

Letter to the Editor 9-30-16

Streaming meetings

I applaud the Barstow Unified School District, its Superintendent Mr. Jeff Malan and the entire school Board of Trustees for voting to have their board meetings televised and web streamed in the future.

As a Trustee for Victor Valley Community College, I worked for nearly nine months to get the cameras to cover our Board meetings but I felt strongly that with each of the High Desert municipalities, many other agencies and San Bernardino County streaming their meetings, we should as well.

Nearly 90,000± people a day leave the High Desert, risking their lives in travel in order to give their family a decent standard of living and provide educational opportunities for their children. These people cannot necessarily attend school board meetings and City Council meetings. We owe it to them to ensure that they can watch these important governmental meetings at a time that fits their schedule. I believe that the more that government offers transparency, the more people may begin to believe in and support local government.

Education is paramount to improving our economy in the Inland Empire and the High Desert. Transparency within our educational system is absolutely paramount. I am proud to be a Trustee at a Community College which supports transparency in our Board meetings. I would urge the trustees at every school district to offer our residents the ability to watch public meetings, via web streaming at a time and a place that is convenient for them.

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