

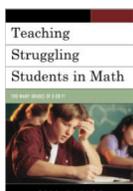
# Nevada Public Education



## *Clark County School District Superintendent Search*

*Bill Hanlon*

I'll support a superintendent who will place priority on students learning how to read and write, and learn math, science and social studies. I want a superintendent that will lead a board of trustees and have student performance and achievement as a regular discussion item at board meetings. I want a superintendent that can work with elementary and secondary issues and clearly recognizes there is a real difference between the two. I want a superintendent who holds himself accountable, holds other people accountable, and is willing to take responsibility for decisions that are made districtwide. For these reasons, I am supporting Mike Barton as Clark County School District's next superintendent.



To be frank, I'm not sure why anyone outside of Clark County would want this position. Under the new governance structure, building principals will have the authority, responsibility and budgets to affect change. Central office's influence will be greatly diminished. Why would anyone want to move to Nevada to find they don't have the authority or budget to affect change districtwide. In my opinion, the only people from outside of Nevada who would apply for this position either have not done their homework or are looking to build a personal resume by being a superintendent of the 5<sup>th</sup> largest district in the nation.

As for people applying from within the district or who have previously worked for the district, Barton's knowledge, understanding, experiences and ability to work with others far outweigh any of them.

I am also concerned with the "Special K" people. These are people who Kiss Up to people above them – including trustees and Kick Down to people below them. There are a couple of people who are applying are great for taking credit when things go well, but are quick to blame subordinates when there are issues. Those peoples' reputations have been well established among the rank and file in the district. I just don't think our local trustees know who they are because they are always being kissed upped to.

Another concern I have is that some board members have spoken privately about the classification of people who will be seriously considered. Rather than choosing the best candidate, they have expressed hiring based upon race or gender.

If Clark County is serious about improving the experiences students have in classrooms learning – increasing student achievement, they need to be more serious about the person's ability to achieve those goals and not worry about race and gender issues. Let's choose the right person – not the best sales person.

**Bill Hanlon**, is a noted speaker, an author, educator, consultant and coach for schools, former Director of the Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program, and is a national presenter for organizations such as AASA, ASCD, ALAS, NMSA, NASSP, NSBA, and NCTM. He was the coordinator of Clark County School District's Math/Science Institute and was also responsible for K-12 math audits. He served as vice president of the Nevada State Board of Education, Regional Director of the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) and as a member of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) States Partnership Board. He also hosted a television series, "Algebra, *you can do it!*" on PBS Las Vegas.

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