bill Young | Former Clark County Sheriff

*Elaine Wynn*

Elaine Wynn | Trustee, Elaine P. Wynn and Family Foundation





**SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE**

**New Elementary School Name Application**

For instruction regarding submitting an application to name a school, please see the Call for Nominations available on the [School Name Committee](#) page on CCSD.net.

PERSON SUBMITTING THE NOMINATION: <b>Andi Vining Martindale</b>			
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]			
CITY: <b>Henderson</b>	STATE: <b>NV</b>	ZIP CODE: [REDACTED]	
EMAIL: [REDACTED]	HOME PHONE: [REDACTED]	CELL PHONE: [REDACTED]	
INFORMATION ABOUT THE SUGGESTED NAMESAKE			
FULL NAME OF NOMINEE (first, middle, and last): <b>Alma Garcia Vining</b>			
PROPOSED SCHOOL NAME: <b>Alma Garcia Vining</b>			
NOMINEE'S OCCUPATION: <b>Retired CCSD School Teacher Administrator</b>			
IS THE NOMINEE:			
A FORMER CCSD EMPLOYEE?	<b>YES X</b>	NO	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED? <b>12 years</b>
A FORMER BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEE?	YES	<b>NO X</b>	IF SO, HOW MANY YEARS RETIRED?
CURRENTLY SERVING IN ANY PUBLIC OFFICE?	YES	<b>NO X</b>	
A CURRENT OR FORMER CCSD SUPPLIER, CONTRACTOR, OR CONSULTANT?	YES	<b>NO X</b>	
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
A RELATIVE OF ANY PERSON CURRENTLY SERVING ON THE SCHOOL NAME COMMITTEE OR BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES?	YES	<b>NO X</b>	
IF SO, PLEASE DESCRIBE RELATIONSHIP:			
DATE OF BIRTH: [REDACTED]	CITY: [REDACTED]	STATE: [REDACTED]	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP: <b>USA</b>
DECEASED? YES <b>NO</b>	YEARS IN CLARK COUNTY: <b>44 years</b>	CURRENT RESIDENT CLARK COUNTY?	<b>YES</b> NO
EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION (please summarize the nominee's extraordinary and lasting contributions to education benefitting the Clark County School District):			
EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP (please explain the nominee's demonstrated exceptional leadership locally toward the advancement of education and/or humanity in Clark County):			
NOTABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE (list relevant education positions or experience inside and/or outside of the Clark County School District, length of time in each position, and impact on K-12 achievement in Clark County):			
INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE (please explain how the nominee's activities have contributed to children, education, or to the betterment of Clark County):			
SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY (please describe the estimated number of children/people impacted by the nominee's activities):			
POSITIVE ROLE MODEL/SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, TALENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, OR CONTRIBUTIONS (please describe the nominee's demonstrated character to inspire students and any other special attributes, talents, accomplishments, or contributions not listed elsewhere):			

IS THERE AN AREA OF TOWN/TRUSTEE DISTRICT MOST RELEVANT FOR THIS NOMINEE (please note that all nominations will be considered for all new school locations, but this answer may help with final placement decisions):

"SEE ATTACHED"

You may attach no more than five (5) additional sheet(s) to complete your answers to the questions if needed.

**REQUIRED REFERENCES:** In a separate document, please provide five (5) names of references, including addresses, email and phone numbers. References may not be related to the nominee.

**OPTIONAL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:** In addition, the committee will consider no more than three (3) letters of recommendation for each individual or joint nominee(s).

**Please submit application and supporting documentation by September 16, 2016:** Clark County School District c/o Community and Government Relations 5100 West Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89146 or via email to [snc@ccsd.net](mailto:snc@ccsd.net).

### Support For This Nomination:

#### **EXTRAORDINARY AND LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION:**

Ms. Vining was employed in the Clark County School District from 1972 to 2004. As a classroom teacher at Pat A. Diskin E. S. she and her colleague, Jackie Locks, implemented innovative teaching strategies with high results in student achievement. Some strategies included team teaching before the rest of the CCSD implemented it. Instruction included thematic units of instruction incorporating all subjects and practiced in student groups. Positive reinforcement was practiced in school wide programs for establishing and maintaining an effective learning environment.

Ms. Vining participated in a district wide task force to condense the individual curriculum guides into a skeletal curriculum incorporating all the subjects for elementary grades. This resulted in a paradigm shift in the manner in which teachers prepared their weekly lesson plans. Ms. Vining and Mrs. Locks developed the first year-round lesson plans for instruction which were adopted by the rest of the CCSD elementary schools. These included the weeks, subjects and detailed skills to be taught for the year.

Ms. Vining incorporated music in the daily instruction, primarily singing the math facts songs written by fellow teacher, Beth Pergola. Other songs revolved around social studies, science and health topics. Teachers in other CCSD schools also utilized Ms. Pergola's music in their teaching of skills.

Ms. Vining was selected to represent Nevada on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards comprised of 63 educators (K-16), and state officials from most states. They met 4 times yearly to establish high and rigorous standards for what teachers should know and be able to do in their classrooms. Many teachers in Nevada and other states became board certified and received supplemental compensation from their school districts. These teachers went on to become lead teachers / trainers in their schools.

Ms. Vining transitioned from a classroom teacher to an assistant principal in the Spring of 1991. In 1994, she was appointed principal of Robert E. Lake E.S. She worked diligently providing training for teachers and conducted frequent observations of classroom instruction and supervision of teachers and students during the 8 years she served as the principal at Robert E. Lake E. S.

In 2001, she had the honor of opening a new school, William E. Snyder E. S. She was able to assemble a great group of teachers and staff all dedicated to serving the students' educational needs at a high level. She retired from CCSD in 2004.

In June 2004 she was employed at UNLV, The Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach, as Director of Curriculum Design and Implementation with the GEAR UP federal grant program. GEAR UP provided supplemental resources in several middle schools and high schools. They included the following designated GEAR UP Schools:

- Brindley M. S.
- Cashman M.S.
- Fremont M.S.
- Garside M. S.
- Gibson M. S.
- Robison M. S.
- Roy Martin M. S.
- Canyon Springs H. S.
- Del Sol H. S.
- Desert Pines H. S.
- Durango H. S.
- Mojave H. S.
- Rancho H. S.
- Valley H. S.

- Sedway M. S.
- Smith M. S.
- Von Tobel M. S.
- Western H. S.
- West Prep Academy

The resources, both staff and materials, were supplied to assist the schools' staff in providing supplemental tutoring, mentoring and materials such as laptops for all sixth graders at Roy W. Martin M. S. to help students with their school work in 2005. She and her staff created an opportunity for those teachers in their schools to become highly qualified by reimbursing them for relevant classes taken at UNLV. As Director of Curriculum Design and Implementation, she made a presentation at a National GEAR UP Conference on the work they did and its effectiveness. Her division also coordinated workshops for UNLV student teachers that prepared them to best teach in the urban schools. All of the GEAR UP activities are designed to help low income first generation students to successfully complete their grade level course work. All the while ensuring they graduate from high school with the ultimate goal of enrolling in a college or university of their choice.

#### **EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP:**

Ms. Vining provided leadership while working in the Clark County School District, UNLV and volunteering in the community. These examples included:

- Serving as a Master Teacher to UNLV's student teachers, and mentoring new instructors at Pat Diskin E. S.
- Served as chairperson of the Latin Chamber of Commerce Career Day and Scholarships Program from 1994-2008.
  - Coordinated efforts with high school counselors to identify 400 students for yearly Career Day activities.
  - Interviewed deserving students who met the criteria of high achievement, being within the low income segment and first generation scholars.
  - 100 selected students were awarded scholarships to attend a Nevada public college or university each year.
- She was selected as a Señora of Excellence in 2004 by the Señoras of Excellence and Señores of Distinction Foundation.
  - The monies raised at yearly Awards Gala was donated to UNLV, CSN and NSC in the form of scholarships.
  - She then served as co-chair of the Señoras of Excellence and Señores of Distinction Foundation working to raise money and organize the Gala.
- Ms. Vining presently serves as a member of the Latin Chamber of Commerce Education Committee meeting with scholarship recipients by mentoring and guiding them throughout their college years.
- She provides leadership at the Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy by serving on the governing board since 2013 - present.
- She continues to serve the Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach at UNLV as a volunteer coordinating partnerships among the Center and various community organizations.

#### **NOTEABLE EDUCATION EXPERIENCE:**

2004 – 2008 UNLV Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach –

- 2001 – 2004 Director of Curriculum Design and Implementation  
William E Snyder E. S. –  
Principal
- 1993 – 2001 Robert E. Lake E. S. –  
Principal
- 1991 – 1993 Assistant Principal at various elementary schools
- 1974 – 1991 Pat A. Diskin E. S. –  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher
- 1985 – 1990 Child Haven –  
Taught elementary aged children while they resided at Child Haven in an after school program.
- 1972 – 1974 Taught English classes to non-English speaking adults at Roy Martin M. S. –  
Teacher
- 1972 – 1974 Sunrise Acres E. S. –  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher

**INVOLVEMENT IN ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES BENEFITING CHILDREN AND/OR RELEVANT PUBLIC OR GOVERNMENT SERVICE:**

1995 – 2008 Latin Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Chair of Career Day and Scholarship Program:

- 4200 CCSD high school students participated in the Career Day activities paired with professional and business partners.
- 1400 CCSD seniors received scholarships to attend Nevada colleges and universities.
- Money for scholarships was donated by Clark County business and professional partners to the Scholarship Foundation of the Latin Chamber of Commerce.

1989 – 1992 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards – Board of Directors

- Establishing high and rigorous standards for what teachers should know and be able to do in the classroom.
- Teachers achieving these merits are rewarded in their respective states.

1972 – 1991 Member of CCSD Teachers Association

1991 – 2004 Member of Clark County Association of School Administrators and Nevada Association of School Administrators

Each organization provided Ms. Vining knowledge and skills to grow as a teacher and as a school administrator. This positively impacted the teaching for the learning process in the CCSD school system.

**SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON CHILDREN AND EDUCATION IN CLARK COUNTY:**

1972 – 2004 Elementary Classroom Teacher

- Impacting education of 570 CCSD assigned students at Sunrise Acres E. S. and Pat A. Diskin E. S. As well as rest of unassigned students in various activities, including the “Morning Music” for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders daily. Co-directed yearly talent show for all students.

1991 – 1994 Elementary School Assistant Principal

- Ira J. Earl E. S., Lomie G. Heard E. S., Selma F. Bartlett E. S., Gordon M. McCaw E. S., and Fay Herron E. S.
- Provided support and leadership to teachers and staff of 4400 students.

1994 – 2001 Elementary School Principal – Robert E. Lake E. S.

- Provided support and leadership that impacted the education of 7000 students, while supervising 100 staff and teachers each year.

2001 Opened William E Snyder E. S.

- Hired staff, met with incoming students and their parents, planned instruction, trained staff and oversaw the construction of building and furniture layout.
- 800 students entered its doors each year to attend.

2004 Retired from CCSD in June

2004 – 2008 Appointed Director of Curriculum Design and Implementation – The Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach at UNLV

- GEAR UP Federal Grant provided supplemental resources to 19 under achieving middle and high schools.
- Under Ms. Vining’s leadership, UNLV student teachers were trained and prepared to best teach students in the urban schools.
- CAEO - UNLV provided schools with tutoring, mentoring and assistance. In addition, teachers in the GEAR UP schools were encouraged to become highly qualified by reimbursing them for classes taken at UNLV. Several thousand students and hundreds of teachers were served.

**POSITIVE ROLE MODEL / SPECIAL ATTRIBUTES, TALENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, OR CONTRIBUTIONS:**

2013 – present Andre Agassi College Preparatory Academy governing board member

2004 Awarded Señora of Excellence – awarded by the Señoras of Excellence and Señores of Distinction Foundation

2000 – 2004 Metro Citizens Review Board Member

1995 – 2004 Latin Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

1995 – 2004 Latin Chamber of Commerce Career Day and Scholarship Committee Chairperson

2000 – 2001 CCSD Leadership Design Member

1991 – 2004 CCASA Member

1991 – 2004 NASA Member

1989 – 1992 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Board Member

1998 Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce Community Achievement Award Finalist – Education Category

1994 Educator of the Year – awarded by the Milken Family Foundation

1994 Educator of the Year – awarded by the Latin Chamber of Commerce in Las Vegas

1985 LULAC Hispanic Elementary Educator of the Year Award



RECEIVED

SEP 16 REC'D

September 15, 2016

To whom it may concern,

It is with enthusiasm that I submit this letter of recommendation for a school to be named in honor of Alma G. Vining. As a former Area Superintendent, I had the pleasure of supervising Ms. Vining when she served as the Principal of Robert E. Lake Elementary School. Mrs. Vining exhibited tremendous compassion for her students, staff, and school community. She always put students first and was well respected by parents.

Ms. Vining demonstrated quality leadership by establishing clear expectations that focused consistently on what needed to be done to increase student achievement. Ms. Vining would do whatever was necessary to help bring resources to students and their families. She was very visible and accessible to parents and responded to her staff needs as quickly as possible.

Ms. Vining was always active in her community. The majority of her students were second language students. Ms. Vining demonstrated delight in serving her students. She had outstanding knowledge of services and instructional strategies to support second language students. She consistently served as an advocate for the Latino community, and was appreciated for her efforts.

I was impressed with her level of professionalism, dedication, focus on children needs and community activism to enhance the lives of others.

It is for the above reasons that I support the naming of a school for Ms. Alma Vining.

Sincerely,



Marsha Irvin  
Retired Northeast Region Superintendent





University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
 4505 S. Maryland Pkwy.  
 Box 452006  
 Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-2006



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GAINING EARLY AWARENESS &  
 READINESS FOR UNDERGRADUATE  
 PROGRAMS (GEAR UP)

RESEARCH AND COMPLIANCE  
 TRIO TRAINING INSTITUTE

TUTORING SERVICES

UPWARD BOUND  
 UPWARD BOUND MATH & SCIENCE  
 CENTER



September 14, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

It is an honor to write this letter of support for Ms. Alma Vining. Ms. Vining has been a true champion in the realm of education for several decades. Her commitment to academic success of secondary students is admirable and deserves the highest recognition.

After retiring from her position as Principal of the William E. Snyder Elementary School in 2004, Ms. Vining began working with the UNLV Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach (The Center) as Director for Curriculum Design and Implementation with the GEAR UP Partnership (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs). Her expertise was vital in designing and implementing curriculum for the after-school programs that is in line with and complementary of the District's curriculum. In this position, she ensured positive relationships with the District, promoted teacher development and advocated for supplemental service delivery to the at-risk and underrepresented middle school and high school students. Since the conclusion of her employment in the end of 2008, Ms. Vining has volunteered with various projects at The Center, where she has provided her leadership and networking skills to benefit our programs and participants.

Additionally, Ms. Vining has played a key role in the Las Vegas community by serving in leadership positions for various community and professional organizations, such as the Latin Chamber of Commerce, NASA, CCASA, and PTA, to name a few. Ms. Vining also served on a number of CCSD's and other organizations' task forces, as well as received multiple recognitions for her service in education. Moreover, Ms. Vining had arranged the collaboration between The Center, the Senoras of Excellence/Senores of Distinction Foundation and the Latin Chamber of Commerce for channeling scholarship funds to be awarded to high-achieving low-income and first-generation college students selected by the LCC Education Committee.

In conclusion, I fully support Ms. Vining's candidacy for this dedication. If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at

Sincerely,

Keith Rogers, MBA, PMP  
 Deputy Executive Director



**LATIN CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE NEVADA, INC.**  
300 North 13th Street  
Las Vegas, NV 89101

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September 15, 2016

To Clark County School District Naming Committee:

The purpose of this letter is to extend my highest recommendation and commendation for Ms. Alma Vining, a lifelong educator, defender of children and warrior in the fight against poverty and ignorance.

I have known Ms. Vining for over 20 years. During this period she has proven time and time again her leadership, wisdom and commitment to the betterment of our community and more importantly the students of Nevada. What sets Ms. Vining apart from other nominees is that she is an educator's educator. She saw every student as her personal responsibility and held those she lead to the same standard. It is not just enough to say an individual spent time in a system and therefore is worthy of such an honorable recognition, it is however something else to say that a person set in place a love for learning in souls of thousands of individuals by portraying actions of love, nurturing and caring.

Greatness in teaching is just as rare as greatness in medicine, dance, law, or any other profession. What sets great teachers apart from good teachers is their passion to inspire others to reach their fullest potential regardless of life's circumstances. Ms. Vining has modeled this philosophy throughout her career.

Beyond the classroom, she spent her time working with at-risk college students at the Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. She mentored students, she provided master instruction to student teachers, and guided students to scholarship opportunities.

My professional interactions with Ms. Vining are related to her tenure as the Latin Chamber of Commerce of Nevada, Chairwoman for Education, a position in which he has served with great distinction. During her tenure with the Chamber, she touched the lives of many by implementing highly needed community and educational enrichment programs to include raising over \$150,000, in scholarship funds for some of our communities neediest students.

On a personal level, I assure you that Ms. Vining is a polished professional, a loyal educator and a trustworthy colleague and is beyond worthy to have her name serve as a beacon of hope and excellence on the front of a Clark County School District Building.

If you have any further questions regarding Mr. Vining, please do not hesitate to us.

In your service,

*Maggie Arias-Petrel*

Maggie Arias-Petrel  
Chairwoman

*Peter Guzman*

Peter Guzman  
President and CEO

*Daniel Tafoya*

Daniel Tafoya  
Vice Chair