Teachers Speak Out
Urgently advocating for MORE for our schools

At press time, we are less than 50 days away from adjournment of the 2013 Legislative Session. Nevada lawmakers, but most especially our southern Nevada representatives, cannot say they haven’t heard from teachers this session.

We have been making our voices heard and we have been loud.

We have rallied at their doorstep, attended hearings and testified on proposed legislation (even when the hearing ran as late as 9:00 p.m.). We have e-mailed them. Right now, we are in the middle of a postcard writing campaign to put an end to overcrowded classrooms. We are also gathering receipts to demonstrate the out-of-pocket expenses teachers incur to support student learning. This activity has been taking place, all while awaiting the release of the Economic Forum report, when the fight for funding and our engagement will escalate.

We need for every teaching professional in Clark County to speak up and stand up for public education. Don’t miss this opportunity—together we will change public education in Nevada. Join Us!

Saturday, April 27 @ 9:00 a.m.
Town Hall Meeting at Western HS

Mark your calendars and take part in the Education Town Hall meeting scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in the theatre at Western High School (4601 W. Bonanza Rd. -- off I-95 N @ Decatur/Bonanza). Southern Nevada legislators will be taking part in this forum. They want to hear what we have to say. We have an opportunity to work together to put an end to the overcrowding epidemic affecting our classrooms.

Join Us!

Take part in the conversation. Be an agent of change.
Visit the CCEA website @ www.ccea-nv.org to confirm your attendance.

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A Word from the President
by Ruben R. Murillo, Jr

A Tale of Two Superintendents

In October of 2011, CCEA Executive Director John Vellardita and I were invited to a meeting at the Ed Shed by then Superintendent Dwight Jones. He wanted to introduce us to Jim Guthrie, who was the Director of Education Policy Studies for the George W. Bush Institute. Jones was interested in having CCEA and other organizations partner with the Bush Institute in ways that would improve the quality of teachers and school leaders, including principals and administrators. We listened to the presentation and had to leave before the meeting was over due to other commitments.

I wasn’t surprised to hear that Guthrie was one of the finalists for the position of Nevada Superintendent of Public Instruction, and I wasn’t surprised either when he eventually was offered the job. In fact, I thought this was part of the “greater plan” for the anti-public education agenda—major players creating alliances as they worked to make Nevada a shining example of school reform. (You know those parties that have never set foot inside a classroom, but proclaim to know what is best for public education.)

While CCSD rushed to implement school reform through consultants hired with private foundation monies—leaving no educator untouched—the restructuring of the Nevada Board of Education was well underway. Guthrie worked to mold a newly restructured board and he became the spokesperson for Governor Sandoval’s education agenda. As the legislative session began, it was very evident that Guthrie had a different philosophy from the rest of the education community and that of the Governor. His steadfast opposition to class size reduction brought him universal ridicule. His relationship with Jones was on rocky ground and was further damaged when he said the Washoe County School District was doing a better job than the rest of the school districts.

The sudden resignations of Dwight Jones and Jim Guthrie sent shock waves throughout the education communities in Nevada. While the timing of their resignations was a surprise, leaving their jobs wasn’t.

Dwight Jones, citing personal reasons for his departure, left CCSD high and dry at the most inopportune time. Jim Guthrie’s resignation caught everyone by surprise, but conventional wisdom questioned whether he would have been reappointed by Governor Sandoval.

Jones left a work product that I would grade as incomplete. There were failed school reform measures, such as the CCSD School Performance Framework, Standard Based Report Cards, and other quickly implemented programs that were immediately called into question. Much money and personnel resources were devoted to these projects, even if they were primarily funded by private grant donations.

Guthrie proved to be a liability to Governor Sandoval, making absurd educational policy statements that were called into question. He must have seen the writing on the wall as to his future as Nevada Superintendent of Public Instruction.

How ironic? John and I met Dwight Jones and Jim Guthrie back in October as they embarked on their journey to implement school reform. Now, as they both depart after incomplete implementation of school reforms one has to ask, was this kismet? Time will tell. Meanwhile, we are following Jones’ replacement process closely and speaking out for the need to hire a Superintendent ... who fully realizes that a partnership with Clark County’s teaching professionals is critical to student success.
Some interesting things have occurred since our last issue of the CCEA Express. Dwight Jones’ departure was followed with the forced resignation of State Superintendent of Public Instruction James Guthrie. The state superintendent became an embarrassment to the Governor and a liability for the anti-education reform forces he represented. His foot became part of his mouth since he stuck it in so many times. Elaine Wynn, as the president of the State Board of Education, is now positioned to exert greater influence on education policy.

Jones and Guthrie may be gone, but the agenda they represented marches on. In Carson City, the anti-education agenda is very clear: no additional funding, more charter schools, passage of vouchers, more anti-teacher evaluation laws, and the elimination of binding arbitration and evergreen clauses for teachers just to name a few. In Las Vegas, those same forces are working behind the scenes, trying to make sure that another outside “reform” agent is found to run the school district—despite the protests of teachers and the community. How this all plays out still remains to be seen, but one thing is for certain: without teachers getting involved, the anti-education forces will prevail.

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There are about 45 days left in the session and funding for education is still a mystery. No agreement between Democrats and Republicans has been reached. There’s been a lot of talk about taxes: mining, the entertainment industry, or a broad-based business tax. But that’s all it is—talk—and nothing more. We are still waiting for real leadership to emerge. Every day there is no solution found, is another day where classes just get bigger.

Nevada ranks at the top with overcrowded classrooms and last in the nation in funding. You can’t expect teachers to be held to a higher standard of instruction when the conditions for learning are eroding at an accelerated rate. Students sitting on floors, many without textbooks, no time for individual attention, classes disrupted because of overcrowding, English language learning challenges—all these conditions are a recipe for failure. This is no longer sustainable. The solution is simple: MONEY.

Lawmakers must stop passing laws with unfunded mandates. You want students to achieve then pay for it. You want educators to do the best we can, then pay for it. Being for reduced class size does not mean you grant school districts’ waivers from having to comply with staffing ratios. It means you find the money to hire thousands of teachers to meet those state mandates.

On March 23, 2013, over 130 teachers packed the Grant Sawyer building to speak out against large classes. Many gave testimony in the hearing. Currently, over 10,000 teachers are writing and signing postcards to their legislators, demanding smaller class size so that students can learn and teachers can teach. On Saturday, April 27, 2013, CCEA will host a Town Hall Meeting on this issue. Teachers, students, and parents will have the forum to address Clark County legislators on this critical matter. If teachers don’t speak up on this issue, no

(continues on page 5)
ATTENTION:  
Pre-Surplus Meeting  
Mark your calendar for May 7

These are very stressful times, however, if you know the surplus process, you can maximize your efforts and improve your opportunities.

To help you do this, CCEA will conduct a pre-surplus meeting on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in the Sedway Conference Room at the Teachers Health Trust office building.

Topics to be covered will include:
— seniority
— licensure
— how the actual surplus meeting is conducted
— what you need to bring to the surplus meeting
— other relevant information.

Tuesday, May 7, 2013  
4:30 p.m.  
Teachers Health Trust  
Sedway Conference Room  
2950 E. Rochelle Avenue  
Las Vegas, NV 89121  
(corner of McLeod Dr. & Rochelle Ave.)

CCSD has scheduled the surplus meetings for May 8, 2013, 4:00 p.m. at Del Sol High School; if needed, also May 10 at 4:00 p.m. at Del Sol High School.

On May 6, Human Resources will publish a position announcement that includes a list of all vacancies for the reassignment/surplus meeting. Principals will ensure that identified teachers who must participate in the surplus process are provided their seniority numbers and have access to the position announcement.

Meanwhile, become familiar with the voluntary and involuntary (surplus) transfer language in the negotiated agreement — it is covered in Article 30 and Article 35. A PDF file of the agreement can be downloaded from the CCEA website (www.ccea-nv.org) under the Representation Tab on the home page.

You may also contact a UniServ Director with any questions or concerns — call 702-733-3063 or e-mail UniServ@ccea-nv.org.

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April/May 2013

The CCEA Express is an official publication of the Clark County Education Association (CCEA), 4230 McLeod Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89121. It is published 8 times a year (August through June/July). The publication’s goal is to keep Association members abreast of issues affecting public education and to provide economic benefits.

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Vice President
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Secretary
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JOIN OUR MOBILE LIST

545454

Having a rapid-communication system in place is critical to our success this legislative session. To aid in this effort, we have set up a texting program.

To receive updates on general issues and/or specific legislative actions, simply text the keyword (found below) to 545454.

CCEA — General updates from the association.
EdFunding — Updates on legislation & action related to education funding.
Classroom — Updates on legislation & action related to class size.
ELL — Updates on legislation & action to secure more resources for ELL students & teachers.
RECESS — Updates on legislation & action related to reimbursement for out-of-pocket classroom expenses or RECESS.

We recommend you sign up for all categories. If at a certain point you no longer wish to get a specific category, you can always opt-out from it.
Nevada Needs Leadership for Education
(continued from page 3)

one else will. The message is simple: find the money and find it now.

The Economic Forum report will be released on May 1, 2013. Economists are projecting that this report will show there is additional revenue for the State for the next two years. Every penny of that revenue should go to education. Democrats and Republicans have to stop playing politics with our kids’ education and agree to fund education for today and tomorrow. Governor Sandoval needs to lead on this by putting more money into education.

CCEA is working with CCSD to develop a plan to reduce class sizes. It will require hiring 4,000 teachers over the next few years. This plan will bring classes down to the ratios that will allow a teacher to teach and a student to learn. But this will not happen unless it is funded. All teachers—members and nonmembers, veteran and new to the profession—must speak out on this issue. We know what their decision has led to: no money for education, overcrowded classrooms, and blaming teachers when students don’t achieve. Do we want that to happen? We can’t afford not to get involved.

We Need Funding and We Need It Now

It would cost over $250 million to hire 4,000 teachers in CCSD to reduce class sizes. It would take another $75 million to adequately fund ELL. We need $35 million annually to protect our current step and column increases, and another $37 million annually to give teachers a 3% raise; something teachers have not received in several years.

How will this be paid for? There should be multiple sources of funding. All revenue options must be on the table. Any serious funding solution means finding money now. Nothing is more sacred than funding public education.

National Board Certification: A Distinction that Matters

National Board Certification is the nation’s highest credential for professional educators and CCEA is here to support you.

Why pursue this?

• CCEA members attest to the positive effects the National Board Certification process has on their classroom practices.
• A growing body of research links National Board Certification with improved student achievement.
• The certification process is a rigorous, challenging process that causes teachers to analyze their work. It is a powerful learning experience whether they achieve National Board Certification or not.
• The State of Nevada provides a 5% salary stipend to those who achieve National Board Certification that is not subject to local collective bargaining issues.
• The State of Nevada recognizes the process by granting 6 Credits towards recertification.

How does CCEA support this?

• CCEA provides a series of support sessions that guide candidates through each step of the challenging certification process.
• Support sessions are led by CCEA members who are themselves National Board Certified.
• In partnership with Silver State Schools Credit Union, CCEA members can receive a professional development loan to cover fees associated with this process that are payable via payroll deduction.

How can I learn more about this?

• Register to attend one of the orientation sessions below by e-mailing PLP@ccea-nv.org. Sessions will provide information about the three types of support:
  — Take One,
  — Full-Certification, and
  — Retake Candidates.
You will learn about the standards and what is required to complete the process. You will also be able to ask individual questions to help you decide if this is a professional growth process that is right for you.

May 15, 2013
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
CPD Building - Room 118
3950 S. Pecos-McLeod
Las Vegas, NV 89121

May 23, 2013
4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
CPD Building - Room 116
3950 S. Pecos-McLeod
Las Vegas, NV 89121

To register for one of the sessions, send an e-mail message to PLP@CCEA-NV.org with name & selected date.
Our Union of Teaching Professionals Continues to Grow

The Clark County Education Association, the Nevada State Education Association, and the National Education Association welcome these dedicated teaching professionals. They joined

BUTLER, CARMEN MARIE
BRAUN STEIN, B EVERLY
BLACKBURN, DARLENE
CAMPBELL, VANESSA
CABRERA, BETHSABE
ALVAREZ, CHRISTIAN
CARLSON, BARBARA
BERROCAL, ROXANA
ALICEA, FAATAMALII
BROOKHART, EMILY
BENEDIX, MEGHAN
BRADFIELD, CAROL
BARRAL, KRISTINA
ADAM, CATHERINE
CANNON, TAMRA
CARLEY, THOMAS
CARISTO, SHELLY
CARLSON, TANIA
BORGES, JUDITH
BUEHLER, DIANE
BRAIN, JOANNE
CASOLARI, VITO
ARCE, ADRIANA
ARFUSO, JOHN
AMEY, JOSEPH
BALKE, KAREN
BAILEY, KELLI
BIEHN, MIKE
BALL, JOHN
CUMMINGS, RACHEAL
FITZGERALD, JENIFER
DOUGHERTY, ASHLEY
EPPENGER, AYREOL
CHESTER, MICHELLE
DINGLE, STEPHEN
DINEEN, SPRING
DALLAS, BRENDA
DICKMAN, MICHAEL
DICKSON, MATTHEW
DAVIS, BARBARA
DAVIS, AMANDA
DESARIO, CYNDI
DAVIS, EDWARD
DEMENT, GWEN
COOPER, DIANE
COY, VANESSA
FINK, ATHENA
HJELMELAND, SHERRIS
HJELSTROM, CYNTHIA
GIANCASPRO, SUSAN
GARCIA-HATTON, ANDREA
GASTELLUM, SAMANTHA
GARCIA, ALFREDO
GARCIA, FELICIA
HUFFT, ROBERT
HUFFT, ROBERT
LAMBORN, BRITTANY MORGAN
KRESS-MCFARLAND, PATRICIA
HARKINS, KATHERINE
GONZALEZ, JOHNNY
FLEMING, ALISSA
FLEMING, ALISSA
FARON, AMY
ENJIVAR-ALFA, VERONICA
MITCHELL, OLIVIA KAYE
KOCINSKI, DAVID
KAGEL, STEPHANIE
KASTEN, KRISTINA
JESSOP, CASSANDRA
KOCINSKI, HEATHER
KOCINSKI, DAVID
KULL, DIAHANNE
HOSH, JENNIFER
KHOURY, IVANA
KHOURY, IVANA
KOCINSKI, DAVID
KAGEL, STEPHANIE
KASTEN, KRISTINA
HUFFT, ROBERT
HUFFT, ROBERT
LAMBORN, BRITTANY MORGAN
KRESS-MCFARLAND, PATRICIA
HARKINS, KATHERINE
GONZALEZ, JOHNNY
FLEMING, ALISSA
FLEMING, ALISSA
FARON, AMY
ENJIVAR-ALFA, VERONICA
MITCHELL, OLIVIA KAYE
KOCINSKI, DAVID
KULL, DIAHANNE
HOSH, JENNIFER
KHOURY, IVANA
KHOURY, IVANA
KOCINSKI, DAVID
KAGEL, STEPHANIE
KASTEN, KRISTINA
HUFFT, ROBERT
HUFFT, ROBERT

DEEP DISCOUNTS on over 40 Vegas shows, tours, attractions, dining, golf, nightclubs & family fun!

Only $15 for CCEA Members
(Valid for one year, unlimited use)
Purchase card online at www.VegasBiteCard.com
Enter promo code 2277.
WANTED

CCEA’s Professional Learning Cadre Seeks Experienced Teachers

Due to a rapid growth in interest for our professional development offerings, CCEA is seeking experienced teachers to join our training cadres.

CCEA currently has five PDE and Graduate Credit approved offerings and is developing more.

- **Classroom Management** – I Can Do It!
- **Cultural Competency** – C.A.R.E. Strategies for Closing Achievement Gaps
- **ELL** – Strategies for supporting English Language Learners
- **Curriculum Engine** Meets Common Core
- **National Board** Candidate Support Programs

We are looking for teachers with strong experience in the classroom, who enjoy working with other teachers, and who have a passion for improving the profession of teaching. We offer a stipend in alignment with other professional learning providers and required training in adult learning theory.

**Requirements:**

- Must hold a valid teaching license
- Must have at least three years of successful teaching experiences
- Must be willing to provide references and three CCSD evaluations
- Must be willing to commit to three days of unpaid orientation training (PDE Approval in Process)

If you are interested, please contact us by April 30 @ PLP@CCEA-NV.org
Thank You,
Association Leaders

Keeping our teaching professionals informed and involved is critical to our success. These worksites have been represented at the monthly Association Rep Council meetings by members of their staff.

ADAMS, KIRK
ADCOCK
ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS
ADVANCED TECH ACADEMY
ARBOR VIEW
BAILEY, WILLIAM H
BASIC
BASS, JOHN C.
BEATTY, JOHN R.
BELL, REX
BONANZA
BONNER
BOWLER, JOSEPH L. SR.
BRIDGER, JIM
BRINLEY, J. HAROLD
BURK HORIZON
CAHLAN, MARION
CAMBEIRO, ARTURO
CANNON, HELEN C.
CANNON, HELEN C.
CENTENNIAL
CHAPARRAL
CIMARRON-MEMORIAL
CLARK, ED W.
COLLEGE OF SD. NV HS SOUTH-HEND
CONNERS, EILEEN
CORONA
CORTES, MANUEL J.
CRAIG, LOIS
CRIEWEC, PAUL E.
CUNNINGHAM, CYNTHIA
DESERT PINES
DESERT ROSE
DESERT ROSE ADULT HIGH
DESKIN, RUTHE
DIAZ, RUBEN P.
DONDERO, HARVEY N.
DUNCAN, RUBY S.
DURANGO
EARLY CHILDHOOD
EAST CAREER & TECHNICAL ACADEMY
FAISS, WILBUR & THERESA
FINDLAY, CLIFFORD O.
FOOTHILL
FORBESS, ROBERT L.
FRIAS, CHARLES & PHYLIS
FYFE, RUTH
GALLOWAY, FAYE
GARCEAU, FRANK F.
GILBERT, C.V.T.
GROSS, CHARLES & LILIANE
FAISS, WILBUR & THERESA
FINDLAY, CLIFFORD O.
FOOTHILL
FORBESS, ROBERT L.
FRIAS, CHARLES & PHYLIS
FYFE, RUTH
GALLOWAY, FAYE
GARCEAU, FRANK F.
GILBERT, C.V.T.
GROSS, CHARLES & LILIANE

2013
CCEA Elections
Membership elects 120 representatives to help chart course for organization

The democratic process that began in November 2012 with the adoption of the 2013 CCEA Standing Elections Procedures concluded at the March 19, 2013 Association Rep Council meeting with the ratification of the run-off election results.

Following are the representatives to the elected offices. They will be joining the group of over 150 representatives serving their elected term:

CCEA Executive Officer (2013-2015)
Treasurer: Cassandra W. Bell
Secretary: Scott Miller

CCEA Executive Board Member (2013-2015)
Zone 1A: Cindy Johnson
Zone 2A: Theodore Small
Zone 3A: Richard Tellier
Zone 4A: Brian Flick
Zone 5A: Loretta Harper

CCEA Representative on the NSEA Board of Directors (2013-2016)
Seat A: Wanda Keith
Seat C: Richard Tellier
Seat E: Loretta Harper

CCEA TIP Coordinating Council Member (2013-2015)
Pamela Avoian
Loretta Harper
Lisa Immel Muntean
Patrice Palmer
Jennifer Webb-Cook

Elected to a 2-year term (2013-2015) during this election cycle are 67 representatives to the NSEA Delegate Assembly and 38 representatives to the NEA Representative Assembly. These newly elected delegates will be attending, respectively, the state convention to be held in Las Vegas in late April and the national convention in Atlanta, Georgia in July.

Congratulations to all!
E-Tickets... Coming to CCEA May 15, 2013!

That’s right folks! We are going online. Beginning May 15, 2013 most of your favorite attraction tickets will be available for purchase online! You will be able to purchase them from any computer that has Internet connection.

Tickets to local attractions will remain for purchase at the CCEA office. To expedite your order, we recommend that you place your order online—providing for a short stop at the office and ensuring that your tickets will be ready when you stop by.

E-Tickets available 24-hours a day, 7 days a week through e-tickets are:

- Disneyland
- LEGOLAND
- San Diego Zoo Safari Park
- SeaWorld
- Universal Studios Hollywood
- Six Flags Magic Mountain

IN-HOUSE Tickets, available only at the CCEA office, but ordered online:

To make your purchase or place your order, depending on the available levels described above, you will:
1. Go to www.ccea-nv.org and select the Attraction Tickets link from the Member Resources tab.
2. Click on the logo for your selection.
3. Enter your unique CCEAid number (located on the address panel in this issue), and the last 4 digits of your social security number. This process ensures that only members are able to purchase these discounted tickets.
4. You will see a screen with all the logos and the prices.
   a) If you select any of the e-tickets, you will be connected to the website for that ticket option where you will proceed to make your purchase—all from the convenience of your home.
   b) If you select one of the 4 IN-HOUSE tickets, which are available ONLY at CCEA, you can proceed to place your order and either “Will Call” at the reception desk, or have it mailed to your address (shipping charges apply). For these tickets you must make a selection for the Will Call or delivery of tickets. You will be able to modify your order, as well as update your contact information if needed, and check out.

The checkout button has a verification feature (CAPTCHA) requesting that you enter the code displayed—you are probably quite familiar with this feature as it is used when placing orders online. If you are selecting payroll deduction as payment, you will need to complete the e-signature portion.

A PDF receipt of your purchase, containing your order number, will be e-mailed to the address listed.

The e-ticket process is designed to provide you with greater convenience. We hope we have accomplished this.

CCEA is proud to introduce Wet’n’Wild Las Vegas as a new offering for attractions discounts. We kick off our partnership with a limited number of season passes available at the CCEA office through May 15.

$59.99 - Season Pass ($74.99 regular price). It includes:
- Unlimited admission for all of our 2013 Season
- Bring-A-Friend at a discounted price on specific days during the 2013 Season
- Discounts on select food and beverage items

$79.99 - Gold Pass includes V.I.P. Benefits ($94.99 regular price). It includes:
- Unlimited admission during all of our 2013 Season
- FREE parking
- Bring-A-Friend for FREE on specific days during the 2013 Season
- 5 FREE tube rentals
- Discounts on select food and beverage items
- Discounts on cabana rentals ... and more!

Hurry! Purchase your tickets @ CCEA right away. Season tickets available only through May 15.
Celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week

May 5 - 11, 2013

Thank You! Gracias. Merci.