



Washoe County School District

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Board of Trustees: Estela Gutierrez, President • Barbara McLaury, Vice President • Nancy Hollinger, Clerk
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June 8, 2010

Dear Parents:

Beginning with the 2010-11 school year the Washoe County School District will have a consistent 45-minute early release for all students in all schools every Wednesday. This will replace the monthly early release day that our school currently has which varies from school to school and is not coordinated in geographic regions.

The objective is to streamline our staff development enabling teachers to better serve students, and improve the early release schedules for parents. Instead of students receiving 3-hours of time off every month on various days at our elementary, middle, and high schools, students will now be released from school 45-minutes early every Wednesday. In addition this will help offset teacher training time lost to reduced budgets and furlough days. Bus pickup schedules at the end of the day will continue to be staggered at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. The times will be 45 minutes earlier on early release days.

The district's web-based survey last month on the subject of a weekly early release day showed that parents support this effort. Additionally, during this current 2009-10 school year all schools in the Spanish Spring valley have already implemented the 45-minute early release every Wednesday. The Spanish Spring team, which included staff from elementary, middle, and high school levels, gave the pilot program excellent marks all around – it improved their capacity and helped busy parents manage their schedules.

Our goal with the early release day change is to be more efficient in the way we support our students, parents and teachers. Streamlining the professional development days with this plan will allow our teachers to enrich classroom teaching on a consistent basis, and help achieve student success. When your child is released early from school, our teachers receive training focused on the classroom.

We have included a parent tip sheet from our Parent Involvement Office to help you make plans for the upcoming school year. As always we appreciate your input in helping us achieve our goals for our students and staff. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brad Boudreau
Edward Pine Middle School