

From: Washoe County School District
Date sent: 02/12/2010 10:02:46 am
Subject: BOARDcast February 12, 2010 - Issue 22

[Print This](#) 

Having trouble viewing the images in this email? Try adding boardcast@washoe.k12.nv.us to your address book, or you may want to try [viewing this message in a browser](#).



February 12, 2010 Newsletter

In this issue

A Word From the President
 Special Legislative Session
 Strategic Planning
 Black History Month

Meet the Trustees

Dan Carne (District A)
 Nancy Hollinger (District B)
 Barbara Clark (District C)
 Ken Grein (District D)
 Scott Kelley (District E)
 Estela Gutierrez (District F)
 Barbara McLaury (District G)

[Meet the Trustees](#)

boardmembers@washoe.k12.nv.us

What do you think?

We are interested in your comments and feedback on this newsletter.

BOARDCAST E-NEWSLETTER

Dear John Doe,

A Word from the Board President Estela Gutierrez

I am honored to have been elected Board President and intend to be a strong advocate for the Washoe County School District. Public education needs to change as the area we serve changes. We have to become more accountable to all parts of the community for the quality of education that we offer in our schools. I am looking forward to forging effective partnerships with the many different groups who have a stake in our educational system. We will work closely together for the benefit of all of our students and families.

2010 is set to be a busy and challenging year. We have a major bond issue coming up on the November ballot and a far-reaching strategic plan now being formulated to guide district operations and align its central mission with difficult budget realities.

My fellow Trustees and I look forward to working hard so that every one of our 63,000 students graduate career and college ready.

Estela Gutierrez
 President

Special Legislative Session

During his 'State of the State' address, Governor Gibbons called

Let us know what you think:
communications@washoe.k12.nv.us

Pass it on

If you know someone who may be interested in receiving this newsletter, [pass it on!](#)

Subscribe

If you have received this message forwarded to you by a friend, please consider [subscribing to receive future BOARDcasts](#).

for a special session of the Nevada State Legislature to meet February 23, to balance the 2009-10 biennium budget. The Governor reaffirmed that he would not raise taxes to close the almost \$900 million budget shortfall. He was clear that higher education and K-12 cuts would be part of his plan to balance the budget. Our district's legislative team plans to meet early next week to continue preparing for the special session.

As always, we want to keep you informed and obtain your ideas on how best to advocate for students, teachers and staff during these unsettled times. To that end, there will be two Town Hall meetings next week. The first one will be from 4:15 - 5:30 pm in the cafeteria at Sparks High School and the second will be in the cafeteria at Pine Middle School from 6:00 - 7:15 pm. Please join us - we want to hear from you.

Strategic Planning

Many of you will be aware that we are in the process of developing a new strategic plan. The current strategic plan, the Blueprint for Student Success, requires updating to address the new challenges the district faces. When completed, the new plan will clearly redefine where the school district is, where it wants to be and how to get there. It will have specific goals and strategies that include metrics to measure progress and provide accountability.

Under the leadership of Deputy Superintendent Pedro Martinez, eleven committees have been brainstorming action steps necessary to carry out a reform agenda we Trustees have called for. The process is open and involves citizen input. Earlier this week we held three community forums where we received a wealth of ideas and comments. Of course, not everyone is able to attend a public meeting so we have created a special section on the district's website especially devoted to the plan. It contains updated information and an online survey in English and Spanish. Please [click here](#) to take the survey. You can choose to take the entire survey or simply the section that you are particularly interested in.

Black History Month

During February each year we take time to appreciate African American history. In the Washoe County School District we use Black History Month as a reminder of our commitment to equity in education for all students. We are dedicated to providing learning environments which reflect the cultures, traditions, customs and historic legacies that comprise our district's population. Let us teach our children to rise above bigotry and

to be champions of liberty, human dignity and equality on all levels.

©2010 Washoe County School District, 425 East Ninth Street, Reno, NV, 89520, 775-348-0200