

Education

The National Conference on Educating Black Children

by Congressman Augustus F. Hawkins

On June 3-5, a group of dedicated school teachers, administrators, principals, community persons, etc., will join once again to participate in the third convention of the National Conference on Educating Black Children. The original purpose of this gathering was to examine obstacles in the education of the black child, find out what are effective school models, and then begin to implement these successful models throughout the nation.

This movement has already begun in earnest. Since the first conference three years ago, there have been (6) six regional conferences. In addition, a "Blue-

print for Action" has been developed which provides participants with a vehicle to translate the findings into real action, back in their respective communities. Cities and states have begun to sponsor their own conferences with the same focus as the national and regional conferences. The "Blueprint for Action" is being used as a guide in the school districts of Detroit, Pittsburgh, Oklahoma City and Portland. Every year the movement gains more momentum and support.

The theme this year is "It's Time To Call the Question and Move the Agenda." Now that we have compiled and documented evidence of

successful programs—it is time to implement these ideas in schools and communities by the fall of 1988.

Unfortunately, education sometimes becomes politicized, on all levels of government. George Bush, for example, wants to be regarded as the "Education President," but does not indicate any specific proposals. When the educational report, *A Nation at Risk*, was released in 1983, President Reagan embraced the issue of education for its public relations value and then let it go after the 1984 election.

In contrast, the National Conference on Educating Black Children is about substance . . . not grandstanding. It is about finding real

solutions and advancing effective models, not thematic generalizations or empty statements about morals and discipline. For three days, the participants will roll up their sleeves, present models of school effectiveness, and conduct workshops on how to bring this knowledge home and make it work in the community.

If you are a parent, for example, with children attending an ineffective school (poor morale, high dropout rate, low test scores) you have a right to ask the following questions: Why can't we use the same motivational and teaching practices used in this successful inner city public school in Pittsburgh? Why can't we have higher expectations for our children? Why can't we have a peer counseling program, or staff development seminars to train teachers in "effective schools"? Can we establish a system of frequent monitoring so we can take immediate remediation steps if we see the student slipping behind? These are only just a few positive issues that an individual can raise with responsible authorities to help impact school policy. Obviously, teachers, principals and other school officials who embrace the strategies endorsed by the National Conference will have an inside opportunity to make a difference.

Implementing these effective school strategies may not be easy. But as the political philosopher Machiavelli once wrote:

"There is nothing more difficult, more perilous, or more uncertain of success, than to take the lead in introducing a new order of things."

It is time for all of us to take the lead. At stake is the education of our children.

Newmont Gold Company Finances Upgrading of Rancho High School Chemistry Lab

Newmont Gold Company, the largest gold producer in Nevada, today presented a \$23,000 check to the Clark County School District for the upgrading of a chemistry laboratory at Rancho High School in North Las Vegas, announced Ann Tyson, Newmont's director of public relations and environmental affairs.

Dr. Robert Wentz, Clark County School District Superintendent, accepted the donation at the ceremony held early today at the high school.

Also attending the ceremony was Sen. Joe Neal and several legislators from the district.

Sen. Neal said, "This is a worthy contribution that Newmont Gold Company has made and I am grateful to the company for its cooperation within the State and its con-

tributions to local schools such as Rancho High."

Wentz said the funds will be used to modernize and upgrade the existing chemistry laboratory. This will involve the purchase of a geiger counter, refrigerator, centrifuges, and a computer.

Tyson explained, "Newmont learned of the need for the laboratory modernization through the School-Business Partnership Program."

This donation is one of many financial contributions Newmont Gold has made to meet the educational and civic needs of the State. Within the last six months Newmont has contributed over \$379,000 just for educational programs including four-year scholarships to UNLV and UNR, three school buses, relocatable classrooms, and teacher-aide salaries.

CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE (CCCC) is a comprehensive two-year multi-campus institution with enrollment of nearly 13,000 full and part-time students each semester. CCCC is seeking candidates with a strong commitment to the community college philosophy for the above position:

COMPUTING & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (CIG/MATHEMATICS INSTRUCTOR)

QUALIFICATIONS: Masters degree in computing, mathematics or related field required. Doctor's degree in computing, mathematics or related field preferred. Three years of related business-industry experience preferred. College level teaching experience preferred. Innovative individuals with leadership qualities and interests will receive special consideration.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Teach nine semester credit hours of computing and Information Technology (CIT) course work, BASIC, COBOL, FORTRAN, PASCAL, "C," etc. and six semester credit hours of college algebra and/or precalculus.

HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE (Fall semester only)

QUALIFICATIONS: Masters degree in U.S. History required, Ph.D. preferred. Significant number graduate credits in Political science required.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Teach survey United States History courses and introductory Political Science courses. Advise students. **SALARY:** \$12,000.

DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR

QUALIFICATIONS: Master's degree required; doctorate preferred; experience in teaching English as a Second Language, college level reading, and developmental writing required. Strong communicative skills required. A clear concept of and strong commitment to the philosophy of community colleges required. Knowledge of second language preferred.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Teach English as a Second Language. College level reading, and developmental writing courses. Work in laboratory and classroom setting. Advise students. Participate in curriculum development.

ENGLISH INSTRUCTOR

QUALIFICATIONS: Master's degree in English required; doctorate preferred. Successful experience teaching English at the postsecondary level required. A clear concept of and strong commitment to the philosophy of community colleges.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Teach composition and rhetoric and such other English courses as may be assigned. Advise students. Participate in curriculum development.

SALARY: Commensurate with education and experience. Academic year (approximately 10 month) appointment.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Review of application begins June 17, 1988. Letter of application, current resume, and three references should be forwarded to: Personnel Office, CIA, Clark County Community College, 3200 E. Cheyenne Ave., N. Las Vegas, NV 89030. AA/EEO.

TARGET DATE FOR EMPLOYMENT: August 24, 1988.

Roy Martin Students Graduate From DARE Program

Nearly 600 sixth and seventh grade students graduated from the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program at Roy Martin Junior High School Tuesday, May 17. Two ceremonies were scheduled—one at 9 a.m. and another at 10 a.m.

Schools Superintendent Robert E. Wentz spoke to sixth grade graduates at the 9 a.m. program, and a metro Police officer spoke to seventh grade students at the 10 a.m. program. Participants in the ceremony included Kristine Vandermark, chairman of Project DARE for the Junior League, associate superintendent Paul Goodwin, principal Steve McCoy and district drug consultant Ron Ross.

During each program, selected students read anti-

drug essays they had written.

Project DARE was implemented this year at Roy Martin and was piloted district-wide two years ago in several elementary schools under the cooperative sponsorship of the Junior League of Las Vegas, Metro Police Department and CCSD. The Junior League remains involved and supportive of DARE.

Project DARE began in the Los Angeles Unified School District under sponsorship of the L.A. County Police Department and Police Chief Darrell Gates. The program, which stresses self-esteem and resistance from peer pressure to use drugs, employs a uniformed but unarmed policeman to teach the DARE curriculum and be on hand to talk to students during recess time.

National Academic Fraternity Installs Chapter at CCCC

Clark County Community College (CCCC), was recently the recipient of a rather unique double honor. The Alpha Xi Beta of the national academic fraternity, Phi Theta Kappa was installed at the College and with the initiation of members from the CCCC, it meant that there was now a chapter of Phi Theta Kappa in every State in the Union. In recognition

of these honors, Governor Richard H. Bryan declared April 9 as Phi Theta Kappa Day throughout the State of Nevada.

Mr. Rod Risley, the national executive Director of Phi Theta Kappa performed the initiation of the College's sixteen members and the installation of the Alpha Xi Beta officers. In order to become a member of this national fraternity, a student must have

a 3.9 Grade Point Average.

The following CCCC students were initiated by Mr. Risley: Janice Adams, Jacqueline Allen, David Broderick, Lynn Clow, Eric Edwards, Nancy Gates, Ken Gerzel, Nancy Gordon, Ronald Grindstaff, Dennis Gushue, Marvin Kasminoff, Arlene Krolick, Gerald Ludwig, Arla McColl, Sharon Petty and Louise Voight.