



SLO Newsday



School Liaison Officer Newsletter for Nellis and Creech AFB Communities

Vol. 3, Issue 7

News You Can Use

The Nellis and Creech Exceptional Family Member Program Family Day and Information Fair event is scheduled for **11am-2pm Saturday, Aug. 6** at the **Nellis Youth Center**. There will be fun activities for children, "meet and greet" opportunities for parents, and an opportunity to learn about on- and off-base services available for special needs families.

The 2010-2011 school year for the Clark County School District (CCSD), public charter schools, and most local private schools begins **Monday, August 29. School offices opened Aug. 1.** Registration dates and procedures vary from school to school, so parents should contact their child's school for this information. The Clark County School District's "How to Enroll Your Child in School" brochure is now available. It helps ensure that your child's introduction to a CCSD school goes smoothly. Please note there is a correction to the immunizations section of the brochure. In the item about chicken pox (Varicella) shots, it should say, "Two chicken pox (Varicella) doses: First dose on or after the first birthday; first and second doses separated by at least 28 days. Prior chicken pox disease exempts a child from receiving the Varicella vaccine, but physician verification of past disease is required." For more information, visit <http://ccsd.net/parents/#enrollment>.

The Back to School Brigade and Safety Fair is scheduled for **11am-2 pm Saturday, Aug. 13** at the **Armed Forces Reserve Center** located at **5095 Range Rd., Bldg. 1032, Las Vegas, Nevada 89115**. Pre-registered families must sign in by noon to receive available supplies first. Others may register on site and join the line at noon. **A limited number of All-in-One LexMark Printers will be given to PRE-REGISTERED Deployed or Wounded, ranks E1 thru E6 who have military children ages 11 to 17.** Backpacks and school supplies will be provided to children of service members of all ranks. Military ID is required. Visit www.operationhomefront.net/nevada to register. Call **Kathy Long** at (702) 396-2178 or **Sarah Fackrell** at (801) 712-0619 for more information.

CCSD Reorganizes to Accomplish Goals

The Clark County School District (CCSD) School Board of Trustees had change in mind when they hired Dwight Jones as their new superintendent earlier this year and he has lived up to their expectations thus far.

CCSD's latest reorganization is a case in point.

While the area service centers (ASC) remain part of the organization, their number and primary function has changed. Instead of four ASCs based almost exclusively upon geography as in years past, there will be three with performance zones in each. Each ASC also will feature an ombudsman who

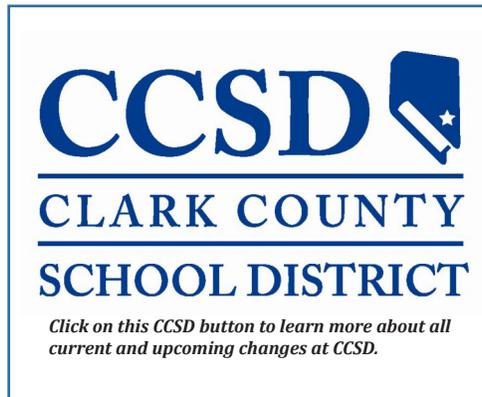
will facilitate the process for answering questions and resolving concerns at schools.

New Deputy Superintendent of Instruction Pedro Martinez said these newly conceived ASCs will focus on troubleshooting non-academic issues, while academic managers assigned to new 12 performance zones will focus on improving academic standards.

"This is a flatter structure that we believe will allow us to

accomplish our goals, including ensuring our students are ready by exit," explained Martinez. "The district has been fragmented and disconnected, but this new structure, which has been proven successful in other

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Military Child Education Forum Set for Aug. 16

The SLO is hosting a **Military Child Education Forum 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16 at the Desert Oasis Club,** which will feature CCSD administrators, charter school officials, and home school representatives to answer questions about local K-12 education issues ranging from transportation to special education.

The Military Child Education Forum intentionally was scheduled before most Nellis and Creech children begin school, so new additions to Nellis and Creech AFBs could prepare their children for the upcoming school year. It also presents an opportunity for established families to get answers to long-held questions.

"This is a great opportunity for me and other CCSD administrators to interact with military families," said **Lomie Heard Elementary School Principal Traci Dyer** whose school is zoned for families living at Nellis.

"It represents not only a chance for us to

hear from them, but we can share information about our policies and procedures they might find useful as they prepare for the upcoming school year" Dyer added.

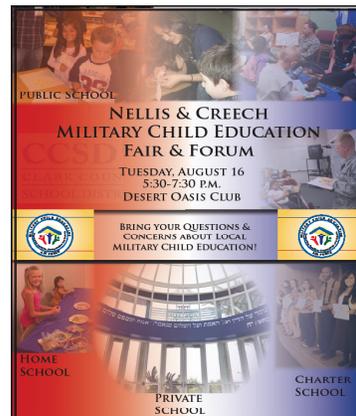
The forum will begin with a brief welcome from **the School Liaison Officer Ron Gibson**, followed by an introduction of school administrators. Gibson will begin the discussion by asking the panelists some of the most commonly asked,

school-related questions from military families.

Gibson continues to solicit questions in advance of the Military Child Education Forum, so anyone interested in submitting questions for the panel should email him at Ronald.Gibson.ctr@nellis.af.mil.

Once the moderator has exhausted the first four to five advance questions, attendees will be free to ask the panelist direct questions on whatever topic they choose.

For more information and to register for the Military Child Education Forum, call **A&FRC** at (702) 652-3327.





STARBASE Academy Comes to Nellis

The 926th Group recently earned a distinction few stateside installations have ever garnered and none have received in nearly a decade when they were named one of at least three bases to host a STARBASE Academy at Nellis Air Force Base.



Science and Technology Academics Reinforcing Basic Aviation and Space Exploration or DoD STARBASE is a premier education program sponsored by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. Essentially, STARBASE is meant to provide a "hands-on" and "minds-on" approach to learning math and science concepts, specifically curriculum commonly identified as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics or STEM.

STARBASE Nellis plans to host to fifth grade students in public schools throughout Clark County as soon as next year, but until then

Reorganization

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school districts around the country, will allow us to improve academic proficiency, better allocate resources, and develop stronger instructional leaders."

According to the CCSD Communications Department, the new structure provides collaboration among elementary, middle and high schools serving many of the same neighborhoods. The vertical zones will create a team approach and help students transition to their next school.

While there are military-connected children associated with Nellis and Creech Air Force Bases matriculating at public schools throughout Clark County, the majority of military children attend schools in the northwest area of the Las Vegas Valley, specifically what has been and will continue to be called Area Service Center 1. The zone in ASC 1 where military parents will find the schools zoned for Nellis AFB -- Lomie Heard Elementary School, Carroll M. Johnston Middle School, and Mojave High School -- is performance zone two comprised of 19 schools (the complete list of schools can be found below).

Performance Zone 2 is one of the smaller zones and that is by design. According to the new structure, schools requiring the most

there is laundry list of tasks to accomplish before hosting students.

Lt. Col. Ron Stefanik, deputy commander of the 926th Group and one of the early proponents for bringing a STARBASE Academy to Nellis, said all the time, effort, and team work needed to

secure the program will be more than worth it.

"STARBASE is a consummate 'win-win' situation," Stefanik said. "Local schools take advantage of a benchmarked curriculum and learning tools, and we get the opportunity to contribute to community in which we live and to the schools our children attend.

There are about 60 STARBASE Academics in 36 states and Washington, D.C. as of fiscal year 2011. The value of the STARBASE program is \$300,000, which will be renewed annually.

are grouped into performance zones with fewer schools, allowing for alignment of staff and funding resources to the schools with the greatest needs.

Even with the advent of the new reorganization, CCSD officials insist that most day-to-day aspects associated schools, such as transportation, school attendance zones and school-specific programs, will remain unchanged.

Superintendent Jones also has plans to roll out a 13th autonomous zone his fall, comprised of schools with greater freedom who have proven their ability to operate without a large amount of oversight. Jones said the the goal of the autonomous zone is for all CCSD schools to become a part of it by achieving greater results, which may extend to budget, staffing, and programs. Schools become eligible to join the autonomous zone if they meet annual performance targets.

Schools that are currently found in the empowerment model (this refers to the 30 schools now called "empowerment schools" in CCSD) will become part of the autonomous zone from the onset if they are meeting the required performance zone targets.

For more information, visit www.ccsd.net/performance-zones.

HOT TOPICS

CCSD BUS SERVICE REGISTRATION: The Clark County School District's Transportation Department will begin registering students for [bus service](#) on Monday, Aug. 15. You can register via ccsd.net or the Call Center.

CCSD BACK TO SCHOOL FAIRS:
Meadows Mall: Saturday, Aug. 13, 10am-4pm
Boulevard Mall: Saturday, Aug. 20, 10am-4pm
Galleria Mall: Saturday, Aug. 27, 10am-4pm

COMMUNITY BACK TO SCHOOL HEALTH & EDUCATIONAL FAIR: Nevada Youth Alliance, in partnership with numerous local organizations, presents the 13th annual event **8am-noon Saturday, Aug. 20** at CSN Cheyenne Campus, 3200 E. Cheyenne Ave. in North Las Vegas.

NEVADA GROWTH MODEL: On Aug. 15, the state of Nevada will change the way it views student achievement. On this date, the results of the [Nevada Growth Model](#) will be published. The model measures each student's growth in achievement over time.

CCSD BELL TIMES CHANGE: In response to the state budget cuts, the Clark County School District is changing the start time for 139 schools, beginning with the 2011-12 school year. [Click here](#) for a comprehensive list of bell times as well as a list of all schools that will see bell time changes in the next school year, starting in August

HOME SCHOOL LEGISLATION: There were two Nevada Assembly Bills (AB) affecting home education that the Nevada Homeschool Network (NHN) tracked during the most recent legislative session. Below are the title of the bills and brief overview:

AB 171 - Removes parent requirement and leaves responsibility with charter schools to notify local school districts of a previously homeschooled student enrolling in their school.

AB 138 - This is more of a "public school" bill, according to NHN. It addresses with students interested in pursuing apprenticeships or full-time employment in lieu of public school. NHN believes it may benefit, albeit minimally, 15-18 year-olds in the future,

For more information about home education, attend the **Nellis and Creech Military Child Education Forum** scheduled for **5:30-7:30pm Tuesday, Aug. 16** at the **Desert Oasis Club** or visit the [NHN](#) or [Home School Legal Defense Association](#) websites.

SLO CONTACT INFORMATION: Anyone who would like the SLO to address his or her unit, professional organization, or support group to discuss military child education should contact **Ron Gibson** at **(702) 652-3327**.

CCSD Performance Zone 2, Anna Webb - Academic Manager

Legacy HS

Brian Cram MS
Carroll M. Johnston MS
Lee Antonello ESS
Steve Cozine ES
D. L. "Dusty" Dickens ES
Ruby Duncan ES
Goynes ES

Don E. Hayden ES
Lomie G. Heard ES
Mary & Zel Lowman ES
J. E. Manch ES
Eva G. Simmons ES
Tartan, John ES

Mojave HS

Clifford O. "Pete" Findlay MS
Raul P. Elizondo ES
Jesse D. Scott ES
Fredric W. Watson ES