



FRIDAY MINUTE

Dear Colleagues,

- The Teachers and Leaders Council (TLC), which was created during the last legislative session and tasked with examining and developing an effective evaluation system for educators across the state, met for the second time this week in Las Vegas. The Governor appointed the 15-member TLC, which is comprised of citizens in our state representing teachers, administrators, school support personnel, school board members, parents and other education leaders. As a member of the TLC, I am very proud of the representation our District has on the Council including Cannan Elementary teacher Theresa Crowley and Sparks Middle School teacher Barbara Barker, who is also the group's vice-chair. I am looking forward to working with Theresa, Barbara, and the other members of the Council as we explore the critical issues surrounding evaluation and performance growth systems for educators in Nevada. While this group's work is just beginning, our District has been working on more comprehensive evaluation systems for about a year now and we were requested to present to the Council during the meeting this week. At our next meeting we will be focusing on a statewide communications plan to ensure we are keeping all stakeholders updated about this work and to make sure that opportunities for feedback and suggestions are numerous.
- After we postponed our anti-bullying news conference in November due to the Caughlin Fire, I am looking forward to launching this important initiative next week. We are excited to let the community know about your efforts to prevent all forms of bullying and keep our children safe. We will launch the community awareness campaign at a news conference next Tuesday when we discuss our anti-bullying programs and how they are making a difference in the lives of our children. We are calling the campaign "A New Era of Safe Schools," which demonstrates our commitment to ensuring a safe, bully-free and all-inclusive learning environment for our children.
- As part of our ever increasing focus on serving our customers, we have decided to open up the Welcome Center at the main administration offices on East Ninth Street a little earlier. The Welcome Center will now be open from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. We always are looking at ways to improve services and the extended hours will provide staff and the community with more time if they need assistance from Central Services.
- I am so impressed with all of the artwork our students submitted for the WCSD Holiday Card Contest! We had more than 100 submissions that showed many creative and inspiring depictions of the holidays. The Board of Trustees voted on the winning illustration and announced the winner at its board meeting earlier this week. Congratulations to Nathan Knowles from Billingshurst Middle School! Nathan's holiday drawing will be sent out to our community partners in the coming weeks. We loved all of the entries so much that we have posted them in the Board Room and have created a special webpage so everyone can see them. We will continue to post new submissions every day throughout the holiday season. I hope you will continue to check out the [WCSD Holiday Card Contest page](#) to see all of the student artwork. Thank you to all of our children who submitted their drawings, paintings and photographs and to the teachers who encouraged their students to participate!

Thank you for everything you do for our children,

Heath