



A-TEAM NEWSLETTER



Mary Beth Scow

SEPTEMBER 2007

District A

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE 2007-2008 SCHOOL YEAR

09/03/07.....Labor Day
10/05/07.....Staff Development Day
10/26/07.....Nevada Day
11/12/07.....Veterans Day
11/22/07.....Thanksgiving Day
11/23/07.....Family Day

BOARD MEETINGS:

September 6, 2007, 4:00 p.m.
September 20, 2007, 4:00 p.m.
October 9, 2007, 5:30 p.m.
October 25, 2007, 5:30 p.m.
November 15, 2007, 5:30 p.m.
November 29, 2007, 5:30 p.m.
December 13, 2007, 5:30 p.m.

The above board meetings will be held at: Edward A Greer Education Center, Boardroom
2832 E. Flamingo Road,
Las Vegas, NV 89121
Access the district's website at www.ccsd.net

SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS:

September 10, 2007, 11:30 a.m.
(Officer's Meeting)
Clark County School District
4th Floor, Room 466
5100 West Sahara Ave.
Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

September 18, 2007 9:00 a.m.
(Board Retreat)
Indian Springs School, Library
400 Sky Road
Indian Springs, Nevada 89018

September 24, 2007, 9:00 a.m.
(Work Session)
Northwest Career &
Technical Academy, Banquet Hall
8200 West Tropical Parkway
Las Vegas, Nevada 89149

Welcome to the 2007-08 school year. It has been a great opening of school, and we look forward to a good year of student achievement. District A had two new schools open to students: Smalley Elementary and the Burkholder Middle School replacement. Both are beautiful facilities. Burkholder maintains the look and feel of the old school, but has some amazing energy saving technology.

You have probably read of the No Child Left Behind Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results for CCSD. There is a great deal of growth in student achievement across the board. District A had several schools in the high achieving categories. Congratulations to Exemplary schools: Bartlett ES, Lamping ES, Twitchell ES and Wolff ES; and to High Achieving schools: Boulder City HS, Community College HS--South, Gibson ES, Kesterson ES, Mack ES, Sewell ES, Walker ES, and Webb MS. We are excited about the growth in all of the schools. Next year, the AYP bar rises again as it rises to the expectation of 100% proficiency in 2014. We appreciate the great work that is going on in schools in order to reach these goals for all students.

I look forward to another year of meetings with our A-Team/Southeast Region parent advisory group. Our first meeting will be Thursday, September 13 at 9:30 a.m. at Greenspun Jr. High. We will have information from the Board and Region, question and answer, and input on future meeting topics.

Have a great September!

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

BOARD MEETING TIME: The board meetings will remain at 4:00 pm through September 20, 2007, and be re-evaluated and discussed on how the new time has worked at the above mentioned regular board meeting.

SCHOOL POLICE: School Police can now ticket for unlawful behavior. Please drive with extreme caution while in or around school zones.

OPEN HOUSE: Plan to attend your child's Open House. This is a great opportunity for you to meet your child's teachers and school staff.

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL DISTRICT A-TEAM MEETINGS ARE HELD AT:
GREENSPUN JHS**

140 N. Valle Verde, Henderson, Nevada
9:30 A.M.

September 13, 2007, October 11, 2007, November 8, 2007, December 13, 2007

**CLARK COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT
POLICE DEPARTMENT**
Operation Crime Free Schools

Tip Hotline: 799-0228

Call the school district police to report suspicious activity at your school.

You can remain anonymous.

**HOMEWORK
HOTLINE**

799-5111

Monday – Thursday
3:30p.m. – 5:30p.m.

Assistance in all subjects.
Now on Cox Cable
Channels 96 and 111

Preparedness and Prevention

An important part of educating students in Southern Nevada is providing them with a safe environment where they can learn and grow. Learning will not occur if students are afraid to come to school or when they are in school and are anxious because of their perception of feeling unsafe. Fortunately, protecting the safety of Clark County School District students and employees is the primary mission of the Department of Student Threat Evaluation and Crisis Response.

Their diligent work with community, emergency and government response units from across the valley ensures a timeless and seamless response in the event of a critical incident at a school. Recently, Safe Havens International honored the School Safety and Crisis Management Team with the “Best Practices in School Safety International Award” for their outstanding work in helping the school district prepare for emergency situations.

As a result of their efforts, all CCSD schools have plans on site to provide support for students and teachers in the event of a crisis. While the actions taken during a crisis are dependent on the circumstances of the event, the school’s primary objective remains the same; to safely provide for the welfare of the students and staff and ultimately, to keep them out of harm’s way.

“We perform a variety of roles,” said Rosemary Virtuoso, Coordinator, Department of Student

Threat Evaluation and Crisis Response. “One day we might help school administrators enhance their crisis plans and the next we might train school counselors in suicide prevention techniques.”

Virtuoso and her colleagues often work closely with CCSD’s mental health services division to assist with threat assessment. The department employs a trained staff that includes school psychologists and counselors. Their primary responsibility is to collaborate with school police and schools in the evaluation of those students who have made harmful threats about themselves or others. By interviewing all the parties involved and looking at a wide range of dynamics and background information, members of the Crisis Response team are able to create a management program that helps students get back on track. It’s an aspect of her department’s work that Rosemary Virtuoso particularly enjoys.

“I know we’ve made a difference in the lives of students and their families,” Virtuoso said. “Helping students move forward with their education is a very rewarding experience.”

For more information on the Department of Student Threat Evaluation and Crisis Response, visit www.ccsd.net/directory/safety.

Getting to Know Your School Police

The Clark County School District Police Department is a recognized police agency with approximately 151 certified officers dedicated to providing a safe and secure environment conducive to learning.

All officers are required to complete a certified Police Officer Standard of Training (P.O.S.T.) Academy with other local police agencies and have the authority to make arrests and issue traffic citations.

For more information about the School Police, please visit their website at www.ccsdpc.com.

Basic Safety Tips:

- Teach your child their full name, address, your full name and phone number.
- Let your child know that police officers are there to help them, and teach them how to identify police by their uniforms and vehicles.
- Teach your child to report violence, threats or any suspicious activity.
- Discuss incidents with your child and how they might have been avoided, along with constructive choices that could have resulted in a more positive outcome to a situation.