

NAMING OF DISTRICT FACILITIES
EVELYN STUCKEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

On October 16, 2008, the School Name Committee recommended that an elementary school be named for Evelyn Stuckey.

Evelyn Stuckey arrived in the Las Vegas community in 1948 to teach physical education at Las Vegas High School. Shortly after beginning her position at Las Vegas High School, she visited Radio City Music Hall in New York City and saw the famous Rockettes perform. Feeling that the young women at Las Vegas High School were missing out on the camaraderie that many of the male athletes experienced, she decided to take this concept back to her classroom and create a drill team for girls. This new group became the Rhythmettes.

Evelyn Stuckey was known by her students as tough, but a fair taskmaster who required every member of the Rhythmettes team to maintain a 3.0 grade point average. She incorporated the value of teamwork, self-discipline, goal-setting, precision, integrity, persistence, prioritization, the ability to multi-task, and grace under pressure.

The Rhythmettes made their debut in 1950 and became popular nationwide as the wholesome ambassadors of Las Vegas. They traveled from coast to coast, making appearances in Hollywood, New York City, and in 1964, the group represented Nevada at the World's Fair. The Rhythmettes were also featured on the Ed Sullivan Show and on the Wide World of Sports. These goodwill ambassadors also made numerous appearances locally as the feature in events such as the annual Helldorado Days. In fact, in 2005, over two dozen alumni of the Rhythmettes gathered once more to honor Evelyn Stuckey by marching in the Helldorado Parade that marked the 100th anniversary of Las Vegas .

Evelyn Stuckey was named Las Vegas Woman of the Year in 1954 and Nevada Outstanding Citizen in 1964. She remained at Las Vegas High School teaching hundreds of Rhythmettes and mentoring thousands more students until her death in 1980.

It is recommended that if a school is to be named to honor Evelyn Stuckey, that the school be named the Evelyn Stuckey Elementary School.

Discussion and possible action on approval to name a school the Evelyn Stuckey Elementary School is recommended.