

Education

More Nevada Students Staying In School

More Nevada students are staying in school, thanks in large part to dropout reduction programs started by various school districts, according to the fifth annual report card released on the state's schools.

The dropout rate statewide dipped from 9.5 percent in 1989 to 8 percent in 1990. Class sizes also were down, teachers' salaries were up and test scores stayed about the same, the 1990-91 school report said.

Clark County's dropout rate was 8.4 percent, slightly higher than that state average of 8 percent. Washoe County, the state's second largest district, reported a high school dropout rate of 6 percent.

Pershing County reported the state's worst dropout rate. The school district's overall average high school dropout rate is nearly 14 percent, but more than a quarter of the district's high school juniors drop out before their senior year.

Clark County has about 100 programs aimed at keeping students in school, including three high schools set aside for students who have trouble learning in traditional schools, district spokeswoman Mary Stanley

said.

The programs include two Horizon high schools, the first of which opened in the fall of 1990. The schools are geared toward potential dropouts, but are not disciplinary schools, she said.

NEW BUILDINGS PUSH CCSN TOWARDS SPRING ENROLLMENT RECORDS

The opening of new classroom buildings at its West Charleston and Henderson Campuses is pushing The Community College of Southern Nevada toward record Spring semester enrollment records, according to Dr. Paul E. Meacham, CCSN president.

"The college always has maintained the posture that with additional facilities we would accommodate additional students who have not been able to register here previously," Dr. Meacham said. "The opening of new classroom facilities at our West Charleston and Henderson campuses is a primary factor in our being able to register the growing number of students seeking to attend CCSN."

Joe West, in charge of Institutional Research for the college, said unofficial numbers show that preliminary FTE figures for the current term shows

Stanley said the district also has initiated partnership programs with local businesses that provide junior high schools with speakers who stress the importance of education.

Last year was the first year of

a growth of from 5,192 students in the Spring of 1992 to 6,235, a growth of 20.10%. West said that the probability was that the count would climb when registration figures for more than 20 extension centers in the three counties of Clark, Esmeralda and Lyon are finalized. The figures will become official when they are submitted to the University

state mandated class-size reduction. As a result, average class sizes dropped during the 1990 school year, according to the state report. Average class sizes dropped from almost 27 students in 1989 to 22 in 1990.

and Community College System of Nevada and are approved by the Board of Regents. That will occur in mid March.

By discipline, the biggest increase in student interest was in the Science and Health occupations areas which showed an increase of 28.80% in student registrations according to West. Health occupations courses are

Meanwhile, teacher salaries increased 6 percent between 1989 and 1990. Statewide, the average teacher's salary rose from \$28,836 to \$30,587. In Clark County, the average teacher's salary was \$31,446.

centered in the West Charleston campus. Industrial Service Technologies, emphasized at the Henderson campus, were up 18.58%. Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, with classes at the Cheyenne Avenue, West Charleston and Henderson campuses before the end of the current decade, West predicts the enrollment of the col-

In Washoe County, it was \$29,118. Scholastic Aptitude Test scores among high school seniors planning to go to college stayed the same in the area of math, but test scores for verbal skills declined.

lege will exceed 30,000 students by the year 2000. Dedication of the West Charleston and Henderson Phase II expansions will be held on February 26 and 27. Ground breaking for the Phase IV expansion of the Cheyenne campus, which includes a cultural arts center and theater, is scheduled to take place before the end of the Spring term.

THE UNITED PARTNERSHIP AIDING UNCF'S \$250 MILLION CAMPAIGN 2000

PRESIDENT BUSH ANNOUNCES HISTORIC PROGRAM TO AID BLACK COLLEGES

President George Bush announced today that the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) will join forces to help preserve and protect 11 buildings on historically black college and university campuses. Through this unprecedented effort funding will be provided to save many of the most historically significant structures on these campuses. The partnership will be formed to support the "Secretary of Interior's National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Preservation Program" announced by Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan, Jr., in September, 1991.

The partnership satisfies the mandates of Presidential Executive Order 12677 that directs federal agencies to give priority to strengthening historically black colleges and universities HBCUs including infrastructure improvement.

Mr. William H. Gray, III, president and CEO of the United Negro College Fund, said: "the preservation of these HBCU historic sites is important for the nation and these educational institutions. UNCF is proud to join the Department of the Interior in this partnership which fits the priority interests of the Campaign 2000 capital campaign which we are currently carrying out. President Bush

and Secretary Lujan deserve hearty praise for this initiative which will save vital historical facilities."

An estimated \$20 million will be required to complete renovation of eleven buildings on the campuses of HBCUs. The DOI will seek a total of \$10 million in appropriated funds over a three-year period (FY 1993-95) for the renovations through the new program. UNCF will provide matching funds.

Morris Brown College's Gaines Hall, will be the first building to benefit from the "National Historically Black Colleges and

TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS OFFERED

The Community College of Southern Nevada Division of Community is offering three training workshops. The workshops are free to participants and are funded by a state adult literacy grant to the college.

The first workshop on "Pronunciation Remediation" will be held Saturday, February 8, from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at the Flamingo Branch of the Clark County Library. It will be conducted by Shiri Croft, speech pathologist, and will train teachers on the techniques for remediating pronunciation problems in non-native speakers.

On March 7 at the Flamingo Library, Judy Cheatham of Greensboro College in North Carolina will conduct a workshop, "Writing Across the Curriculum." The workshop, from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., will share techniques for teachers to use in encouraging writing in all disciplines in the adult curriculum.

The final workshop, "Using Whole Language With Adults," will be given by Dr. Roy Bartoo of State University of New York. It will emphasize innovative techniques in whole language theory and application. It will be held Saturday, May 17.

For more information about the workshops call CCSN Community Education at 643-6060, Ex. 200.

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WITH READING,
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& GED—AGE: 16+**

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