

Dear Washoe County School District Family,

I hope you had a restful weekend and are excited to start the work week. This weekend I was able to review the data from the morning meetings that leadership staff held at every school last semester. I've noticed a few trends and themes that will help us as we develop my transition plan, and I will be sharing them with you once I have had the opportunity to obtain input.

I think it's important to give recognition and kudos whenever possible and there are a few shining examples I'd like to share with you:

I would really like to thank our Extended School Year (ESY) staff members who have gone the extra mile to ensure that our students are receiving the attention and supports they need. One example is Steven Moncy, a bus driver for ESY at Diedrichsen this summer. He goes above and beyond for our students, always has a smile for the children, gets them to school safely, and even shared gifts with each of his bus riders last week.

This weekend, due to the unfortunate fire in the Sun Valley/Spanish Springs area, Spanish Springs High School was used as a fire command post and camp for firefighters and rescue workers. Hug High School was used as a shelter on Saturday for families and animals who were temporarily displaced. I was able to visit Spanish Springs High School on Sunday and had a chance to speak with the fire's Incident Commander. He was very appreciative of our facilities staff at both schools who worked hard to make our schools a safe haven for families and rescue teams. I am extremely thankful that our District can be called upon during times of community crisis, thanks to a standing agreement with local emergency agencies.

This week, I plan to meet again with association leadership to discuss priorities for the District and I'm confident we will have another productive meeting where we can talk about shared concerns.

Starting next week, I will be sharing my weekly calendar with you. I hope you will get a better feel for my priorities and will have a better understanding of where I'm devoting my time and efforts each week.

In the meantime, I am working on setting up some meetings throughout the District to meet with employees. These are casual meetings and I'm hoping to learn from you what you think our priorities should be as we develop my transition plan for the District. I am still firming up some of the locations, but I hope that you will be able to attend one and share your ideas. Here are the dates below:

- July 19, 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. at Spanish Springs High School in the library
- July 24, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Sparks High School in the theater
- July 25, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Damonte Ranch High School in the library
- July 26, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Matley Building, 1150 Matley Lane, in the Sierra Room (this meeting is to be focused for Central Services Departments, but everyone is welcome)

If you are unable to attend any of these meetings, please send suggestions to me at [kmcneill@washoeschools.net](mailto:kmcneill@washoeschools.net) and I will be sure to review them.

Take care,  
Kristen McNeill  
Interim Superintendent

