

# BOARDcast

Every Child, By Name And Face, To Graduation



April 12, 2011 Newsletter

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## In this issue

A Word from the Board President

WCSD's Door to Door for Student Achievement Campaign Receives National Recognition

School Police Make a Difference At Our Schools

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## Meet the Trustees

Dan Carne (District A)  
John Mayer (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](mailto:boardmembers@washoe.k12.nv.us)

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## What do you think?

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

Let us know what you think:  
[communications@washoe.k12.nv.us](mailto:communications@washoe.k12.nv.us)

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## Pass it on

## BOARDCAST E-NEWSLETTER

Dear John Doe,

### A Word from the Board President



While we have faced very tough budget reductions during the last four years at the Washoe County School District, my colleagues and I on the Board of Trustees are challenged this year with some of the most difficult decisions yet.

The District is facing an estimated \$75 million shortfall for each of the next two fiscal years because of anticipated losses of local, state and federal funding. This is in addition to the \$73 million in cuts the District already has made during the last four years.

We will not know the true impact of potential reductions until state lawmakers pass a final budget at the Nevada Legislature. The 2011 Legislative Session is scheduled to end in June.

I encourage you to contact your legislator in Carson City and let them know how these cuts to education will impact you and your children. It is important they understand the true effect these reductions will have on the future of our children and the future economic stability of our state.

As your elected officials on the WCSD Board of Trustees, my colleagues and I feel it is always important to listen to you before we make these difficult budget choices.

The District recently launched an online survey about the budget to gather input from parents, school district staff and the community. You can access the survey [here](#) or through the [Budget Update and Legislative](#)

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

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[Session 2011](#) section of the District’s website.

I hope you will take a few minutes to fill out the budget survey. Your feedback and budget-savings ideas are valuable to us as we prepare to make these difficult decisions.

Barbara McLaury  
Board President

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## **WCSD’s Door to Door for Student Achievement Campaign Receives National Recognition**

The American School Board Journal selected the WCSD as an honorable mention recipient in the prestigious 2011 Magna Awards for the District’s efforts to keep students in school through its Door to Door for Student Achievement campaign. The Magna Awards honor the best practices of school boards and school districts for their solutions to the challenges facing education today.

During the Door to Door for Student Achievement initiative, teams of district, school and community leaders, including members of the WCSD Board of Trustees, visit the homes of students who are not enrolled in school or who are at risk of dropping out. These teams sit down with the students and their parents to put together a personalized plan and get the child back into the classroom. In one year, the program helped the WCSD improve its graduation rate by seven percentage points. You can read more about the District’s award [here](#).

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## **School Police Make a Difference At Our Schools**

The Board of Trustees would like to recognize the amazing work of the WCSD Police Department. Not only do our school police provide critical services during emergency situations, their proactive drills and training efforts with principals, teachers, staff and our students are making our schools more prepared for those unknown emergencies. Additionally, school police work hard with our students to educate them about a variety of issues, including the dangers of gangs and bullying.

Two Trustees recently have highlighted our school police in articles in the Reno Gazette-Journal. You can read Board Vice President Ken Grein's article [here](#) and Board Clerk Scott Kelley's article [here](#).