

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**August 24, 2020**

**‘Connecting Kids’ Proudly Announces Four School Districts Are Confirmed to Provide All Students with Access to Virtual Learning for the 2020-2021 School Year**

*Carson City, White Pine, Eureka, and Mineral School Districts Achieve Green Status by Ensuring All Students Have Access to Internet and a Device*

**Las Vegas, NV** —‘Connecting Kids’, a statewide community coalition formed in partnership with The Nevada COVID-19 Response, Relief and Recovery Task Force, The Elaine P. Wynn & Family Foundation, Communities In Schools Nevada, and The Public Education Foundation to ensure that all students across the state of Nevada have equal access to virtual learning for the 2020-2021 school year, announced today that four school districts have achieved green status. Green status achievement indicates that all students in the district who are utilizing distance learning have access to a device and the internet.

Carson City School District Superintendent Richard Stokes has confirmed that all 8,200 students enrolled within the district have access to a device and internet connectivity and are able to participate in its hybrid distance learning plan. Carson City School District was able to close the technology gap by distributing fully-subsidized T-Mobile hot spots and devices to all those in need. Additionally, thanks to the leadership and assistance from Superintendent of Public Instruction Jhone Ebert, Director of the Governor’s Office of Science, Innovation & Technology Brian Mitchell and Attorney General Aaron Ford, school districts including White Pine, Eureka and Mineral were able to achieve green status prior to the start of the school year which began today, Monday, August 24, 2020.

“It is heartening to recognize this milestone achieved by the Carson City, White Pine, Eureka and Mineral School Districts” says Elaine Wynn, President of the Nevada State Board of Education. “All children deserve equal access to virtual learning and while we have moved mountains, it is now time to move heaven and earth. We must continue to work diligently with every segment of our communities across the state until we reach this goal in every school district in Nevada.”

To reach this goal, ‘Connecting Kids’ is re-doubling its efforts to account for more than 68,400 Clark County School District students who have not yet responded to the districts emergency roll call. Clark County School District has created a brief survey for all families to answer which can be found at [**www.ccsd.net/survey**](https://aarsiapps.ccsd.net/survey/) to ensure that all 316,000 students within the district are accounted for.

The Family Support Center through innovative partnerships with Cox Communications, T-Mobile and Clark County School District is continuing its efforts to connect every qualified CCSD student to the internet, subsidized by CCSD. The Family Support Center can be reached at 888-616-2476 and will have English and Spanish speaking operators available Monday – Saturday, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm until every student has access to virtual learning. It will continue to serve as the only place to get connected.

Since launching on August 10, 2020 The Family Support Center found 43,000 students through its Emergency Roll Call effort, handed a device to more than 50,000 CCSD students with an expressed need, and confirmed that more than 226,600 students are connected to the internet.

For those interested in learning more, please visit [**ConnectingKidsNV.org**](http://www.connectingkidsnv.org).

Media inquiries should be sent to mediainquiries@nvc19.org

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