NEVADA LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
(*Nevada Revised Statutes* 218E.605)

SUMMARY MINUTES

The seventh and final meeting of the Legislative Committee on Education (LCE) for the 2017–2018 Interim was held on Thursday, August 09, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 3138, Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4401, Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The agenda, minutes, meeting materials, and audio or video recording of the meeting are available on the Committee's meeting page. The audio or video recording may also be found at https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Granicus/. Copies of the audio or video record can be obtained through the Publications Office of the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) (publications@lcb.state.nv.us or 775/684-6835).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN CARSON CITY:

Senator Moises (Mo) Denis, Chair
Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson, Vice Chair
Senator Donald (Don) G. Gustavson
Senator Patricia (Pat) Spearman
Senator Joyce Woodhouse
Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson
Assemblywoman Brittney Miller
Assemblywoman Jill Tolles

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
Victoria Gonzalez, Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Christina Harper, Research Policy Assistant, Research Division
Crystal Rowe, Receptionist/Research Policy Assistant, Research Division

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 seventh and final meeting of the LCE. He reviewed general meeting and testimony guidelines.

AGENDA ITEM III—PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Denis called for public comment.

Kelly Martinez Crompton, Government Affairs Officer, City of Las Vegas, expressed support for Recommendations 21, 24, 25, and 26 (b), (c), and (d) of the work session document (WSD) (Agenda Item X A).

Dan Musgrove, Vice Chair, Nevada Children's Behavioral Health Consortium; Vice Chair, Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium; and President, Dan Musgrove Advocacy, Inc., outlined and asked for support of three statewide school specific priorities (Agenda Item III A).

Meredith Smith, Director of Policy, Nevada Succeeds, indicated support (Agenda Item III B) for Recommendations 1, 5, 11, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 38 of the WSD (Agenda Item X A).

Mary Alber, M.B.A., Ph.D., Cofounder and Board President, Education Innovation Collaborative (EIC), expressed support and commitment to improving Nevada's educational system to empower all students to thrive to their individual potential (Agenda Item III C).

Debb Oliver, Ed.D., Executive Director, EIC, voiced support for a systemic transformative change of Nevada's educational system (Agenda Item III D).

Priya Ahlawat, M.A., M.Ed., Cofounder and Board Member, EIC, advocated for personalized learning (Agenda Item III E).

Jen Loescher, Middle School Math Project Facilitator, Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program, and Teaching Policy Fellow, TeachPlus Nevada, expressed support for Recommendation 19 of the WSD (Agenda Item X A).

Rebecca Garcia, parent, Clark County School District (CCSD), urged for an increase in student base funding recognizing the costs to ensure adequate funding.

Brenda Pearson, Director of Professional Learning, Clark County Education Association, voiced support for Recommendation 19 of the WSD (Agenda Item X A).

Dora Uchel, Vice President, National Federation of the Blind (NFB), Northern Nevada Chapter, asked the LCE to support a Braille literacy bill draft request (BDR).

Jeanine Mooers, Member, NFB, Northern Nevada Chapter, outlined the importance of Braille literacy (Agenda Item III F).

Keeli Killian, President-Elect, Nevada School Counselor Association (NVSCA), identified three key areas for inclusion of social workers into WSD recommendations (Agenda Item III G).

Marsha Irvin, Regional Vice President and Senior Director of Achievement, West Territory, Catapult Learning, representing Yvette Williams, Chair, Clark County Black Caucus, provided written testimony (Agenda Item III H) outlining support and amendments to WSD recommendations.

Clifton Berry, Member, School Organizational Team (SOT), Lewis E. Rowe Elementary School, CCSD, requested consideration of a BDR to support parents and SOTs.

Chris Daly, Deputy Executive Director of Government Relations, Nevada State Education Association, expressed the following: (1) concern with Recommendation 15 (Agenda item X A); (2) support for Recommendation 4 (Agenda Item X A); and (3) concern with chronic underfunding of Nevada schools.

Jared Busker, Associate Director, Children's Advocacy Alliance, voiced support for early childhood education initiatives.

Linda Buckard, resident, Las Vegas, Nevada, outlined the need for education content curriculum improvement and fiscal accountability and transparency.

AGENDA ITEM IV—APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON JUNE 21, 2018

MOTION: Senator Gustavson moved to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2018, meeting. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson and passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM V—PRESENTATION CONCERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMUNITY BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Maggie Carlton, Assembly District 14, and Cochair, CCSD Community Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC), and Sylvia Lazos, Policy Director, Educate Nevada Now, and Cochair, CCSD CBAC, presented information on the CBAC's activities (Agenda Item V).

AGENDA ITEM VI—DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING STUDENT SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

Steve Canavero, Ph.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction, Nevada's Department of Education (NDE), and Member, Statewide School Safety Task Force, framed the activities of the Student Well-Being Working Group.

Jill Tolles, Assembly District 25, and Member, Statewide School Safety Task Force, presented information and recommendations from the Task Force related to student well-being (Agenda Item VI A).

Dr. Canavero outlined physical infrastructure recommendations in the Task Force's initial report dated July 20, 2018, (Agenda Item VI B).

Discussion ensued among presenters and committee members regarding:

- Additional funding sources;
- Prioritization of schools with the greatest need;
- School climate surveys and reported incidents;
- Inclusion of interfaith groups for assistance following an incident; and
- Staff panic buttons.

AGENDA ITEM VII—PRESENTATION CONCERNING EDUCATION FUNDING

Jenn Blackhurst, President, Honoring Our Public Education (HOPE) Nevada and Fund Our Future Nevada, together with Amanda Morgan, Esquire, Legal Director, Educate Nevada Now and Fund Our Future Nevada, presented information on their vision, goals, and recommendations for education funding (Agenda Item VII A).

There was discussion regarding outreach efforts and student and parental input.

Sylvia Lazos and Jose Solorio, Education Cochairs, Latino Leadership Council (LLC), provided testimony regarding the chronic underfunding of Nevada's public schools, the benefits of student-weighted funding, and the success of Zoom and Victory school programs (Agenda Item VII B-1). Following the meeting, LLC submitted revised written testimony (Agenda Item VII B-2).

AGENDA ITEM VIII—PRESENTATION CONCERNING THE PRELIMINARY REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT RELATED TO THE FUNDING OF PUBLIC EDUCATION (SENATE BILL 178 [CHAPTER 453, *STATUTES OF NEVADA* 2017])

Steve Canavero, Ph.D., previously identified, presented information on the study of the student-centered funding system (Agenda Item VIII A-1).

Amanda Brown, Senior Associate, Augenblick, Palaich and Associates, submitted a draft of the *Nevada School Finance Study* (Agenda Item VIII B-1) and reviewed recommendations included in the *Nevada School Finance Study* (Agenda Item VIII B-2).

Michael Griffith, Principal Contractor, School Finance, Education Commission of the States (ECS), outlined how the ECS could provide support to Nevada concerning the *Nevada School Finance Study* recommendations (Agenda Item VIII B-2).

Dr. Canavero offered conceptual BDRs for consideration (Agenda Item VIII A-2).

Discussion ensued on the following concerns:

- Technical assistance provided to school districts;
- Definition of at-risk students;
- How the at-risk designation could affect a weighted funding formula;
- High-performing schools that do not receive categorical funding;
- Social worker and early childhood worker salaries;
- Best pathway to provide for adequate student funding;
- Wages and factors that affect the comparative wage index;
- Percentage of educators who receive public assistance; and
- Budget clarity and transparency.

AGENDA ITEM IX—PRESENTATION ON THE STATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN NEVADA

Thom Reilly, D.P.A., Chancellor, Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE), provided information on NSHE institutions and the five goals of the strategic plan (Agenda Item IX A).

There was discussion on the following issues:

- Funding for student assistance programs leading to graduation;
- Closing the achievement gap;
- Duplicating successful educational programs; and
- Ensuring energy research to develop solutions to the critical issues facing twenty-first century Nevada.

Chair Denis read into the record a letter dated August 1, 2018, from the Committee to Conduct a Study Concerning the Cost and Affordability of Higher Education regarding the Nevada Promise Scholarship (Agenda Item IX B).

AGENDA ITEM X—WORK SESSION—DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RELATING TO:

Chair Denis introduced the WSD (Agenda Item X A) and explained the LCE could submit no more than ten BDRs.

Jen Sturm, previously identified, provided introductory work session remarks.

A. The Study of Nevada's Education System

1. Propose legislation to create a long-term stakeholder group to develop a statewide vision and comprehensive system of education. The group would:

    a. Oversee a benchmarking or gap analysis study comparing Nevada to high-performing international and national education systems and make recommendations on which components should be included in Nevada;

    b. Review the findings of any previous or ongoing studies related to funding in order to meet identified objectives; and

    c. Consider hiring the National Center on Education and the Economy to perform the technical work.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 1 (Agenda Item X A).

The Committee discussed Recommendation 1 and how the Maryland model relates to Nevada's Plan.

Senator Woodhouse submitted a substitute motion (Agenda Item X B):

1. Propose legislation to create a long-term stakeholder group, patterned after the Maryland stakeholder group, to develop a statewide vision and implementation plan to create a world-class education system, so that Nevada's students can match the performance of the world's best. The group would:

    a. Oversee a benchmarking or gap analysis study comparing Nevada's education policies to those of high-performing international and domestic education systems to enable Nevada to reach high student performance with equity. As part of the gap analysis, make recommendation on how to adapt international domestic education policies into a coherent system that work for Nevada's context:

    b. Review the findings of any previous and ongoing studies related to funding in order to meet identified objectives;

    c. Develop cost analyses and an implementation plan for the recommendations; and

    d. Consider hiring the National Center on Education and the Economy, or an organization with similar qualities, to perform the technical work.

Chair Denis stated that recommendations for possible BDRs would be held for discussion, motion, and vote until all recommendations have been considered.

B. Funding of Education

2. Budgeting—Include a statement in the Committee's final report to express support for continued discussion between the CCSD and LCB staff concerning budgetary timelines.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 2 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Vice Chair Thompson moved to approve Recommendation 2. The motion was seconded by Senator Woodhouse and passed unanimously.

3. Equity Allocation Model—Send a letter to NDE to explain that due to the lack of time to hear, review, and make changes to the equity allocation model prior to NDE's adoption, the Committee is not making a formal recommendation related to the equity allocation model presented on June 21, 2018.

    AND/OR

    Propose legislation to amend the timing of NDE's presentation of the review and revisions to the model to the LCE. Under current law, the presentation is not due until July 1, making it difficult for the Committee to consider and adopt recommendations prior to their implementation by the superintendent. The Committee could consider a requirement that

the superintendent present the review and revisions by May 1 and prohibit implementation prior to July 1, or other dates.

Ms. Sturm summarized Recommendation 3 of the WSD (Agenda Item X A). Chair Denis stated the second part of Recommendation 3 would be discussed following a review of all recommendations.

MOTION: Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved to approve sending a letter to NDE explaining that due to the lack of time to hear, review, and make changes to the equity allocation model prior to NDE's adoption, the Committee is not making a formal recommendation related to the equity allocation model presented on June 21, 2018. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Tolles and passed unanimously.

4. Increase Education Funding from Certain Revenue Sources—Send a letter to the Governor and members of the 80th Nevada Legislature to express support for:

   a. Allowing Initiative Petition 1 (IP1) (Chapter 4, *Statutes of Nevada* 2009), otherwise known as the Room Tax Initiative, to go into effect as written and submitted by Nevada voters;

   b. Dedicating funding from the 10 percent retail excise tax on recreational marijuana to increase K–12 education funding; and

   c. Ensuring revenue from Question 2's (2016 General Election) 15 percent excise tax on wholesale marijuana increases K–12 education funding, rather than supplanting the state's contribution to the K–12 education budget.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 4 (Agenda Item X A).

Discussion ensued among members regarding IP1 revenue distribution and certain provisions of Question 2, which cannot be changed by the Legislature until 2020.

MOTION: Vice Chair Thompson moved to approve Recommendation 4 with the addition of supplanting language used in (c) to also be inserted into (b). The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Miller and passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued among members and Steve Canavero, Ph.D., previously identified, on the development of a BDR to address the education funding formula as proposed during earlier presentations under Agenda Item VIII (Agenda Item VIII A-2.)

MOTION: Senator Gustavson moved to include a statement in the LCE's final report to support, in concept, the development of a new foundation funding model moving forward as a personal BDR and to include that, in the interest of time, the Committee was unable to finish its work on this project before the LCE's deadline expires. The motion was seconded by Senator Spearman and passed unanimously.

C. Nevada's System of Higher Education

5. Education Preparation Programs—Send a letter to the Board of Regents to request NSHE study and provide information to the members of the Senate and Assembly Standing Committees on Education and the LCE no later than the first day of the 80th Session of the Nevada Legislature on the following:

    a. The potential creation of professional teaching schools, which may include:

        i. A clinical master's degree program, guided by professional standards of practice and research-based and oriented;

        ii. Learning in practice with expert mentors and professional teaching school partnerships; and

        iii. State of the art clinical or residency-type education, with tightly linked coursework to allow for the development of new curriculum and conduct of research;

    b. The addition of appropriate courses and capstone projects as graduation requirements that demonstrate how students know research methods; enable them to determine the effectiveness of their own work; and develop and implement improved curriculum, instruction, and assessment in their schools;

    c. Requiring interviews and other highly selective criteria for all education program applicants;

    d. Rigorous coursework requirements that include classroom management and culturally responsive teaching practices;

    e. The cost to provide a stipend or salary to student teachers;

    f. The potential cost to provide full scholarships for students who plan to attend NSHE who:

        i. Are in the top of their high school graduating class anywhere in the country;

        ii. Choose education as a major; and

        iii. Agree to a five-year service commitment in a Nevada public school as repayment; and

    g. The potential cost of a scholarship and outreach program targeted at paraprofessionals who already work directly with students to incentivize them to become licensed teachers, with a specific focus on paraprofessionals who speak Spanish.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 5 (Agenda Item X A).

There was discussion on the following issues:

- Student teaching stipends;
- Student teaching scheduling within a teacher preparation program;
- Teacher education scholarships;
- Repayment of a teacher education scholarship if the individual leaves employment prior to the five-year repayment agreement;
- Teacher scholarships and programs for paraprofessionals; and
- Availability of training programs for teachers of sight- and hearing-challenged students.

MOTION: Assemblywoman Miller moved to approve Recommendation 5 plus the following items: (1) not waiting until the end of the teacher education program to begin student teaching; (2) ensuring there is a repayment plan for an individual who leaves before the required five years of employment; (3) allowing paraprofessionals, who finish their education, to become a licensed teacher; and (4) considering individuals, other than those at the top of the class, to be eligible for an educator program scholarship. The motion was seconded by Senator Gustavson and passed unanimously.

6. School-Based Mental Health Pipeline—Send a letter to the Board of Regents requesting NSHE study and provide information to the members of the Senate and Assembly Standing Committees on Education and the LCE no later than the first day of the 80th Session of the Nevada Legislature on the following:

    a. The creation of a school-based mental health pipeline to include:

        i. Incentives for students to enter into the fields of psychology and social work through loan forgiveness programs;

        ii. Expansion of existing higher education training programs for school psychology and social work; and

        iii. Creation of stacked degree programs for school psychologists and other school-based mental health professions.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 6 (Agenda Item X A).

Following discussion regarding the letter of support, it was noted that the School Safety Task Force would make a similar recommendation to the Governor by September 1, 2018. Discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of cultural competency training in programs for school-based mental health professionals.

MOTION: Senator Spearman moved to approve Recommendation 6 to include cultural competency training. The motion was seconded by Senator Woodhouse and passed unanimously.

MOTION: Senator Woodhouse moved for the letter in Recommendation 5 be sent to the Board of Regents and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson and passed unanimously.

D. Career and Technical Education

7. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Funding—Send a letter to the Governor and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means to express support for additional funding to increase capacity in CTE programs, particularly those programs that focus on at-risk students.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 7 (Agenda Item X A).

There was discussion regarding the distribution of CTE funds.

MOTION: Vice Chair Thompson moved to approve Recommendation 7 to include language for CTE funding to focus on at-risk students living in areas where CTE programs are scarce or do not exist. The motion was seconded by Senator Woodhouse and passed unanimously.

8. Career Pathways—Send a letter to the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction requesting NDE to examine recognizing additional pathways in the arts, audio/visual technology, and communications career cluster.

Ms. Sturm presented information on Recommendation 8 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Senator Woodhouse moved to approve Recommendation 8. The motion was seconded by Senator Gustavson and passed unanimously.

9. Dual Credit Coursework—Send a letter to the Board of Trustees, superintendent of each school district, the State Board of Education, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to encourage school districts to expand dual credit coursework opportunities.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 9 WSD (Agenda Item X A).

There was discussion regarding the inclusion of language to address other avenues for students to receive credit, such as apprenticeships, internships, cooperative employment programs, and credit for coursework leading to recognition of a student's career or technical skills.

MOTION: Assemblywoman Miller moved to approve Recommendation 9 and add language to address apprenticeships, internships, cooperative employment programs, and credit for coursework leading to recognition of a student's career or technical skills. The motion was seconded by Senator Gustavson and passed unanimously.

10. Jobs for America's Graduates Funding—Send a letter to the Governor and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means to express support for additional funding for the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) Nevada program to implement the JAG program in more Nevada schools, including middle schools.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 10 (Agenda Item X A).

Vice Chair Thompson requested the letter refer to written testimony submitted by JAG with justification for conceptual enhancement and scope of work (Agenda Item X C).

MOTION: Vice Chair Thompson moved to approve Recommendation 10. The motion was seconded by Senator Spearman and passed unanimously.

E. Early Childhood Education

11. Early Childhood Education and Care Funding—Send a letter to the Governor, members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, State Board of Education, and Superintendent of Public Instruction to express support for an increase in funding to allow Nevada families to access high-quality early childhood education and care. The letter would include the following recommendations:

    a. Increase the child care development fund contribution to allow more families access to early childhood education programs, to include the use of current market rates to reimburse providers, and expand access to the program for parents attending school or training;

    b. Develop and expand pre-Kindergarten (pre-K) programs offered in both public and private sectors through inclusion in the state education funding formula and/or enhancement of the State Preschool Program;

    c. Increase access to early childhood programs in high poverty areas and increase funding for the child care subsidy program for seats in 4- and 5-star rated child care centers;

    d. Prioritize students for whom pre-K will close the opportunity gap the fastest (e.g. students enrolled in free and reduced price lunch and English learners); and

    e. Provide funding for parental involvement and family engagement classes and other professional development opportunities for early childhood education and care workers.

Ms. Sturm provided an overview of Recommendation 11 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Senator Woodhouse moved to approve Recommendation 11. The motion was seconded by Senator Spearman and passed unanimously.

F. Educational Personnel

12. Alternative Route to Licensure (ARL)—Propose legislation to allow military personnel, veterans, and their spouses, who have completed another state's ARL coursework and testing, to be issued an Nevada ARL license in order to complete two to three years of successful classroom teaching required for issuance of renewal professional license.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 12 (Agenda Item X A).

Chair Denis stated Recommendation 12 would be discussed following a review of all recommendations.

13. Expedited Licensure of Military Spouses—Propose legislation to require the expediting of all teaching licensure and school district employment applications for spouses of active duty personnel.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 13 (Agenda Item X A).

Chair Denis stated Recommendation 13 would be reviewed following a review of all recommendations.

14. Veteran Employment in School Districts—Propose legislation to allow a United States Department of Defense Joint Service transcript, when available, to be considered for training and experience credit for veterans who are seeking skilled trade licenses to qualify for jobs with school districts.

Ms. Sturm provided an overview of Recommendation 14 (Agenda Item X A).

Chair Denis stated Recommendation 14 would be discussed following a review of all recommendations.

15. Investigation and Discipline of Licensees—Propose legislation to allow NDE to investigate and discipline licensees for certain misconduct related to safe and respectful learning.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 15 (Agenda Item X A).

Discussion ensued regarding the increase in teacher-related complaints to NDE and whether school districts or NDE should have investigative authority.

Chair Denis recommended to Dr. Canavero that this issue warrants further discussion, and a BDR could be initiated through a legislative committee or individual legislator.

16. School Psychologists—Propose legislation to establish a state definition of "school psychologist" and require each district to annually report on the number of school psychologists employed, the ratio of students to school psychologist, and a plan to improve the ratio to meet the nationally accepted 1:500–700.

Ms. Sturm provided an overview of Recommendation 16 (Agenda Item X A).

Assemblywoman Tolles advised that the School Safety Task Force has incorporated this issue into its recommendations.

Chair Denis suggested the School Safety Task Force move forward with a BDR on this issue.

17. Standards for Research Methods—Propose legislation to require the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to amend licensure renewal requirements that incorporate research methods, training, and professional development requirements.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 17 (Agenda Item X A).

There was discussion to include Recommendation 17 with Recommendation 19.

Discussion ensued regarding teacher licensure renewal requirements.

Chair Denis directed Recommendation 17 to be included with Recommendation 19.

18. Standards for Student Teaching—Propose legislation requiring the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to develop rigorous student teaching standards and a licensure endorsement for supervising teachers.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 18 (Agenda Item X A).

Following discussion regarding the current rigor of student teaching and an endorsement to supervise student teaching, Chair Denis stated that Recommendation 18 could be included with Recommendation 19.

19. Tiered License Structure—Propose legislation to create a task force comprised of current practicing teachers, persons with expertise in systems design, a representative of NDE, and a representative of a collective bargaining unit to develop a tiered career pathway for educators. The task force would study professional designations and employment designations (to include those of paraprofessionals and early childhood educators) within the state and make recommendations to the Commission on Professional Standards in Education for the implementation of a tiered license structure connected to and informed by formalized and specified scopes of practice.

Ms. Sturm provided an overview of Recommendation 19 (Agenda Item X A).

There was discussion to include representation from NSHE and the Office of Workforce Innovation (OWINN), Office of the Governor, on the task force.

MOTION: Assemblywoman Tolles moved that, following a review of all recommendations, the LCE approve Recommendation 19 with the addition of NSHE and OWINN representatives on the task force, and Recommendations 17 and 18 be considered by the task force. The motion was seconded by Senator Gustavson and passed unanimously.

20. Peer Assistance and Review—Send a letter to the Governor and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means to express support for additional funding to expand peer assistance and review (PAR) programs statewide, including:

    a. Funding for PAR programs and high-quality induction programs throughout the state;

    b. Setting a goal, vision, and timeline for all new teachers and any teacher new to a district to have access to a robust induction program in the State of Nevada, regardless of the district in which they work;

    c. Working with the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to develop a certification or credential standards and process for PAR consulting teachers and/or equivalent supervising teachers to participate in induction programs in the state and incentivize districts to use the definition;

    d. Setting our evaluation criteria for induction programs;

    e. Once defined, financially incentivizing districts to require any consulting teacher or equivalent professional to: (1) maintain certification; and (2) obtain ongoing professional development specifically for being a consulting teacher; and

    f. Integrating PAR into other professional frameworks, including formal career pathways.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 20 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Senator Woodhouse moved to approve Recommendation 20. The motion was seconded by Senator Spearman and passed unanimously.

G. Student Health and Safety

21. Data Collection and Distribution Related to School Discipline—Propose legislation to provide for the collection and reporting through Infinite Campus of all school discipline data by student subgroups, including suspension and expulsion counts as separate incidents. Include a mandate requiring NDE to:

    a. Develop and provide guidance to the districts on expanding data collection;

b. Standardize definitions of offense types and sanctions in order to ensure consistency across schools and districts; and

c. Provide training and professional development to build staff capacity to utilize Infinite Campus to create reports, interpret results, and develop responsive action plans.

Ms. Sturm provided an overview of Recommendation 21 (Agenda Item X A).

Chair Denis stated Recommendation 21 would be discussed following a review of all recommendations.

22. School Climate and Discipline Data Reports—Propose legislation to require NDE to provide an annual report to the Legislature on school discipline metrics and identified areas in which NDE is to provide support or attention to address school discipline data trends. Further, require NDE to include school discipline metrics in its regular report to the State Board of Education.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 22 (Agenda Item X A).

Chair Denis stated Recommendation 22 would be reviewed following a review of all recommendations.

23. School Police—Propose legislation to include school police in the statutory definition of school resource officer and allow expanded jurisdiction for school police to conduct investigations, engage in crime prevention programs, and participate in joint task forces.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 23 (Agenda Item X A).

Following a discussion, it was agreed to send a letter of support for Recommendation 23; this issue will be addressed by the School Safety Task Force.

MOTION: Vice Chair Thompson moved to send a letter to the Governor supporting proposed legislation in Recommendation 23. The motion was seconded by Senator Woodhouse and passed unanimously.

24. Use of Zero Tolerance Policies in School Discipline—Propose legislation to:

a. Prohibit exclusionary discipline in grades pre-K through 5;

b. Make districts responsible for educating youth pending expulsion during due process; and

c. Increase depth of review for students with a disability, foster youth, and homeless youth prior to administering suspensions and expulsions.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 24 (Agenda Item X A).

Discussion ensued regarding the use of the language "zero tolerance" and the ability of schools to administer the appropriate discipline when considering a student's situation to ensure the safety of all students and staff.

Vice Chair Thompson stated he would submit a personal BDR on this issue.

Chair Denis removed Recommendation 24 from consideration by the LCE.

25. School Discipline Data Availability—Send a letter to request NDE to:

    a. Establish a clear pathway to school discipline data on its website, making it more intuitive and user friendly;

    b. Introduce a Nevada School Performance Framework indicator that recognizes schools for an overall reduction in exclusionary discipline, including a reduction in disproportionality;

    c. Consider including school discipline and climate data on the Nevada Report Card website; and

    d. Explore opportunities to develop more customized reports for discipline data so schools and districts can drill down to their particular needs.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 25 (Agenda Item X A).

There was discussion concerning whether Recommendation 25 would affect the school rating system.

MOTION: Senator Gustavson moved to approve Recommendation 25. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson.

Prior to a vote, there was discussion to amend Recommendation 25 by removing (b).

MOTION AMENDED: Senator Gustavson moved to amend his previous motion to remove (b) from Recommendation 25. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson and passed unanimously.

26. Restorative Justice Programs Funding—Send a letter to the Governor and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means to express support for funding for restorative justice programs, to include the following:

    a. Implementation of the Invo Multidisciplinary Program to Address Childhood Trauma on a statewide basis;

    b. Evidence-based restorative justice options to improve school culture, climate, safety, and student outcomes (e.g. multi-tiered support systems, early warning systems, positive behavioral interventions and supports, social workers in schools, social emotional learning

curriculum, and trauma informed practices). Implement policy changes to create aligned statewide expectations to ensure return on investment and create funding streams through state grants;

c. State juvenile assessment center models that focus on assessment and assistance to youth and families such as the Harbor in Clark and Washoe Counties; and

d. School justice partnerships that incorporate restorative justice approaches to divert children from the juvenile justice system and school justice pilot programs with cross agency stakeholder commitment.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 26 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Vice Chair Thompson moved to approve Recommendation 26, with an amendment to (a) stating, "Implementation of programs to address childhood trauma on a statewide basis." The motion was seconded by Senator Woodhouse and passed unanimously.

27. School Police Funding—Send a letter to the Governor and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means to express support for funding for school police officers in middle schools.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 27 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved to approve Recommendation 27. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Miller.

Prior to a vote, discussion ensued regarding whether to include mental health professionals and school resource officers in the middle schools.

MOTION AMENDED: Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved to amend her previous motion to include support for mental health professionals and school resource officers. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Miller.

Discussion continued regarding these supports in the middle schools.

MOTION WITHDRAWN: Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson withdrew her motion.

There was further discussion on this issue.

MOTION: Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved to approve Recommendation 27 to send a letter to the Governor and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means to express support for funding for school police officers in middle schools. The motion was seconded by Senator Spearman and passed unanimously.

28. School Climate Surveys—Send a letter to request NDE to identify a subset of school climate survey questions to be asked across the state so results can be compared across schools and districts and make the climate survey data publicly available. The NDE should consider whether school climate surveys should include an "other" category for gender as an option for students who do not identify as one gender.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 28 (Agenda Item X A).

Discussion ensued regarding gender identification options on the school climate survey.

MOTION: Vice Chair Thompson moved to send a letter to NDE requesting a consideration of whether school climate surveys should include one or more additional categories for gender to address the rights and needs of persons with diverse gender identities or expressions.

Prior to a second on the motion, there was discussion with regard to the expansion of gender identification categories.

The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson.

Prior to a vote on the motion, discussion continued on gender identification categories and student safety.

The previous motion by Vice Chair Thompson and seconded by Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson passed. Senator Gustavson voted no.

29. Sexual Harassment in Schools—Send a letter to request NDE to examine:

    a. Adopting policies which allow students to report incidents of sexual harassment anonymously, particularly for students who do not have access to a device to report incidents through Safe Voice; and

    b. Providing group therapy for victims of sexual harassment.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 29 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Senator Woodhouse moved to approve Recommendation 29. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Thompson and passed unanimously.

30. Social and Emotional Learning—Send a letter to the Boards of Trustees for each school district encouraging the use of social emotional learning and programming as part of a multitiered system of support.

Ms. Sturm provided an overview of Recommendation 30 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Assemblywoman Tolles moved to approve Recommendation 30. The motion was seconded by Senator Spearman and passed unanimously.

H. Miscellaneous Matters in Education

31. Charter School Contracts—Propose legislation to provide charter school authorizers discretion with regard to the term of renewal contracts between three and ten years, retaining a six-year term for the initial license.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 31 (Agenda Item X A).

Chair Denis stated Recommendation 31 would be discussed following a review of all recommendations.

32. Charter School Regulation—Propose legislation to develop a separate statutory framework for online charter schools.

Ms. Sturm provided an overview of Recommendation 32 (Agenda Item X A).

Discussion ensued regarding a separate online charter school's framework to regulate performance and funding.

Chair Denis stated Recommendation 32 would be discussed following an assessment of all recommendations.

33. English Mastery Council—Propose legislation to extend the English Mastery Council for three years (Spring 2022) to enable the Council to continue its work in a format that allows for legislative recommendations and provides a voice for English learners in this state.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 33 (Agenda Item X A).

Chair Denis stated Recommendation 33 would be discussed following a review of all recommendations.

34. English Mastery Council—Propose legislation to expand the English Mastery Council to improve the quality of education for all students who are least proficient in English. This will help reduce the proficiency gap and support districts to serve the least proficient subgroups, as required by Nevada's plan approved under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 34 (Agenda Item X A).

Chair Denis stated Recommendation 34 would be discussed following a review of all recommendations.

35. Support for Homeless and Foster Students—Propose legislation to increase school districts' flexibility to award credits for diplomas, while in abidance of state standards, in order to increase high school graduation rates for students experiencing homelessness and those in foster care.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 35 (Agenda Item X A).

There was discussion concerning the current statutory language.

Chair Denis stated Recommendation 35 would be discussed following an evaluation of all recommendations.

36. Data Collection for Fund Recipients—Send a letter requesting NDE to create a system to track teachers in receipt of state funds for financial assistance and incentive bonuses regarding where recipients teach, what subjects they teach, classroom performance, and reasons for exiting their original placement or the profession.

Ms. Sturm provided an overview of Recommendation 36 (Agenda Item X A).

Senator Woodhouse indicated she received a request from an NDE administrator to include the following language: "The tracking of preservice teachers, completers, and graduates in state-approved NSHE, non-NSHE ARL, and traditional preparation programs."

MOTION: Senator Woodhouse moved to approve Recommendation 36 with the addition of language for the tracking of preservice teachers, completers, and graduates in state-approved NSHE, non-NSHE ARL, and traditional preparation programs. The motion was seconded by Senator Spearman and passed unanimously.

37. Disproportionality in Access—Send a letter requesting NDE to study magnet and CTE schools and programs to determine their availability at the district level and assess issues related to disproportionality of access.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 37 (Agenda Item X A).

Discussion ensued regarding the need for a study of CTE schools and programs to determine availability at the district level.

MOTION: Senator Woodhouse moved to approve Recommendation 37 to research and report on, rather than study, the availability of CTE programs and issues related to disproportionality of access. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Thompson and passed unanimously.

38. Disproportionality in Access—Send a letter to the Board of Trustees of each school district to encourage examination of a policy to require students who meet proficiency and aptitude requirements to be automatically opted-in to honors or advanced coursework placement in order to reduce disproportionality in the student population participating in those courses.

Ms. Sturm reviewed Recommendation 38 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson moved to approve Recommendation 38. The motion was seconded by Assemblywoman Tolles and passed unanimously.

39. Students with Disabilities Funding—Include a statement in the Committee's final report to express support for additional inquiry concerning transition services provided to students with disabilities who are pursuing a standard diploma.

Ms. Sturm highlighted Recommendation 39 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Senator Woodhouse move to approve Recommendation 39. The motion was seconded by Senator Spearman and passed unanimously.

40. Students with Disabilities Funding—Send a letter to the Governor and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means to express support for additional funding to allow more students with disabilities to be placed in internships and other work opportunities and to provide for early intervention services.

Ms. Sturm provided an overview of Recommendation 40 (Agenda Item X A).

MOTION: Senator Woodhouse moved to approve Recommendation 40. The motion was seconded by Senator Gustavson and passed unanimously.

Chair Denis asked if there were any other issues to discuss prior to a review of possible BDRs.

Vice Chair Thompson requested the LCE consider supporting the priorities of the Nevada Children's Behavioral Health Consortium (Agenda Item III A).

MOTION: Vice Chair Thompson moved to send a letter supporting the priorities of the Nevada Children's Behavioral Health Consortium related to education, as submitted by Dan Musgrove during public comment. The motion was seconded by Senator Woodhouse and passed unanimously.

There was discussion and agreement to also send the letter to the Governor and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means.

MOTION AMENDED: Vice Chair Thompson amended his motion to include sending the letter to the Governor and members of the Senate Committee on Finance and Assembly Committee on Ways and Means. The amendment was seconded by Senator Woodhouse and passed unanimously.

Upon a request from Chair Denis, Asher A. Killian, previously identified, reviewed the list of possible BDRs for the Committee's consideration:

- BDR 1—Recommendation 1—Creation of a long-term stakeholder group;
- BDR 2—Recommendation 3—Equity allocation model report timeline;
- BDR 3—Recommendations 12, 13, and 14—Related to veterans' issues in education;
- BDR 4—Recommendations 17, 18, and 19—Task force to study the teaching profession;

- BDR 5—Recommendations 21 and 22—Related to pupil discipline;
- BDR 6—Recommendation 31—Variable length contracts for charter schools;
- BDR 7—Recommendation 32—Creation of a framework and regulations for online charter schools;
- BDR 8—Recommendations 33 and 34—Revisions to extend the English Mastery Council; and
- BDR 9—Recommendation 35—Allowing coursework credit flexibility for homeless and foster care students.

Chair Denis pulled BDR 7 for further discussion.

MOTION: Senator Woodhouse moved to approve BDRs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9. The motion was seconded by Senator Spearman and passed unanimously.

There was discussion on BDR 7.

MOTION: Assemblywoman Tolles moved to approve BDR 7—Recommendation 32—to develop a statutory framework specific to online charter schools. The motion was seconded by Senator Gustavson and passed unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM XI—PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Denis called for public comment.

Brett Barley, Deputy Superintendent for Student Achievement, NDE, thanked the Committee for working collaboratively with NDE to improve education in Nevada.

Senator Gustavson stated it was an honor and privilege to work with the LCE, as this would be his last meeting prior to retirement from the Legislature.

Chair Denis expressed gratitude to committee members, staff, and stakeholders for their input during this process to initiate change to advance education for Nevada students.

The following documents were submitted for the record:

1. Written testimony provided by Rebecca Colbert, parent, Las Vegas, Nevada (Agenda Item XI A); and
2. Written testimony submitted by Shealene Tamez, parent, Las Vegas, Nevada (Agenda Item XI B).

AGENDA ITEM XII—ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

_____
Christina Harper
Research Policy Assistant

_____
Kelly S. Richard
Senior Principal Policy Analyst

_____
Jen Sturm
Senior Policy Analyst

APPROVED BY:

_____
Senator Moises (Mo) Denis
Chair

Date: _____

MEETING MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER/ENTITY	DESCRIPTION
Agenda Item III A	Dan Musgrove, Vice Chair, Nevada Children's Behavioral Health Consortium; Vice Chair, Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium; and President, Dan Musgrove Advocacy, Inc.,	Written Testimony
Agenda Item III B	Meredith Smith, Director of Policy, Nevada Succeeds	Written Testimony
Agenda Item III C	Mary Alber, M.B.A., Ph.D., CoFounder and Board President, Education Innovation Collaborative (EIC)	Written Testimony
Agenda Item III D	Debb Oliver, Ed.D., Executive Director, EIC	Written Testimony
Agenda Item III E	Priya Ahlawat, M.A., M.Ed., Cofounder and Board Member, EIC	Written Testimony
Agenda Item III F	Jeanine Mooers, Member, National Federation of the Blind, Northern Nevada Chapter	Written Testimony
Agenda Item III G	Keeli Killian, President-Elect, Nevada School Counselor Association	Written Testimony
Agenda Item III H	Yvette Williams, Chair, Clark County Black Caucus	Memorandum
Agenda Item V	Maggie Carlton, Assembly District 14, and Cochair, Community Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC), and Sylvia Lazos, Policy Director, Educate Nevada Now, and Cochair, CBAC	Preliminary Report
Agenda Item VI A	Jill Tolles, Assembly District 25, and Member, Statewide School Safety Task Force	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item VI B	Steve Canavero, Ph.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction, Nevada Department of Education (NDE)	Report
Agenda Item VII A	Jen Blackhurst, President, Honoring Our Public Education (HOPE) for Nevada and Fund Our Future Nevada, and Amanda Morgan, Esquire, Legal Director, Educate Nevada Now and Fund Our Future Nevada	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item VII B-1	Sylvia Lazos and Jose Solorio, Education Cochairs, Latino Leadership Council (LLC)	Written Testimony

Agenda Item VII B-2	Sylvia Lazos and Jose Solorio, Education Cochairs, LLC	Revised Written Testimony
Agenda Item VIII A-1	Steve Canavero, Ph.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction, NDE	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item VIII A-2	Steve Canavero, Ph.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction, NDE	Bill Draft Request Recommendations
Agenda Item VIII B-1	Amanda Brown, Senior Associate, Augenblick, Palaich and Associates (APA)	Study
Agenda Item VIII B-2	Amanda Brown, Senior Associate, APA, and Michael Griffith, Principal Contractor, School Finance, Education Commission of the States	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item IX A	Thom Reilly, D.P.A., Chancellor, Nevada System of Higher Education	Microsoft PowerPoint Presentation
Agenda Item IX B	Amber Joiner, Assembly District 24, Chair, Committee to Conduct a Study Concerning the Cost and Affordability of Higher Education	Letter
Agenda Item X A	Kelly S. Richard, Senior Principal Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau, (LCB), and Jen Sturm, Senior Policy Analyst, Research Division, LCB	Work Session Document
Agenda Item X B	Joyce Woodhouse, Senate District 5	Revised Proposal – Recommendation 1
Agenda Item X C	Rene Cantu, Executive Director, Jobs for America's Graduate, Inc. Nevada	Recommendation
Agenda Item XI A	Rebecca Colbert, Parent, Las Vegas, Nevada	Written Testimony
Agenda Item XI B	Shealene Tamez, Parent, Las Vegas, Nevada	Written Testimony

The Summary Minutes are supplied as an informational service. All meeting materials are on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada. For copies, contact the Library at (775) 684-6827 or https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/Library/About/Contact/feedbackmail.cfm.