



COURTESY

Empire Elementary School fourth graders Denim Lehrbaum, left, Madison Fishburn and Emily Bell from Ms. Erica Meisler's class display their COVID watches.

Carson City scientist donates 550 thermometer watches to STEM school

Carson City School District

The Carson City School District has announced Empire Elementary School, a designated Governor's STEM school, has received 550 Thermometer Watches from local scientist Ron Newton.

The wearable technology, costing less than \$10, is designed to monitor the temperature of the wearer and indicate if they are running a fever. The school is beta testing the prototype, which constantly monitors temperature and displays every eight seconds using a color changing light emitting diode without using a switch.

"This wearable piece of technology was developed by Mr. Newton as a way to help monitor some of our student population's health, which is specifically appropriate during this global pandemic," said Richard Stokes, Carson City School District superintendent.

The school plans to invite students to wear the watches while they attend school. A video detailing how the watch was created and disseminated to students is available at www.youtube.com/watch?v=NtMTv8JPMVA&feature=youtu.be. To be compliant with patient and student privacy laws, each student who wears the thermometer watch also will have a signed permission slip from their parents or guardians.

"As businesses and organizations purchased countless numbers of Hands-free IR (Infrared) Thermometers, amidst the pandemic, we feel fortunate to have a similar, more frequent tool to help assess the wellness of our student population," said Susan Squires, principal of Empire Elementary School.

Last year, the Advisory Council on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM Council)

and the Governor's Office of Science, Innovation and Technology (OSIT) named Empire Elementary School as a Designated Governor STEM School. Designation as a Governor's STEM School denotes that the school meets the highest standards of STEM instruction and is a model for schools around the state. For parents and the community, the designation also communicates the level of high-quality STEM education that can be expected at the school.

All K-12 schools in Nevada are eligible to apply for the designation. Empire Elementary submitted an application that described their curriculum practices, learning environment, STEM instruction and integration, leadership and stakeholder engagement. Following a review of the applications, Empire Elementary hosted a site visit by members of the STEM Council, OSIT and other stakeholders to showcase their STEM practices. Empire Elementary also received a 10-foot banner and a digital seal that can be used on a website and other electronic communications.

U.S. Supreme Court Dayton church's C

By Scott Sonner
Associated Press

RENO — The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday refused a Dayton church's request to enter a legal battle over the government's authority to limit the size of religious gatherings amid the COVID-19 pandemic — after the church won an appeals court ruling last month that found Nevada's restrictions unconstitutional.

Attorneys general from 19 other states had recently joined in support of the unusual request from Calvary Chapel Dayton Valley.

They were urging the Supreme Court to rule on the merits of the Nevada case to help bring uniformity to various standards courts across the country have used to balance the interests of public safety and freedom of religion.

The church's lawyers said in a court filing last Thursday they wanted the high court to "clarify for all that the First Amendment does not allow government officials to use COVID-19 as an excuse to treat churches and their worshippers worse than secular establishments and their patrons."

In a 5-4 decision in June, the Supreme Court refused Calvary Chapel's request for an emergency injunction blocking enforcement of Nevada's attendance limit at houses of worship.

But the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled in favor of the church last month, finding it was unconstitutional for Nevada to treat casinos and other businesses more favorably than churches.

The church's latest plea for relief from the Supreme Court was in the form of a petition for a review of the case on its merits. Such petitions are rare and their approval is even rarer, even though they require approval by only four justices.

The justices denied the request without explanation on Monday.

The 9th Circuit ruling sent the case back to the district court to determine how to proceed but in the meantime prevented the state from enforcing any church attendance limit more stringent than the current 25% of capacity limit on most businesses.

Judge Richard Boulware put the case on hold pending the Supreme Court's ruling on the church's petition. He instructed lawyers on both sides to provide

New Store Hours:

10-5 Tuesday through Saturday

BEST

Vitamin Herbal Store



DuBois

201 E William Street, Suite 1

