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Issue 6

Dear John Doe,

A Word from the Board President Barbara Clark

In this issue

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"When you don't know where you're going, any road can take you there." - Unknown

Fortunately, the Washoe County School District has a clear direction in the form of our recently adopted [Blueprint for Student Success](#). After months of work by our staff and the input from the community, the Board of Trustees adopted the Blueprint on November 3, 2008.

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

Every successful organization needs a strategic plan. Ours comes in the form of the Blueprint. It will, over the next months, help guide our decisions about where to allocate diminishing resources as we deal with budget cuts. With the recent announcement that Superintendent Paul Dugan will retire on August 1, having a clear direction with specific measurable goals will help smooth the transition.

Here is a brief overview, but I encourage you to click on the link above and read the entire plan for yourself. The Blueprint has one overarching goal; "While maintaining rigorous academic standards, every child will graduate career and/or college ready."

Supporting that broad goal are four components, each with its own set of associated goals and measurable indicators. They address the need for building academic success, building our human capital, building community capital and continuously improving our facilities and support services.

Because the Blueprint is a long-range, five-year plan we

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have also developed shorter, more immediate action plans. They're contained on the last page of the Blueprint.

Barbara Clark
President
WCSD Board of Trustees

2009 Legislature

With the 2009 legislature underway, it will be important for citizens to stay up-to-date on the latest news and to stay involved. We're developing an easy to use legislative newsletter that will give you quick access to your state senator or assemblyman. Watch for an upcoming announcement on how you can sign up to start getting it sent to you.

The foundation of the WCSD's legislative platform is contained in [iNVEST '09](#). Now in its third version, this document is supported by all 17 school boards in the state, by the state's Superintendents and by the Nevada Department of Education.

Superintendent Search

As we progress with the search for Superintendent Paul Dugan's replacement, the WCSD Board of Trustees seeks public comment in seven town hall meetings scheduled over the next month. Specifically, the Board would like to hear input on the characteristics which are essential in the new superintendent to meet the challenges the district faces.

During two of these meetings, the Board will also invite public comment on what should be priority funding areas of the budget, ideas on budget savings and efficiencies.

The schedule of meetings:

- February 26, Galena HS, 7:00 p.m. (Search & Budget)
- March 9, Incline HS, 7:00 p.m. (Search)
- March 10, Hug HS, 7:00 p.m. (Search)
- March 11, Wooster HS, 7:00 p.m. (Search)
- March 16, North Valleys HS, 7:00 p.m. (Search and Budget)
- March 17, Reno HS, 7:00 pm, (Search)

- March 23, Reed HS, 7:00 pm, (Search)

At the sessions in which both the superintendent search and the budget are discussion topics, the search will be covered from 7-8 p.m. and budget development from 8-9 p.m.

All of the town hall meetings focusing on the superintendent search will be led by the board's consultant, Jim Huge, and several members of the Board of Trustees.

For those folks who are unable to attend a meeting, there will be two other ways to have a say. An online survey will soon be available on the district website at www.washoecountyschools.org, as will a dedicated email address: Supsearch@washoe.k12.nv.us.

Listen to Learn

Last school year, the Board of Trustees began conducting a series of community engagement sessions called Listen to Learn (LTL). They are continuing. We want to meet with business groups, area non-profits, parent organizations or any group to hear your issues and concerns. To schedule an LTL session, contact Irene Payne at 333-3744 or email her at ipayne@washoe.k12.nv.us.