



# SOUTHWEST

## Career and Technical Academy

Student/Parent Newsletter

Volume 1 / Issue 1

September/October 2009

### Principal's Message

I am honored and privileged to be the principal of the Southwest Career and Technical Academy. I walk the campus daily and I am proud of the hard work and dedication by both students and teachers alike in all of our specialized program areas and in each classroom. The diverse experience and background of the SWCTA faculty will benefit your child's education and prepare them for the possibilities and challenges of the 21st century. Thank you for entrusting us with the education of your child. We hope to see all of you at our first Open House on October 12, 2009.

Sincerely,  
**Felicia Nemcek, Principal**

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS

#### Student Pick-Up and Drop-Off:

When picking up and dropping off students, please pull forward to the end of the drop-off area. When leaving this area, please drive in the same direction. This will allow more vehicles to enter the parking lot and alleviate much of the congestion.

Please be aware of students crossing the parking lot and cars pulling in and out. Drive at a low rate of speed. No u-turns. Thank you for your cooperation.

School starts promptly at 7:00 a.m. Students arriving late will be required to enter through the administration building and complete a tardy form at the main desk. Attendance is a vital component of the educational process. Please help us ensure that students are on time and in class at 7:00.

### Attendance Office

On return from an absence, students and parents are asked to furnish a written note in the attendance office. If students receive medical treatment from a physician, a doctor's excuse should also be submitted to the clerk to be stamped. Notes are to be presented to the clerk not later than three days following the absence. Notes must have the student's name, student number, date(s) of absence, parent or guardian signature, and phone number. The attendance office will keep the excuse notes on file for the school year. Pre-arranged absences are accepted, however these must be requested three days in advance and are limited to ten days per year. The limitation of absences in a block schedule is six unapproved absences during a semester. Students who exceed six unapproved absences during the semester, in any class, will not receive credit for that semester and will receive a failing grade.

Southwest Career and Technical Academy Bell Schedule					
"A" DAY (ODD)		"B" DAY (EVEN)		Wednesday Advisory Day	
Period	Time	Period	Time	Period	Time
1st Period	7:00-8:24	2nd Period	7:00-8:24	1st/2nd Period	7:00-8:17
3rd Period	8:29-9:57	4th Period	8:29-9:57	3rd/4th Period	8:29-9:43
"A" Lunch	9:57-10:27	"A" Lunch	9:57-10:27	Advisory	9:48-10:11
5th Period "B"	10:02-11:26	6th Period "B"	10:02-11:26	"A" Lunch	10:11-10:41
5th Period "A"	10:32-11:56	6th Period "A"	10:32-11:56	5th/6th Period "B"	10:16-11:33
"B" Lunch	11:26-11:56	"B" Lunch	11:26-11:56	5th/6th Period "A"	10:46-12:03
7th Period	12:01-1:25	8th Period	12:01-1:25	"B" Lunch	11:33-12:03
				7th/8th Period	12:08-1:25

### WHAT IS MOODLE?

Moodle is an online classroom environment to support learning in the classroom. The Southwest Career and Technical Academy will be using Moodle as an additional resource throughout the year. The Moodle program will be called Coyote Net. This virtual learning environment is web-based, so no additional software is required. Students will be receiving their passwords in class on September 21st and 22nd. Freshman will receive their passwords in their Computer Based Projects class and Sophomores will receive their passwords in their English Classes. For more information on Moodle, you may visit [www.moodle.org](http://www.moodle.org).

### Electronic Devices

Radios, tape recorders, cameras, CD players, MP3 players, iPods, video cameras, and other electronic devices are disruptive to the educational environment. Cellular telephones may be used before school, at lunch, and after school in the courtyard area only. At all other times, they are to remain turned off and out of sight. All of these items will be confiscated if in violation of school rules. A registered parent/guardian must pick up the confiscated item from the Dean's Office.



### Activities/Club News

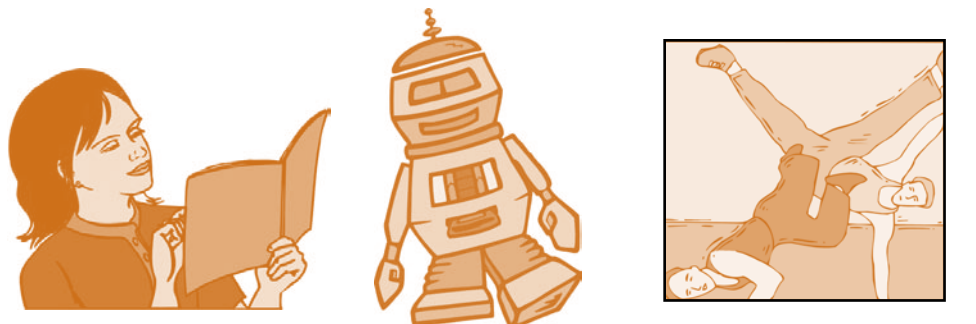
Activities are in full swing and clubs are beginning to meet. Students have the opportunity to belong to professional-student organizations, as well as clubs. If a student is interested in joining a club, they should contact the advisor listed below.

#### Professional-Student Organizations

- HOSA ..... Health Occupation Students of America ..... Vicki Smith
- SkillsUSA: ..... Culinary ..... Allen Asch
- SkillsUSA: ..... Web Design ..... Craig Statucki
- SkillsUSA: ..... 3D Visualization and Animation ..... Craig Statucki
- FBLA ..... Future Business Leaders of America ..... Craig Statucki
- SkillsUSA: ..... Automotive ..... Dan Sylvester
- DECA ..... Distributive Education Clubs of America ..... Perry Annett
- SkillsUSA: ..... Drafting and Design ..... Angelo Pappano
- Key Club ..... Miriya Julian

#### Clubs

- Student Council ..... Diann Meynor
- Technology Student Organization ..... Craig Statucki
- Fashion Club ..... Glenna Gaudy
- Robotics ..... Dan Sylvester
- Auto Club ..... Dan Sylvester
- Southwest Entertainment Engineering Design ..... Angelo Pappano
- Book Club ..... Joni Parks
- Breakdancing Club ..... Jonathan O'Brien
- Forensics ..... Amanda Ross
- Yearbook/Journalism ..... Matt LaPorte
- e-Commerce ..... Kurt Bargy



Before a club can be formed, two requirements must be met. First, there must be a roster of students willing to commit to being a member of this club submitted to the activities administrator. Second, the prospective club members must find a staff member to serve as an advisor to this club. If you would like more information, please call Mr. Butler, Assistant Principal, at 799-5766, extension 4200.

## Design Academy News

The Design Academy consists of five different program areas – Fashion Design, Interior Design, Entertainment Engineering, Web Design and Video Game Technology. The program leaders are:

- GLENNA GAUDY:** ..... Fashion Design  
**ANGELO PAPPANO:** ..... Entertainment Engineering, Interior Design  
**CRAIG STATUCKI:** ..... Web Design, Video Game Technology

Throughout the school year, this space will be focusing on each of the design academy programs and their upcoming activities. Next month: Fashion Design.



**MS. GAUDY,**  
Fashion Design



**MR. PAPPANO,**  
Entertainment Engineering Design



**MR. STATUCKI,**  
Video Game Technologies and Web Design

## Professional Service Academy News

The Professional Service Academy consists of six different program areas – Dental Assisting, Certified Nursing Assistant, Respiratory Therapy, Automotive Technology, Culinary and Hospitality. The program leaders are:

- DR. MICHAEL GEORGES:** ..... Dental Assisting  
**JAN MONROE:** ..... Nursing  
**VICKI SMITH:** ..... Respiratory Therapy  
**DAN SYLVESTER:** ..... Automotive Technologies  
**ALLEN ASCH:** ..... Culinary  
**KARIN JONES:** ..... Hospitality

Throughout the school year, this space will be focusing on each of the professional services programs and their upcoming activities. Next month: Hospitality.



**MR. SYLVESTER,**  
Automotive Technologies



**MS. SMITH,**  
Respiratory Therapy



**MS. JONES,**  
Hospitality



**CHEF ASCH,**  
Culinary Arts



**MS. MONROE,**  
Nursing



**DR. GEORGES,**  
Dental

## Dress Code Reminders

For the safety of students and in keeping with the professional theme of the Southwest Career and Technical Academy, please be sure that your student is following the school dress code each day. Students must wear shoes with hard soles. Flip-flops are not allowed. Hats and all head gear are prohibited on campus. All shorts, skorts, and skirts must be longer than fingertip length at a minimum. Also, spaghetti straps are not allowed and all sleeveless shirts must have straps at least three inches wide and cover the shoulder. Any student violating the dress code will not be allowed to attend class, until the student is in proper dress code attire. The parent/guardian of the student will be notified of the dress code violation.

## CCSD E-MAIL MESSAGE

**Subject: Text Parties**

**From: Superintendent Walt Rulffes and Sheriff Doug Gillespie**

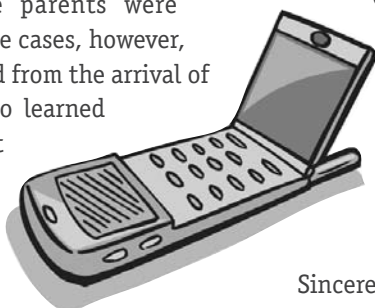
Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Clark County School District and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department are contacting parents to inform them of the dangerous connection between texting and parties.

It has become very common for young people to text each other the location of a party. Unfortunately, these texts often get forwarded to uninvited guests, causing large numbers of people—including gang members—to arrive. These out-of-control events are referred to as “text parties.”

Recently the LVMPD Gang Crimes Bureau has responded to 28 text parties that ended in violence. Several of these incidents involved stabbings and shootings, and one resulted in a homicide. Some of these parties started out as innocent private birthday gatherings, while others occurred when the parents were absent. In all of these cases, however, the violence stemmed from the arrival of uninvited guests who learned of the event in a text message.

As a parent, you need to be aware of this alarming trend. Please talk to your children and warn them about the dangers of text parties.



Here are some tips you may want to consider:

- If the location of a party has been widely texted, advise your children to not attend.
- Tell your child to never text party information.
- Advise your children to stay with their friends and avoid parties for strangers.
- Remember that you are responsible for any parties at your residence.
- If you have any information about a text party, please report it to the police.
- Be aware that the LVMPD will be taking the necessary enforcement actions to shut down these types of parties.

On behalf of the Clark County School District and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, thank you for talking with your children and doing your part to ensure a safe community.

Sincerely,  
 CCSD Superintendent Walt Rulffes  
 and  
 Sheriff Douglas C. Gillespie

## MENSAJES POR CORREO ELECTRÓNICO CCSD

**Asunto: Fiestas por Mensajes de Texto**

**De: Superintendente Walt Rulffes y el Sheriff Doug Gillespie**

Estimados Padres/Tutores,

El Distrito Escolar del Condado de Clark y el Departamento de Policía Metropolitana de Las Vegas se están comunicando con padres para informarles de la peligrosa conexión entre los mensajes de texto y las fiestas.

Es muy común que los jóvenes envíen mensajes de texto con la ubicación de una fiesta. Desafortunadamente, con frecuencia estos mensajes de texto son enviados a personas no invitadas, causando que un gran número de personas—incluyendo miembros de pandillas—asistan. Estos acontecimientos sin control son conocidos como “Fiestas por Mensajes de Texto”.

Recientemente el Departamento de Crímenes de Pandillas de LVMPD ha respondido a 28 fiestas por mensajes de texto con fines violentos. Varios de estos incidentes involucraron puñaladas y disparos, y uno resultó en un homicidio. Algunas de estas fiestas comenzaron como reuniones inocentes privadas de cumpleaños, mientras otras ocurrieron cuando los padres estaban ausentes. Sin embargo, en todos estos casos, la violencia provino de la llegada de personas que no fueron invitadas y se enteraron del acontecimiento por un mensaje de texto.

Como padre, usted necesita tener conocimiento de esta tendencia alarmante. Por favor hable con sus hijos y avíseles sobre

los peligros de las fiestas por mensajes de texto.

Aquí tenemos algunos consejos que usted podría considerar:

- Si la ubicación de la fiesta ha sido enviada por mensaje de texto extensamente, pida a sus hijos que no vayan.
- Diga a su hijo que nunca envíe por texto información sobre una fiesta.
- Pida a sus hijos que permanezcan con sus compañeros y eviten fiestas con extraños.
- Recuerda que usted es responsable de cualquier fiesta en su residencia.
- Si tiene alguna información sobre una fiesta por mensaje de texto, por favor informe a la policía.
- Tenga en cuenta que LVMPD tomará las medidas de cumplimiento necesarias para acabar con estos tipos de fiestas.

En nombre del Distrito Escolar del Condado de Clark y el Departamento de Policía Metropolitana de Las Vegas, gracias por hablar con sus hijos y cumplir con su parte para garantizar una comunidad segura.

Atentamente,  
 Superintendente Walt Rulffes de CCSD  
 y  
 Sheriff Douglas C. Gillespie

## THE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OFFICE

The SWCTA team would like to thank the following businesses for their generosity and support to the Southwest Career and Technical Academy. Each business contributed to our successful opening:

**ALBERTSON'S**  
**HORACE MANN**  
**PATON GROUP**  
**OFFICE MAX**  
**SAFETY-KLEEN**



**MRS. GIA MOORE,**  
*Community Partnership Coordinator*

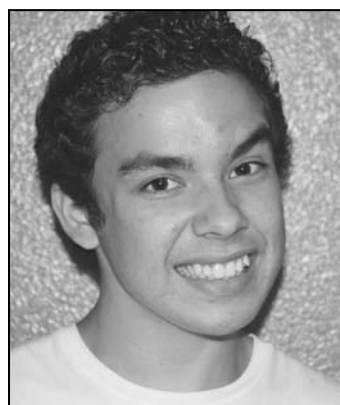
The SWCTA team would also like to thank the following departments and individuals for their time and effort in contributing to our successful opening:

**THE CCSD CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**  
**MRS. CONNIE NORSWORTHY**  
**MS. CHRISTY WORSTER**  
**MRS. JANET STEWART**

### Parents!

We are thankful to all of you who signed up to volunteer for the 2009-2010 school year. However, we could always use more assistance. Please contact Gia Moore in the Community Partnership office at 799-5766 ext. 4018 if you are interested in helping with the following:

- The Student Store
- Office assistance
- Being a guest speaker
- Donating materials
- Being part of the Parent Advisory Committee



**JEFFREY ERCEG**

### Students of the Month

Each month, the Southwest Career and Technical Academy will recognize one student from each academy for their hard work and success. For September, the Students of the Month are Robyn Gregrich from the Design Academy and Jeffrey Erceg from the Professional Services Academy. Congratulations Coyotes.



**ROBYN GREGRICH**

### Staff of the Month

The Southwest Career and Technical Academy will recognize a teacher and a support staff each month for their hard work and dedication. For the month of August, the Teacher of the Month is Angelo Pappano and the Staff of the Month is Jamie Hamilton. For September, the Teacher of the Month is Craig Statucki and the Staff of the Month is Cathi Muckle.



**ANGELO PAPPANO,**  
*Teacher of the Month, August*



**JAMIE HAMILTON,**  
*Support Staff of the Month, August*



**MR. STATUCKI,**  
*Teacher of the Month, September*



**CATHI,**  
*Support Staff of the Month, September*

## UPCOMING EVENTS-SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

### ProgressReport

**Distribution** ..... Advisory Periods, September 25

**Open House** ..... 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., October 12

**Spirit Week** ..... October 12-16

**CCSD College Awareness Day** ..... October 14

**PSAT will be administered to all 10th grade students** ..... October 14

**Forthcoming Dance** ..... 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., October 17

### Parent Advisory

**Committee Meeting** ..... 9:00 a.m., October 21

### Open House

The Southwest Career and Technical Academy will hold Open House on Monday, October 12th from 6:00 – 7:30.

### Spirit Week

The Southwest Career and Technical Academy's first Spirit Week will be the week of October 12-16, culminating in a Forthcoming Dance on Saturday, October 17th. Each day will have a theme.

**Monday:** Bed Head Pajama Day (Don't even bother combing your hair today)

**Tuesday:** Nerd Day

**Wednesday:** College Day

**Thursday:** Superhero/Villain Day (Dress up as your favorite Superhero or Villain)

**Friday:** Coyote Copper and Black Spirit Day

**CCSD and SWCTA dress code rules will apply.**

The Forthcoming Dance will be from 6:00 – 9:00 in the cafeteria. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

### Counseling Updates

**Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Requirements:** Students must, in addition to the 3.25 cumulative GPA, have completed the core curriculum as defined in the NSHE Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship Policies

and Procedures of the Board of Regents: Section 13.

The number of Core Curriculum High School Course Units needed to qualify for the Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship are as follows: 4 English, 4 Math (including Algebra II), 3 Natural Science, and 3 Social Studies/History, for a total of 14 units.

**PSAT:** On Wednesday, October 14th, we will be administering the PSAT to all sophomores free of charge. Clark County School District data indicates that seniors who have taken the PSAT twice scored approximately 150 points higher on the SAT than students who never took the PSAT.

**CCSD College Awareness Day:** College Awareness Day will be held district-wide on Wednesday, October 14th. Wear your favorite college t-shirt to school!

**College Readiness Educational Workshops (CREW):** CCSD 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students and their parents are invited to attend the College Readiness Educational Workshop (CREW) on Tuesday, September 29, 2009 at the Texas Station Hotel Conference Center. The general presentation will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. At 7:15 p.m., CCSD school counselors will provide specific cultural scholarship and financial aid information as well as information on apprenticeship opportunities. Students and their parents are encouraged to learn more about college/university admissions and financial aid/scholarships – don't miss this free workshop.

### Setting Goals and Expectations with Your Teen

Now is a great time to review your goals and expectations for your teen. Discuss how school is going so far and talk with your teen about setting new goals. Ask:



*The SWCTA Counseling Department: Dr. Lilliam Sifuentes, Mr. Jaison McElroy, and Mrs. Paige DeSantis.*

- "How do you think you're doing in your classes?" If she's struggling, what can she do to get back on track?
- "What activities do you want to pursue – in school and beyond?" What can she do now to get on the right path?
- "How is your life outside of school?" Is she happy with how she spends her free time?

Listen to your teen's answers and then, be sure to:

- Keep expectations high. Let your teen know that you expect her to do her best.
- Stay realistic. Students can be strong in some subjects, but not others. It may not be appropriate to expect your teen to raise a grade to an A.
- Offer your support. Let your teen know you believe in her, and want to help her reach her goals.

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**SOUTHWEST CAREER AND TECHNICAL ACADEMY**  
7050 W. Shelbourne Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89113



# Newsletter 2009-2010

All newsletters are posted on the internet. If you are interested in receiving a hard copy please complete the form below and return it to the switchboard in the main office. We will only mail future newsletters to parents who submit the attached form. To access the Parent Newsletter on-line, go to <http://ccsd.net/schools/swcta> or <http://www.swcta.net/>. Then, from the Southwest Career and Technical Academy home page, click on the Parent Newsletter.

net/schools/swcta or <http://www.swcta.net/>. Then, from the Southwest Career and Technical Academy home page, click on the Parent Newsletter.

*I would like to receive the Parent Newsletter by mail, please send to:*

Parent(s) name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s) name: \_\_\_\_\_

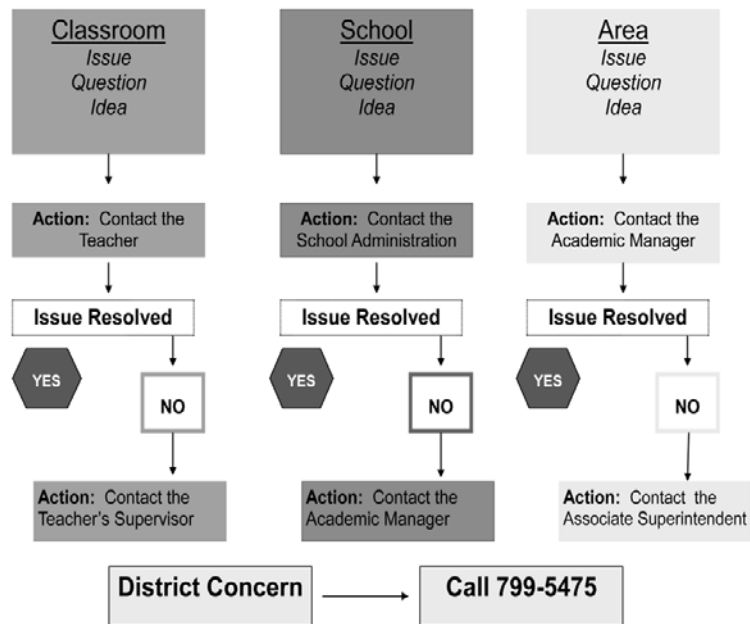
Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Clark County School District Communication Guide



### OPENING THE LINES FOR PARENT COMMUNICATION

The commitment of parents/guardians to the education of their children is critical to every success as schools work diligently to meet the diverse learning needs of the Clark County School District student population. Parents often desire contact with various offices or personnel to express views, concerns, and questions; this process can seem difficult. To assist parents in this regard, some simple tips and guidelines have been developed. **If the concern is a:**

- Classroom Issue..... Contact the teacher and allow 24 hours for a return call.
- School Issue..... Secondary parents should contact the school administrator responsible for your area of concern. This may be a dean of students or assistant principal. Elementary parents should contact the main office and either the assistant principal or principal will respond. Please remember that a school administrator's day is unpredictable and allow him/her to respond to your call within 24 hours.
- Area Issue..... Contact the Area office responsible for your area of concern:  

Area 1:	799-1719
Area 2:	799-0880
Area 3:	799-2640
Area 4:	799-6620
Superintendent's Schools:	799-1222
Education Services Division:	855-9765
- District Issue..... Contact the office of the Deputy Superintendent of Instruction at 799-5475.

#### Parent Advisory Committee Meetings:

Each Clark County school schedules regular parent advisory meetings. These are productive forums in which parents can express views and learn of various opportunities to participate in the educational process of their children. Please call the office manager of your school for dates, times, and locations. In addition, each Area extends an invitation to attend the Area PAC meetings. Please contact your Area office for details regarding dates, times and locations for these meetings.

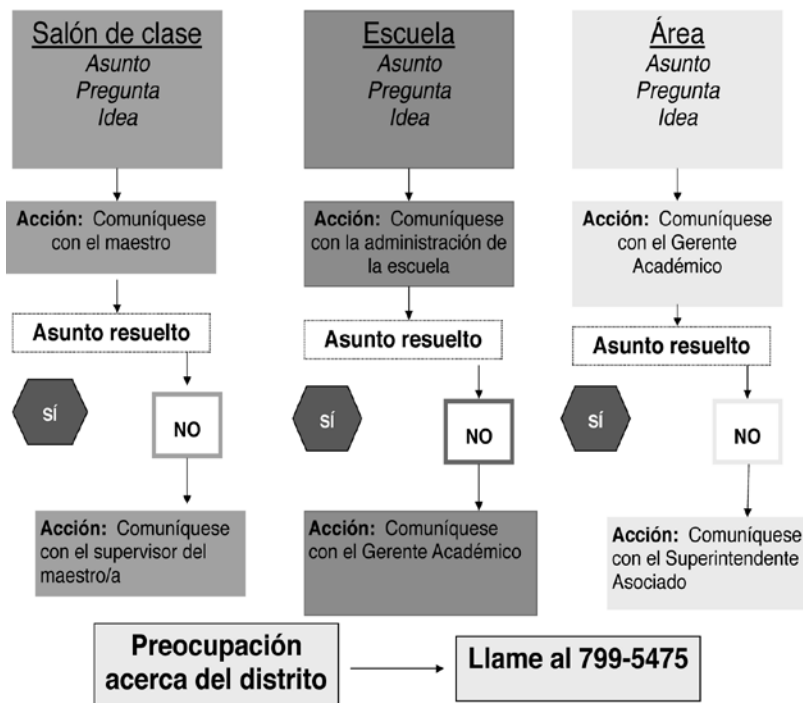
#### Electronic Communication:

Helpful information regarding the Clark County School District and its schools can be found at [www.ccsd.net](http://www.ccsd.net). The available links provide detailed information on all aspects of CCSD. Many links include options to email questions and concerns to district personnel. Parents are also encouraged to call their school to inquire about access to the ParentLink database for up-to-date information on their child's progress (grades, attendance, behavior).

#### Public Concern Forms:

Public Concern Forms are available at all CCSD schools, the Greer Education Center located at 2832 East Flamingo Ave. and the Sahara Administrative Offices located at 5100 West Sahara Ave. It is strongly suggested that parents/guardians notify and attempt to resolve the issue with school or Area personnel before taking this step. Often, a solution is readily obtained at these levels to the satisfaction of those involved.

## Guía de Comunicación con el Distrito Escolar del Condado de Clark



### ABRIENDO LAS LÍNEAS DE COMUNICACIÓN CON LOS PADRES

El compromiso de los padres/tutores en la educación de sus hijos es crítica para el éxito mientras las escuelas trabajan con diligencia para cubrir las diversas necesidades de aprendizaje de la población de estudiantes del Distrito Escolar del Condado de Clark. Con frecuencia los padres desean comunicarse con varias oficinas o personal para expresar sus puntos de vista, preocupaciones y preguntas; este proceso puede parecer difícil. Para ayudar a los padres respecto a esto, se han desarrollado unos consejos y directrices sencillas. **Si la preocupación es un:**

- Asunto del Salón de clase ..... Comuníquese con el maestro y permítale 24 horas para que le devuelva la llamada.
- Asunto de la escuela ..... Los padres de estudiantes de la escuela secundaria deberán comunicarse con el administrador de la escuela responsable de su área de preocupación. Este puede ser un decano de estudiantes o el subdirector. Los padres de estudiantes de la escuela primaria deberán comunicarse con la oficina principal y responderá el subdirector o el director. Por favor recuerde que un día del administrador es imprevisible y permita que él/ella le devuelva su llamada en un plazo de 24 horas.
- Asunto del Área ..... Comuníquese con la oficina del Área responsable de su Área de preocupación:  

Área 1:	799-1719
Área 2:	799-0880
Área 3:	799-2640
Área 4:	799-6620
Superintendente de Escuelas:	799-1222
División de Servicios Educativos:	855-9765
- Asunto del Distrito ..... Comuníquese con Superintendente Diputado de Instrucción al 799-5475.

#### Reuniones del Comité Asesor de Padres:

Cada escuela del Condado de Clark programa reuniones de asesoría para padres con regularidad. Estos son foros productivos donde los padres pueden expresar puntos de vista y aprender de varias oportunidades para participar en el proceso educativo de sus hijos. Por favor llame al gerente de la oficina de su hijo para obtener fechas, horarios y lugares. Además, cada área extiende una invitación para asistir a las reuniones PAC del área. Por favor comuníquese con la oficina de su área para detalles relacionados con las fechas, los horarios y lugares donde se llevan a cabo estas reuniones.

#### Comunicación electrónica:

Se puede encontrar información útil acerca del Distrito Escolar del Condado de Clark y sus escuelas en [www.ccsd.net](http://www.ccsd.net). Los enlaces disponibles proporcionan información detallada sobre todos los aspectos de CCSD. Muchos enlaces incluyen opciones para mandar preguntas y preocupaciones por correo electrónico al personal del distrito. También se anima a los padres para que llamen a su escuela para preguntar sobre el acceso a la base de datos Parentlink para obtener información actualizada sobre el progreso de su hijo (grados, asistencia, comportamiento).

#### Documentos para expresar su preocupación públicamente:

Los Formularios de Preocupación del Público se encuentran disponibles en todas las escuelas de CCSD, en el Centro de Educación Greer localizado en 2832 East Flamingo Ave. y las Oficinas Administrativas de Sahara localizadas en 5100 West Sahara Ave. Se sugiere totalmente que los padres/tutores notifiquen e intenten resolver el asunto con la escuela o el personal del área antes de tomar este paso. Con frecuencia, una solución es fácilmente obtenida en esos niveles satisfaciendo a los involucrados.