

Clark County School District
ED VON TOBEL MIDDLE SCHOOL

2436 N. Pecos Road, Las Vegas, NV 89115

702-799-7280

702-799-7286 (fax)

www.schools.ccsd.net/vontobel

Jaime Ditto - Principal

Victoria Welling - Assistant Principal

Elizabeth Poglitsch - Dean of Students

October 9, 2013

Dear Colleagues/Parents,

This week the Nevada Department of Education released the 2012-2013 Nevada School Performance Framework rankings. I would like to inform our entire school family that Von Tobel Middle School has achieved a “Three-Star” ranking under the framework, based on a five star scale.

The framework is a clear, consistent method for comparing our schools and ensuring the district is accountable for the success of every student. Think of it as a consumer report that provides the community with a way to review how schools are making progress in helping students learn and an insight into how students are achieving academically.

Our “Three-Star” designation means our students are making continued efforts to learn and grow from the last school year; that a large number of them are passing state tests; and that we are making progress in closing achievement gaps between all students – regardless of their individual educational needs. Additionally, our designation means that our school is laying the groundwork for fostering a positive learning environment for all students – this includes solid attendance, educational equity for students, engaging parents and developing positive relationships with them.

Under the state system growth is factored, but instead of year-to-year growth, the state only awards points to schools that show growth over a period of three years. Simply put, it is harder to get points for growth in the short term on the state school performance framework than it was under CCSD’s framework.

The difference between our current “Three-Star” ranking and the higher (Four or Five-Star) rankings for which we strive is not something that should be cause for disappointment. Instead, it should be cause for motivation to make the necessary changes to provide an even better education for our school community. Our goal is to continue to make refinements and improvements that will allow us to increase our results. For us, the charge will be to compete against our personal best and use the added resources we are provided in a manner that allows us to set new standards for our school community.

As your principal, I remain committed to working with all of our staff, parents and students to help this school perform at its highest levels. There is no reason we cannot be ranked as one of the best schools in CCSD. Our goal of even greater student achievement is within our grasp if we work hard and if we work together to ensure the highest level of success for every student, in every classroom at our school.

Thank you for your commitment to students and our community.

Sincerely,

Jaime Ditto