

# Magnet

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Besides to accessing millions of federal dollars for West that can be used to buy equipment, improve curricula, hire better teachers and find better students, Paul said the program would give West's eighth-graders high school credit for some courses. The school is currently applying for magnet funding.

Lewis, who wants the school to reflect the community, contends that creating a magnet school component will hurt neighborhood children's chances of getting in. She cited the dearth of blacks at Advanced Technologies Academy as an example.

The academy, also in West Las Vegas, 2505 Vegas Drive, opened in 1994.

"I understand the (parents') fear about magnet schools," West's principal Lois Zenger said Wednesday. She said the academy caused part of the confusion.

The community fully expected that their children would be able to attend the multi-million dollar, multi-purpose facility academy because it was built in their neighborhood. But, she said, many parents did not understand that the academy was a magnet school and as such only accepted students it deemed qualified.

Of West's 1,800 students, Zenger said 300 would be in the magnet program. She said the open application process will cover four criteria: good attendance, citizenship, teacher recommendations and grades, and that any West student who meets the criteria automatically gets one of those slots.

With the magnet funding, Zenger said she would hire additional staff, including four foreign language teachers, and provide additional services to enhance the educational experience of all students.

Given a glut of qualified students, a lottery



A teacher stands watch as students march single file.



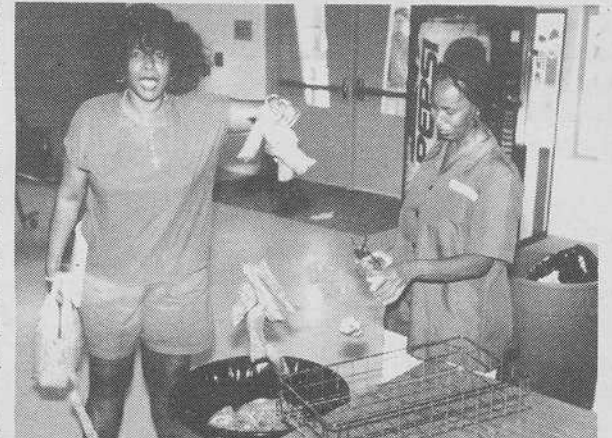
Sentinel-Voice photos by Ramon Savoy

West Middle School students are all smiles during the opening of school last week.

will determine which students get in the program, according to Glen Cooper, director of Magnet Schools for the school district.

Cooper said West's program will follow federal guidelines that call for creating innovating curriculum, increasing awareness of post-secondary career options, systemic reform and reducing, preventing and addressing minority student isolation.

Currently, the school district is 42 percent minority. That number jumps two-to-three percent a year, he said.



Marzette Lewis (left) holds up discarded burritos. School officials threw out the burritos because they lack the facilities to properly store them.

# Developers

(Continued from Page 1)

July that Johnson's development company submitted a proposal three weeks prior to his, and that Johnson was getting first dibs on the property. He said that's unfair because the City knew he was gathering a team of interested citizens.

"We are being denied the opportunity to be included in the complete process of the revitalization of West Las Vegas," he said.

He accused Reese of violating the West Las Vegas Master Plan which calls for a "cooperative relationship" between public and private interests in revitalizing the community.

Edmonds, owner of the Nucleus Business Plaza, said that once Johnson's option expired in November, a Request for Proposal (RFP) should have been sent out, opening the land to bids. By not doing so, he said Reese "shut out black developers and contractors."

"We live here. We pay taxes here. The money should stay here," Edmonds said. He said Reese told him he was next in line to develop the property should Johnson's proposal have any hitches. That's not good enough, he



GARY REESE

said.


Reese said Wednesday it's simply a case of too little too late. Briley's offer came three

weeks after Johnson's proposal, he said.

Reese said he liked Johnson's proposal because he had already secured builders, leased 85 percent of the tenant space and had everything financed.

"What am I supposed to do," Reese asked. "They (Johnson's group) got there first. I can't change that. I'm sorry. I gave my word to them. My word is my bond."

Reese said he respects the West Las Vegas board's input and wants to work with the group in the future, but that the City normally does not inform the public when a developer's option expires.



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## CITY OF LAS VEGAS, 1998-99 Action Plan for Housing and Community Development Consolidation Plan

You are invited to participate in important community meetings to discuss major funding sources used to:

- Construct community facilities
- Provide public services
- extend housing opportunities
- Advance economic development

For further information, please call Kristin Cooper of Neighborhood Services at 229-2330 (TDD 386-9108). If you know of a neighbor who has not received this notice, please share this information. If you need to have a sign language interpreter at the meeting, please call at least 48 hours prior to the meeting you plan to attend. All meetings are handicapped accessible.

The City of Las Vegas is committed to improving your neighborhood through:  
**Community Development Block Grant Programs (CDBG)**  
**HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)**  
**Housing Opportunities for Persons With Aids (HOPWA)**  
**Emergency Shelter Grant Program (ESGP)**

SCHEDULED PUBLIC MEETINGS:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WEST LAS VEGAS</b></p> <p>Tuesday, September 9, 1997 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. West Las Vegas Library Theater 951 W. Lake Mead Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89106</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EAST LAS VEGAS</b></p> <p>Thursday, September 18, 1997 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Rafael Rivera Community Center 2900 E. Stewart Las Vegas, NV 89101</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DOWNTOWN</b></p> <p>Thursday, September 11, 1997 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. First Baptist Church 300 S. 9th Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89101</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MEADOWS VILLAGE</b></p> <p>Wednesday, September 24, 1997 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Stupak Community Center 300 W. Boston Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89102</p>