



NEVADA LEGISLATURE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(Nevada Revised Statutes 218E.605)

SUMMARY MINUTES

The second meeting of the Legislative Committee on Education for the 2017–2018 Interim was held on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 10 a.m. in Room 4401, Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 3138, Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada, and to Berg Hall Conference Room, Great Basin College, 1500 College Parkway, Elko, Nevada.

The agenda, minutes, meeting materials, and video or audio recording of the meeting are available on the Committee's [meeting page](#). In addition, copies of the audio or video record are available through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (e-mail: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775/684-6835) and may also be available at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Granicus/>.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:

Senator Moises (Mo) Denis, Chair
Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson, Vice Chair
Senator Patricia (Pat) Spearman
Senator Joyce Woodhouse
Assemblywoman Brittney Miller

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN CARSON CITY:

Senator Donald (Don) G. Gustavson
Assemblywoman Jill Tolles

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Kelly S. Richard, Senior Principal Policy Analyst, Research Division
Jen Sturm, Senior Policy Analyst, Research Division
Asher A. Killian, Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Karly O’Krent, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Julie Waller, Senior Program Analyst, Fiscal Division
Jaimarie Dagdagan, Program Analyst, Fiscal Division
Adam Drost, Program Analyst, Fiscal Division
Christina Harper, Senior Research Secretary, Research Division

draft

Items taken out of sequence during the meeting have been placed in agenda order.

AGENDA ITEM I—CALL TO ORDER

Chair Denis called the meeting to order.

AGENDA ITEM II—OPENING REMARKS

Chair Denis welcomed members, presenters, and the public to the second meeting of the Legislative Committee on Education. He reviewed general meeting and testimony guidelines.

Chair Denis announced Governor Sandoval has proclaimed February 2018 as Career and Technical Education (CTE) month in Nevada.

AGENDA ITEM III—PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Denis called for public comment.

Dr. Lisa Morris Hibbler, Director, Department of Youth Development and Social Innovation, City of Las Vegas, outlined recommendations to improve school safety from the Las Vegas My Brother's Keeper Alliance to the Clark County School District (CCSD) Board of Trustees (Agenda Item III A).

Raymond Bacon, Executive Director, Nevada Manufacturers Association, shared the benefits of CTE programs and the need for CTE teachers (Agenda Item III B).

AGENDA ITEM IV—PRESENTATION REGARDING JOBS FOR AMERICA'S GRADUATES

René Cantú Jr., Ph.D., Executive Director, Jobs for Nevada's Graduates, Incorporated (JAG Nevada), presented an update on the JAG Nevada program (Agenda Item IV A-1). He submitted handouts outlining JAG Nevada's three-pronged approach (Agenda Item IV A-2).

Discussion ensued among Committee members and Mr. Cantú on the following issues:

- JAG Nevada recruitment, guidance, and enrollment requirements;
- The possibility of a JAG Nevada middle school program;
- Incorporation of JAG Nevada into a student's daily education curricula;
- JAG Nevada school wait list;

- The JAG Nevada career development conference;
- The cost of JAG Nevada;
- Tracking of program data; and
- Making JAG Nevada part of the Nevada educational process.

AGENDA ITEM V—PRESENTATION CONCERNING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND THE NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Pat Hickey, Executive Director, Charter School Association of Nevada, testified on CTE program enrollment and graduation rates (Agenda Item V A). He stated career-focused magnet and charter schools could be a solution to raising the State's graduation rate and assisting Nevada in realizing its economic goals.

There was discussion between Assemblywoman Tolles and Mr. Hickey regarding Nevada's one CTE charter school and student transportation issues.

Nate Mackinnon, Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges, Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE), outlined the five strategic goals for Nevada's community colleges:

1. Provide access to all Nevadans into any college or career program;
2. Improve student success and overall completion rates;
3. Close the achievement gap;
4. Align degrees and certificates to workforce needs; and
5. Pursue research to solve the twenty-first century problems facing all Nevadans.

He further advised of an NSHE Memorandum of Understanding to allow certain CTE credits earned by Nevada high school students to qualify as college credit. Mr. Mackinnon emphasized that high school students can earn free college credits in high school with CTE elective courses.

Jesse Welsh, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Professional Development Division, CCSD, delineated the success of the CCSD's CTE programs and course offerings, differentiating between dual credit and articulating credit (Agenda Item V B).

Eric Stensrud, Project Facilitator, Career and Technical Education Department, Curriculum and Professional Development Division, CCSD, provided specific CTE school highlights (Agenda Item V B).

Dr. Welsh articulated the demand for CTE programs within the CCSD (Agenda Item V B).

Felicia Gonzales, School Associate Superintendent, Career and Technical Academies and Performance Zone 6, CCSD, emphasized the need to create additional CTE opportunities (Agenda Item V B). She highlighted the following challenges:

- Funding for CTE does not align with the school year or Assembly Bill 469 (Chapter 11, *Statutes of Nevada 2017*);
- Equipment needs, including new equipment purchases and maintenance and repair of existing equipment;
- Funding sustainability for full-time teaching positions;
- Maintenance of broadly written CTE course standards; and
- Dual credit versus CTE college credit.

Ms. Gonzales concluded her comments with potential solutions (Agenda Item V B):

- A year of planning with CTE funds;
- Funds to support equipment repairs and maintenance, upgrades to facilities, and CTE personnel;
- Regularly updated, flexible CTE course standards; and
- Allowing students to earn dual credit instead of CTE credit recognized at the post secondary level and labeled as high demand.

Discussion ensued among Committee members and presenters on the following topics:

- Student transportation challenges to CTE schools/programs;
- The percentage of students bused out of their neighborhoods to attend a CTE school;
- The fact that there is not a CTE program in every school, but a CTE program in every geographical area;
- The selection process for schools and students to participate in CTE programs;

- The possibility of CTE programs at the middle school level;
- The struggle to get girls interested in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and CTE programs;
- The limited number of CTE seats available and whether that will further hinder girls involved in CTE programs;
- Communication about CTE opportunities by school guidance departments to students and parents;
- Students' receipt of college credit for dual credit courses; and
- The alignment of courses and credits.

Clarissa M. Cota, J.D., Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs, College of Southern Nevada (CSN), presented CTE and dual credit program information in collaboration with the CCSD (Agenda Item V C-1).

Leticia Wells, CTE College Credit Program Manager, CSN, provided information on cost savings for dual credit courses, race and ethnicity demographics, the service area, and statewide articulation agreements (Agenda Item V C-1).

Dr. Cota outlined the challenges, benefits, and need for CTE articulated college credit programs (Agenda Item V C-1).

There was discussion among Committee members and presenters on the following issues:

- The need to identify best practices; and
- Computer and internet access and deficit issues in rural counties.

Bret Murphy, M.Ed., Dean of Business and Technology, Great Basin College (GBC), provided information GBC's CTE programs and collaboration with the Elko County School District (Agenda Item V C-1).

Shane Sutton, CTE Facilitator, Elko County School District, discussed ongoing collaborations partnerships with the local business community. He outlined school district challenges:

- Hiring qualified instructors;
- Grant funding structure; and
- The availability and upgrading of facilities.

Mr. Murphy outlined the partnership benefits and challenges of CTE college credit under the statewide agreement (Agenda Item V C-1).

Discussion ensued between Vice Chair Thompson and Mr. Murphy regarding the student articulation percentage for CTE programs and mentoring programs available.

J. Kyle Dalpe, Ph.D., Interim Dean, Technical Sciences Division, Dean's Office, Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), presented an overview of CTE programs and dual credit courses available at TMCC (Agenda Item V C-1). He provided handouts explaining TMCC's CTE programs (Agenda Item V C-2).

Dana Ryan, Ed.D., Director, Department of Signature Academies/CTE, Office of Academics, Washoe County School District (WCSD), shared information on the increased CTE course enrollment and the challenges (Agenda item V C-1). She indicated the need to train educational personnel on the advantages of CTE courses.

Dr. Dalpe identified the biggest obstacle facing CTE programs is recognizing the value of community colleges and CTE pathways.

Discussion ensued among Committee members and presenters on the following matters:

- Graduation rates for different ethnic groups;
- Impact of a one-size-fits-all program;
- Understanding cultural competency and how it affects learning and graduation rates; and
- The impact of internet access and bandwidth.

Subsequent to the meeting, follow-up information regarding the WCSD's CTE programs was submitted by Lindsay Anderson, Director, Government Affairs, WCSD (Agenda Item V C-3).

Dr. Dalpe, on behalf of Western Nevada College (WNC), provided a brief overview of WNC's CTE programs and challenges (Agenda Item V C-1).

Michele Lewis, CTE Administrator and Vice Principal, Carson High School, Carson City School District, presented information regarding Carson City School District's CTE programs (Agenda Item V D-1). She submitted information on the civil engineering and architecture program of study and career expo (Agenda Item V D-2).

Discussion ensued among Committee members and presenters regarding:

- The challenge in attracting female students to STEM;

- A data source on the availability, cost, and length of certificate programs and wage earnings;
- Career readiness grant programs; and
- Program completers' wage earnings.

Ms. Lewis elaborated on the STEM female recruitment efforts with Project Lead The Way.

AGENDA ITEM VI—PRESENTATION CONCERNING CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT THE STATE LEVEL

Steve Canavero, Ph.D., Superintendent, Nevada's Department of Education (NDE), delivered an overview of the Career Pathways presentation (Agenda Item VI A-1).

Kristine Nelson, Education Programs Director, The Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning and Education Options, Student Achievement Division, NDE, delivered information on the education-workforce-economic development pipeline alignment, path to a world-class education system, and the educational demands of the new Nevada economic landscape (Agenda Item VI A-1).

Dawn Burns, Ed.D., Education Programs Supervisor, New Skills for Youth (NSFY), The Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning and Education Options, Student Achievement Division, NDE, defined the six guidelines and accomplishments of NSFY (Agenda Item VI A-1).

Karsten Heise, Technology Commercialization Director, Governor's Office of Economic Development, introduced information on the Learn and Earn Career Pathways program (LEAP) (Agenda Item VI A-1). He highlighted employer engagement and business participation as essential components of LEAP.

Ms. Nelson conferred CTE as the foundation for LEAP's alignment to high-priority, in-demand occupations and skills.

Frank Woodbeck, Executive Director for Workforce Development, NSHE, defined the role of community colleges as open access institutions serving two vital roles for student pathways (Agenda Item VI A-1).

Manny Lamarre, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation, reviewed key partnerships, industry-recognized credentials, and the economic and workforce information pipeline (Agenda Item VI A-1).

Richard Laine, NSFY Coach (Nevada), Council of Chief State School Officers, shared information on new education realities and why credentials matter (Agenda Item VI A-1).

Ms. Nelson concluded by delineating the CTE challenges and opportunities facing Nevada (Agenda Item VI A-1). She emphasized the need to sustain and elevate this work to ensure students graduate college and career ready. Ms. Nelson referenced the CTE fast facts document (Agenda Item VI A-2).

There was discussion among Committee members and presenters on the following topics:

- Programs available to assist the underemployed and unemployed;
- Factual graduation rates;
- Differences between NSFY and CTE programs;
- Efforts to get the traditional student interested in CTE programs; and
- The reasons why ten countries are ranked above the United States with respect to education and job skills.

Subsequent to the meeting, Dr. Canavero submitted responses to questions regarding equity in CTE programs, CTE teacher shortages, Teach NV scholarships, and the Great Teaching and Leading Fund (Agenda Item VI A-3).

AGENDA ITEM VII—DISCUSSION CONCERNING A PRELIMINARY GAP ANALYSIS COMPARING NEVADA’S CTE PROGRAMS TO HIGH-PERFORMING EDUCATION SYSTEMS INTERNATIONALLY

Zhan Okuda-Lim, Director of Policy and Analytical Leadership, The Public Education Foundation (PEF), and Resident Fellow, Leadership Institute of Nevada, provided an update on the PEF’s work in the development of a framework to create and evaluate education policy proposals and serve as an objective, impartial broker of information (Agenda Item VII).

Brent Husson, President and Founder, Nevada Succeeds, testified to the need for a long-term coherent policy agenda and consistency. He stressed the one major issue affecting Nevada’s quality of education is educational personnel and support staff structural issues, which impact programs and students. Mr. Husson encouraged the Committee to address the human talent issue for educational success. He suggested hiring the National Center of Education and the Economy to perform the technical work.

AGENDA ITEM VIII—DISCUSSION REGARDING SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL CTE PROGRAMS AND EMERGING NATIONAL PROGRAMS

(This agenda item was taken out of order.)

Ryan Reyna, Senior Associate, Education Strategy Group, submitted a presentation regarding career readiness in the United States (Agenda item VIII A). He indicated higher education is the lynchpin of future economic and career success.

Joellen Kralik, Policy Specialist, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), shared information on how to build a world-class education system state by state with a focus primarily on highly-effective, intellectually rigorous CTE programs. (Agenda Item VIII B).

Senator Woodhouse suggested Committee members view NCSL's webinar on Vocational Education and Training in Switzerland for more information.

AGENDA ITEM IX—PRESENTATION CONCERNING SCHOOL DISCIPLINE PRACTICES AND DATA

Emily Morgan, Director of Content Development, Justice Center, The Council of State Governments, submitted a presentation on school discipline in Nevada (Agenda Item IX).

Discussion ensued among Committee members and Ms. Morgan regarding classroom management, knowledge of cultural competency, student suspensions, and the unwarranted removal of a student from a classroom.

In a discussion regarding the unwarranted removal of a student, Charlene Russell-Tucker, Chief Operating Officer, Connecticut State Department of Education, responded the Connecticut State Department of Education reports to the Connecticut State Board of Education and the Legislature disaggregated data across the state. She explained that data provided at the state level can be further explored to determine the issues, determine types of incidents, and indicate interventions to be utilized.

AGENDA ITEM X—PUBLIC COMMENT

Sylvia Lazos, J.D., Justice Myron Leavitt Professor of Law, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, agreed with the school discipline presentation. She claimed that no CCSD principal is considering the strong cultural bias in Nevada. Professor Lazos specified the need for a legislative mandate in the transparency of data. She additionally called for funding for cultural competency training for educational personnel.

Theresa Leeds, parent and school organizational team member, Las Vegas Academy of the Arts, asserted the arts involve creativity and problem solving and should receive CTE funding as part of the technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics program.

Vice Chair Thompson recognized written comments on juvenile justice and school discipline from Jack Martin, resident of Las Vegas (Agenda Item X).

draft

AGENDA ITEM XI—ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Harper
Senior Research Secretary

Kelly S. Richard
Senior Principal Policy Analyst

Jen Sturm
Senior Policy Analyst

APPROVED BY:

Senator Moises (Mo) Denis
Chair

Date: _____

MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM	WITNESS/ENTITY	DESCRIPTION
Agenda Item III A	Dr. Lisa Morris Hibbler, Director, Department of Youth Development and Social Innovation, City of Las Vegas	Written Testimony
Agenda Item III B	Raymond Bacon, Executive Director, Nevada Manufacturers Association	Written Testimony
Agenda Item IV A-1	Rene Cantu, Executive Director, Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG Nevada)	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item IV A-2	Rene Cantu, Executive Director, JAG Nevada, Incorporated	Program Information
Agenda Item V A	Pat Hickey, Executive Director, Charter School Association of Nevada	Written Testimony
Agenda Item V B	Jesse Welsh, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Professional Development Division, Clark County School District (CCSD)	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item V C-1	College of Southern Nevada, CCSD, Great Basin College, Truckee Meadows Community College (TMCC), Washoe County School District (WCSD), and Western Nevada College	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item V C-2	J. Kyle Dalpe, Ph.D., Interim Dean, Technical Sciences Division, Dean's Office, TMCC	Information on CTE Programs
Agenda Item V C-3	Lindsay Anderson, Director, Government Affairs, WCSD	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item V D-1	Michele Lewis, CTE Administrator and Vice Principal, Carson High School, Carson City School District	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item V D-2	Michele Lewis, Administrator for CTE and Vice Principal, Carson High School, Carson City School District	CTE Program and Expo Information
Agenda Item VI A-1	Steve Canavero, Ph.D., Superintendent, Nevada's Department of Education (NDE)	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item VI A-2	Kristine Nelson, Education Programs Director, The Office of Career Readiness, Adult Learning and Education Options, Student Achievement Division, NDE	CTE Fast Facts
Agenda Item VI A-3	Steve Canavero, Ph.D., Superintendent, NDE	Follow-up Response

Agenda Item VII	Zhan Okuda-Lim, Director of Policy and Analytical Leadership, The Public Education Foundation, and Resident Fellow, Leadership Institute of Nevada	Written Testimony
Agenda Item VIII A	Ryan Reyna, Senior Associate, Education Strategy Group	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item VIII B	Joellen Kralik, Policy Specialist, National Conference of State Legislatures	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item IX	Emily Morgan, Director of Content Development, Justice Center, The Council of State Governments	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item X	Jack Martin, resident of Las Vegas	Written Testimony

The Summary Minutes are supplied as an informational service. Copies of all meeting materials are on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada. You may contact the Library at www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/research/library/feedbackmail.cfm or (775) 684-6827.