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January 12, 2012 Newsletter

## BOARDCAST E-NEWSLETTER

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### In this issue

A Word from the Former Board President

A Word from the New Board President

Student Advisory Board

Principal for the Day

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Dear John Doe,

### A Word from the Former Board President



Congratulations to my fellow Trustees! At this week's Board of Trustees meeting, we elected Ken Grein as the new Board President, John Mayer as the new Vice President and Estela Gutierrez as the new Clerk. All three will serve in their respective roles for the coming year. I know our newly elected officers will bring tremendous leadership to the District in 2012.

### 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@washoeschools.net](mailto:boardmembers@washoeschools.net)

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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@washoeschools.net](mailto:communications@washoeschools.net)

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### Pass it on

As I look back on my year as the Board President, I am proud of what the Board of Trustees and the District have accomplished while facing many challenges. We tackled a major budget shortfall through collaboration and fiscally responsible and innovative ideas. We continued with our unwavering dedication to address the problem of bullying by developing the Washoe County School District's community awareness campaign called "A New Era of Safe Schools." The latest WCSD anti-bullying initiatives can be found [here](#).

To build stronger learning environments in the form of parent engagement, the District launched Parent University and opened its doors to its most valuable partners — parents. This partnership marks a milestone for WCSD because we are now empowering parents to be a powerful voice in their student's academic careers. To learn more about the Parent University, click [here](#).

At the same time, we worked with the community through our *Door to Door for Student Achievement* campaign to visit the homes of students who were not

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enrolled in school or who were at risk of dropping out. To respond to community issues and concerns, we proactively engaged in two-way conversations about education through surveys, townhall meetings, community events, media relations, social media and other communication avenues.

While we are excited about these latest improvements, we know there is more work to be done, and the District is committed to fulfilling our promise of "every child, by name and face, to graduation." This promise is emphasized in our strategic plan, *Envision WCSD 2015 - Investing In Our Future*, which will drive district wide expectations for the upcoming three years. To learn more about *Envision WCSD 2015*, click [here](#).

It has been a pleasure serving you as the President of the Board of Trustees for the last 12 months and I am excited to continue to advocate for the children of Northern Nevada as I continue my time as a Trustee!

Barbara McLaury  
2011 Board President

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## A Word from the New Board President



I am extremely honored to be elected President of the Board of Trustees for this great school district. I appreciate my colleagues' confidence in me as we enter 2012 and prepare for what lies ahead. As your new Board President, I assure you that I will work hard to ensure every child gets the best education possible so he or she can reach their dreams.

The Board of Trustees has an unwavering dedication to the children in this community. As we move forward in our strategic plan, *Envision WCSD 2015 - Investing In Our Future*, we know that everyone will continue to be diligent in carrying out our top priority to make sure every child graduates from high school college and/or highly-skilled career ready.

I look forward to working with my colleagues and the WCSD staff. I am excited to serve you!

Ken Grein

2012 Board President

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## **Student Advisory Board**

The Student Advisory Board consists of representatives from each high school in the WCSD. During its meetings, the students discuss difference topics, like the budget, bullying, bell schedules and the school calendar. These conversations are important to Board members as they provide valuable input from the people who see how the education system is working on a daily basis — our students.

Since November 2011, the current Student Advisory Board has been meeting with leaders of the WCSD to gather insight from the students about issues impacting them and their peers. We always want to hear from our students, and providing the Student Advisory Board a format to have a conversation with the Trustees is a great way to learn from our leaders of tomorrow.

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## **Principal for the Day**

This year's event was a great success! Thirty-five businesses and their leaders participated and had the opportunity to learn what it takes to lead a school by shadowing elementary, middle and high school principals. These business leaders got an inside look at our schools and experienced the amazing work of our students and employees. They interacted with students and teachers, attended meetings and even helped with lunchroom and bus duty. Participants, administrators, business and community leaders leave the day with insights, understanding and strengthened relationships. Many have found this event to be an eye-opening investment of their time.

This is the fourth time the Principal for the Day event has been organized by the Education Alliance, a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization created by civic and business leaders in partnership with educators to support all students in Washoe County.

Plans are to continue providing this opportunity to the business community with a future event coming sometime this year.

