

# LIBRARY DISTRICT

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need to put in trustees who can answer the question."

Williams said that Wilson told him, "Shut-up, I don't want to hear from you," at the October 15th public meeting of the Library District. Williams also complained the doors were locked to the Oct. 15th meeting in an attempt to bar the public in violation of the Open Meet Law. But after protest, library officials opened the doors, explained Williams.

Williams said that there was a conflict of interest in the operation of the Library's Board of Trustees because Wilson was the campaign manager for County Commissioner-Elect

## PRIME 6

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according to available seats, racial composition of the school and transportation, with priority given to those students who have to travel the longest time.

The Westside Action Alliance Korps-Uplifting People (WAAK-UP), organized by Marzette Lewis, also says no to the board, school district and their Prime 6 proposal. WAAK-UP wants Booker, Carson, Fitzgerald, Gilbert, Kelly, Mackey, Madison, McCall and Hoggard reclassified as pre-kindergarten through fifth grade schools as stated in their West Las Vegas Prime 6 proposal.

These schools will provide educational programs to develop appropriate education for students in pre-K through grade five. The program will be consistent with the school district's educational principles and the elements of quality, with a planning team at each school consisting of the principal, staff, parents, and community representatives. The planning team shall develop the focus for the school, based on the needs of the students. The curriculum and instructional strategies will be based on principles and practices established by the Nevada State Course of Study and Clark County School District Curriculum Essentials Framework.

Retired attorney, now activist, Barbara Robinson said studies have shown that African American children in the early grades (1-3) score well above other kids, until the fourth grade. The reason is unknown, but African American children are said to be vulnerable at the fourth grade level. She says, it is better for them to feel comfortable at this stage rather than allowing them to be susceptible to the changes of being bused from one school to another.

Yvonne Atkinson Gates and defeated State Senatorial candidate Stan Colton, and was also involved in the Mayor Jones' campaign.

In addition, the Library's Board of Trustees, led by Wilson, agreed to hire a public relations firm, Dan Hart & Associates at \$125 an hour. This PR firm was involved in the Gates campaign managed by Wilson.

During the heat of the meeting, Commissioner William Pearson declared there was a "conflict of interest" on the Library Board of Trustees. And library trustee, Steven Schorr, made a passionate statement and then announced his resignation.

Although no citizen came forth to defend the library, several spoke up against it.

"I resent the bad treatment of our Assemblyman," said Joanne Wesley Lee, West Las Vegas businesswoman. "I think the board should be dismissed and Charles Hunsberger, the director, fired."

Lee said the PR firm was really being hired to do Hunsberger's and Wilson's job. "They are the ones who should be responding to the community. Isn't that why they are there?"

Ken Koester, a member of the state Board of Education, complained that the Library Board has rebuffed his attempts

to help them get art for the library free of charge as well as connect the library district into the national art network. "Neither Hunsberger or Diane Shapiro responded to me. We lost a chance to get help from the national cultural scene. I don't take this lightly," said Koester. "We should look into the leadership of the Library District."

Another citizen, Coulter Irwin, a retired Associated Press editor, complained about the lack of books in some branches and the arrogance of Charles Hunsberger who allegedly said that if people wanted to read they could buy books, Irwin testified on Tuesday.

Although Hunsberger denied



Joanne Wesley-Lee describes the arrogant attitude the board of trustees has at their public meetings.

Photo by Savoy/LVS-Voice

Board members offered their comments and agreed to do their best in supplying the needs of the West Las Vegas community.

Howard Hollingsworth, School Board Trustee member, said, "I don't know why when people are doing wrong, they want to keep doing it. I think we should stop allowing the students

of West Las Vegas to be bused." Another member of the board, John Rhodes said, "I support the concept of neighborhood schools and I feel their should be sensitivity training because we should allow ourselves to understand different cultures."

Unfortunately, the meeting did not close on a positive note.

Mrs. Lois Tarkanian, President of the School Board of Trustees, had to close the meeting because of an argument which started between two speakers. The board will make a decision on the proposals on December 1st; West Las Vegas is praying they "do the right thing."

a Williams accusation that his house was built by Richardson Construction, which has the contract for the West Las Vegas Library Auditorium, Hunsberger admitted he had hired a foreman from Richardson Construction to oversee library construction. Williams said these actions were

conflicts of interest but Hunsberger vehemently denied the allegations. "I can hire who I want," said Hunsberger following the hearing.

Rev. Marion Bennett, an African American member of the library's board, labeled Williams (See Library Page 17)

## DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY PRESENTS SEPIA FASHION SHOW

The Las Vegas Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority has presented the Sepia Fashion Show in connection with its Delta Scholars Program for the past 16 years. During those years, approximately 1000 high school students have been eligible for assistance through this program.

Rise Foster, a former Delta Scholar who now attends Howard University in Washington D.C. said the workshops helped her gain self confidence and courage to survive on a large campus. Information she received from one workshop presenter helped her to decide to become an obstetrician instead of a pediatrician as she had previously planned.

The program is a series of workshops designed to help high school seniors survive the changes of being away from parental supervision and includes topics ranging from careers to dating behavior and options.

The 16th Annual "Sepia Fashion Revue", featuring the Vogue-Esquire Models of Chicago, will be presented December 5th for the benefit of its 1992 Delta Scholar program. The fashion show, dinner and dance will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Alexis Park Hotel. For ticket information call 646-7575 or 647-1122.

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