

Education



Education Is Power

By THOMAS E. WILSON, PH.D.

A backward reflection of the year 1984 reveals that it was the year for criticism of education. Some of the criticism may have been justified, but much of it was not. Most of the criticism was politically motivated, and served its purpose in getting elected to office those who campaigned on the old, worn out theme that "Johnny can't read, therefore, we are putting too much money into education," or that "We must do something about our educational system because test scores show that teachers are not doing their jobs." Most of the politicians who campaigned on the above mentioned themes were or have been ultra-conservative when the issue of education has come up either in legislatures or

in the United States Congress. Budgets have been cut, assistance has been wiped out, needed personnel have been dismissed, etc., while at the same time, these same politicians have expected the remaining teachers to work wonders with much less resources. It just can't be done.

Much time, money, and other resources have been expended in finding fault with the educational system. If all of this time, money, resources, etc., had been spent in actual improvement of the system, the problems in education could have been solved years ago.

But, as an educator, this writer must ask himself and other educators the question: Why can't Johnny read? The answer to this

School District Seeks Info From Grads

In an effort to obtain information that could provide a basis for improvement in policy, programs and practice, the Clark County School District periodically surveys its most recent graduates in regard to their employment, continuing education or training, and opinions

question varies from individual to individual, since each person is different and requires different techniques in teaching him/her to read. It could be the lack of motivation which may be intrinsic (from the inside of the person) or extrinsic (from the outside of the person). It could be a lack of experiences, a lack of a positive self-concept, the lack of proper reading materials, the lack of proper teaching techniques, physical, emotional, and intellectual problems, lack of proper stimulation, outside pressures, discipline problems, and many other reasons. Unless the teacher or other professional can latch on to

about various aspects of their high school program.

This year a survey form was mailed on Dec. 20 to all high school graduates from the June, 1984 class.

Everyone is encouraged to complete and return the survey sheet prior to Jan. 15, 1985.

the real reason why "Johnny can't read," he/she will be at a loss in working with him/her. And unless the proper resources are provided for the teacher to do an adequate job, all efforts will be in vain.

It is a well known fact that there are some ineffective teachers in our educational system around the country. Efforts are being made to cull these persons from the ranks of the profession. Progress is being made in this direction.

Our hope is that 1985 will be a year of cooperation of all facets of the population in securing the best education possible for our children.

School Board Trustee Organization Meeting Jan. 7

The annual organization meeting of the Board of School Trustees will be held Monday, Jan. 7, 1985 in the Clark County School District Education Center Board Room, 2832 East Flamingo Road, at 7 p.m.

District Court Judge Donald Mosley will officiate at swearing-in ceremonies for school board members Lucille Lusk and Shirley Holst, reelected to four year terms, and newly elected board member Howard Hollingsworth who won the seat formerly held by Don Faiss who did not seek reelection.

Once all three office

holders have been sworn in, the board will conduct election of officers to select a president, vice president and board clerk.

No other action is scheduled to take place at the Jan. 7 meeting. Following the organization meeting, a public hearing is scheduled Jan. 10 at 6 p.m. by the board to receive input from citizens on three proposals to fund and build new schools to meet student housing needs over the next 10 years. A regular school board meeting is scheduled at 7 p.m. following the public hearing to consider items on the regular agenda.

1985 Spring Term Registration

Registration for the 1985 Spring Term at Clark County Community College will begin at the Meadows Mall Shopping Center on Jan. 4 and 5, 1985 and at the Boulevard Mall Shopping Center on Jan. 11 and 12, 1985. Registration at the CCCC Cheyenne campus in North Las Vegas begins Jan. 21, 1985, with registration at the Henderson campus on Jan. 23 and 24, 1985.

For any further information, please call CCCC at 643-6060.

BEVERLY CLEARY FAN CLUB FORMING FOR QUAD STUDENTS

What do parents do when school vacations are scheduled at irregular intervals throughout the year, when friends are still in school, when there are not any day camps or swimming lessons? In short, how do you keep 'em busy when they are on a quad break from a year-round school?

Flamingo's Young People's Library is starting a pilot program specifically for your children. Not only will your children have a chance to participate in the typical craft and story programs, but they will have an opportunity to meet other students who are on the same schedule they are.

The Beverly Cleary Fan Club will begin their weekly meetings on Thursday, Jan. 10 at 10 a.m. and continue thru February and March for the respective quads.

The club will feature stories and activities inspired by the author who is widely-known to elementary school children, their parents and teachers.

Recognized for her more than 20 books, including "Dear Mr. Henshaw," for which she won the coveted 1984 Newbery Medal, Cleary has portrayed with humor, and with the reality of detail that brings instant recognition, most of the ordinary predicaments and problems of childhood, the difficulties and rewards of growing up.

For registration information, call the Flamingo Young People's Library at 733-7810, ext. 32.

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