

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](#).



September 9, 2011 Newsletter

In this issue

A Word from the Board President

Test Scores Improve for the Second Consecutive Year

Re-Engagement Centers

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

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



This school year is off to an incredible start! We have been welcoming back students to our year-round schools for a couple of months, and more than 45,000 students returned last week for the start of the traditional school calendar. Last Monday, many members of the Board of Trustees visited classrooms and welcomed back our children, parents, teachers and staff for the 2011-2012

school year. Along with Superintendent Heath Morrison, I had the opportunity to walk to school with students from Traner Middle School and to visit classrooms at Hug High School. I truly enjoyed these experiences and could feel everyone's excitement.

As we look forward to the rest of the year, the District will be launching several initiatives to improve student achievement and provide more opportunities for parents and the community to get involved in our schools. We hope these programs will build on the success we are already seeing under our strategic plan, *Envision WCSD 2015 – Investing In Our Future*. Additional information can be found [here](#).

My colleagues on the Board and I are looking forward to working with Superintendent Morrison, who was recently named the [Nevada Superintendent of the Year](#) by the Nevada Association of School Superintendents, and everyone at the District's schools to make this another year that gets us closer to "every child, by name and face, to graduation."

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](#).

Barbara McLaury
Board President

Test Scores Improve for the Second Consecutive Year

We start the 2011-2012 school year with a major announcement about the progress we are making in the WCSD. For the second consecutive year, we saw [improved test scores!](#) The District demonstrated significant improvement in mathematics at the elementary and middle school levels with every grade showing growth. Scores on the eighth grade writing test also improved in 2011. With reading, we unfortunately could not benchmark progress because changes to the test and new proficiency rates make the scores incomparable to previous years. However, we saw improvements as WCSD continued to distance its performance in relation to the state's reading average. The District's graduation rate is also expected to improve again this year, and details will be released later this month.

Re-Engagement Centers

The Washoe County School District launched a new initiative this year aimed at getting more students back in school and on track to graduation. The District's five new Re-Engagement Centers reach out to students in a unique way by providing educational services at locations in the community where students who have vanished from the public education system typically spend time. By partnering with community organizations like the Boys & Girls Club of Truckee Meadows, the Children's Cabinet and the Record Street Family Shelter, the grant-funded Re-Engagement Centers already have helped hundreds of students in the first several months of operation. More information about the Re-Engagement Centers can be found [here](#). Members of the Board of Trustees along with WCSD and community leaders celebrated these efforts last month, and a video from that event is available [here](#).

When the Board of Trustees set a new vision for WCSD in 2009, we made a commitment to think innovatively to ensure that all children receive the support they need to

graduate high school ready for college and/or highly-skilled careers. Along with the Re-Engagement Centers, WCSD is preparing for its annual *Door to Door for Student Achievement* initiative. Superintendent Morrison, members of the Board, and school and community leaders will visit the homes of students who are not in school or who have chronic attendance issues and build a plan to help them be successful in the classroom. These two initiatives are prime examples of how WCSD is staying committed to the promise of "every child, by name and face, to graduation."