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September 15, 2010 Newsletter

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BOARDCAST E-NEWSLETTER

Dear John Doe,

A Word from the Board President Estela Gutierrez



This week the Washoe County School District is celebrating exciting news about our graduation rate!

After several years of static growth, the graduation rate jumped up seven percent, to 63 percent for the 2009-2010 school year. This one-year increase marks a significant improvement for our District. We are reversing a trend that we've seen for many years in Washoe County – our rates have remained flat, around 56 percent, since 2006. I am so excited we are breaking that pattern and getting more of our students to walk across the stage with a diploma in hand!

This latest data also revealed more encouraging news. Every single one of our high schools improved their individual rates, and the graduation rates for many of our minority groups increased as well. For more details, check out the news release by clicking [here](#).

These results show we are moving in the right direction. We must continue this momentum to ensure that all of our children graduate from high school and are prepared for college and the highly-skilled careers in Nevada's future. With a high school diploma, all things are possible.

Nothing is more important than "every child, by name and face, to graduation," and I am looking forward to reaching that goal.

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Estela Gutierrez
President

Door to Door for Student Achievement

While the news about improved graduation rates is exciting, we know there is more work to do, and the District is not wasting any time to build on that success. This Saturday, we Trustees will join the Superintendent, and more than a hundred school district staff and community leaders to reach out to students who have not yet enrolled or returned to school this year. We call this 'Door to Door for Student Achievement' because that's exactly what it is.

During the 'Door to Door for Student Achievement' campaign, we will talk with students and their parents about why the child is not in school and what it will take to get them back. These outreach efforts send a powerful message about the importance of learning and graduating high school. We must continue to reach out to our children and ensure each one has the tools and support they need to get that diploma.

Last year's event was a great success. We went to more than 400 homes in four hours and enrolled a large number of students back into our education system. The plan is to build on that success and get our children back in school.