

NWREAB Feb. 2008

Georgeann welcomed the group

Secondary Schools Discussion

Palo Verde is having a job fair..they have a job bank for jrs & srs. Job specialist can assist them on how to put together a resume, guide them to potential employers. Employers can give info on job openings.

If a student is transferred in to a new school due to disciplinary reasons, they are allowed to participate in sports immediately. We shouldn't be rewarding kids for bad behavior. If on a zone variance, they must wait one year to play sports. Principals endorsed a one-year suspension but district did not.. Are there rules from national sports organization?

Seville MS March 5 7-8:30pm Torry Pines and Grand Teton- Seminar to teach parents how to navigate MySpace and monitor what is going on with kids on the computer.

Edline is down at Molasky , has been for several days. Shelley mentioned that Molasky reimaged their computers and things are missing so this could be causing the problem.

Elementary Schools Discussion

Progress reports in ES, the average of assignments doesn't equal percentage at the top. Different assignments are given different "weight". Could parents be given the information while looking over the reports to make it clearer. Also, criteria as to what they are being graded on while report card says they have not been evaluated. Changes were made but teachers had not been given the information ahead of time. They are working on the problem. Talk to your child's teacher if you need more information on your child's progress.. Matching benchmarks to report cards and then matching to grades. Teachers now know how to change the "weighting". There could still be some glitches. Should be smoothed out by start of next year. Some teachers don't keep up with current grades. New teacher may not be up to speed. Site based issue. As teachers get better informed on technology, some of these problems will be cleared up. Sit down with your child's teacher.

CRTs were rescheduled The date that was published on the calendar was April, now in March.

Benchmark tests will be done right before CRTs Change..spend time working on CRTs. Iowa Norm Reference test compare our students to other students across the US.

Why are tests done at certain times of the year? In order to turn assessments in and report in a timely manner, must be done on schedule. Get results back in time to allow teachers most amount of instruction time. But still need to report to govt. state and national levels

Writing proficiency tests. Kids have had quite a bit of prep time. Not full days, three periods spread out over three days. Get prompt, working on content, cleaning it up. Kids have worked up to the point they test. Not a new concept for them. Do benchmarks match timing on tests?

Testing-Next REAB meeting will address what tests, when taken, by what grades, local v. state v. national Please talk to your clusters and get specific concerns on testing for next meeting

Lorrie handed out a list of legislative reps by school.

Special Guest: Joyce Haldeman, CCSD Director of Public & Government Relations

Budget cuts: Initial cuts-things that has already been done. Budget is put together with existing or base funding expenses. Ongoing, rolled up every year with increases added to it. Based on number of students each year. Growth this year wasn't as projected. 74 million dollar base plus increase already cut due to lower number of students. These cuts are on top of that cut. All- day k, empowerment schools, SB404 (now SB185) grants cut first as they were on top of per pupil funding-they are considered "added". The SB185 grants had already been applied for and awarded to schools. We are seeing the benefits.

State \$92.7 mil....\$66 mil for CCSD..\$17 million left to cut after three added items above bulk have to come this year of the biennium- 2 yr. legislative budget. Cut \$14 million by June. Trustees to make decisions on how those cuts will be made. Remainder cut next year.

*****NEWS FLASH*****

State Treasurer has just found an additional \$40 million yesterday (Tues)...why not give to education first? According to this week's RJ, the Governor is "considering" using the money for education.

District will be sending out a survey asking for opinions on what should be cut. It is not too late to send your thoughts and opinions to Governor Gibbons.

Ms. Haldeman also said that we are one of three states that will lose some of our Title One funding for all-day K. Census bureau incorrectly calculated Nevada's influx of ELL students. Pay for K will remain in the 38 schools currently providing it. Empowerment schools are successful not just because of increased per pupil spending but includes other factors. Current Empowerment schools

Emp. Schools are successful due to increase per student funding along with other factors. Current emp. schools funded out of current school budget. New ones were to be from state budget. Dr. Ruffles is looking at AYO| designations for all-day k and emp. schools and where to cut elsewhere so they can have re-channel the money.

When the next election comes up, check to see how the current legislators previously voted. Anyone can SAY they are pro education but their voting record will show if they really are. Are they willing to let So. Nevada dollars STAY in So. Nevada...Ask them: What do you think about this plan to reevaluate where So. Nevada dollars are spent? We need the money to stay here.

What do the schools use the SB185 grant money for? Was it successful? Ask your principal...They know what their kids need the most and put the money where their school needs it. The program was so successful the first year -it was realized that the site-based empowerment was hugely successful...ask if your school will be losing this program. Can they afford to? Was this money used for programs that helped your school get you off the needs improvement list? What would you do if the money wasn't available?

There has been discussion using the rainy day fund. Why won't governor use this money? Isn't that the intended purpose for that fund? He's holding on to it because he doesn't know if current economic downturn will continue across the nation. Will this be a long term problem? The Trustees sent a letter to the Governor requesting he set-up an education rainy day fund. Currently money is collected and divided across the state. The Nevada Plan has a reversion fund that goes to education not to the general fund.

Upcoming Cluster Meeting

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| 1 | Feb. 25 | 1:00pm | Lummis ES |
| 2 | Mar. 3 | 9:30am | Kahre ES |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | Feb. 20 | 9:30am | Neal ES |
| 5 | Feb. 27 | 9:15am | Darnell ES |

Mark Your Calendar

Wednesday, February 20	PACE Meeting	9:30am	Hancock ES
Friday, February 29	Parent Involvement Summit	8:00am-5:00pm	NWC&Tech

(Registration forms available at www.e-collaborative.org)

Monday, March 3	Cyberbullying Seminar	9:30am-11:30am	Clark HS
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Submitted by
Jo Boyd
NWREAB Secretary