



NEVADA LEGISLATURE

Subcommittee to Study the Effectiveness of Career and Technical High Schools
(Assembly Bill 388, Chapter 309, *Statutes of Nevada 2005*)

SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT

The fifth meeting and final work session of the Nevada Legislative Committee on Education Subcommittee to Study the Effectiveness of Career and Technical High Schools was held on June 6, 2006, at 1 p.m. in Room 4412 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 2135 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. A copy of this set of "Summary Minutes and Action Report," including the "Meeting Notice and Agenda" ([Exhibit A](#)) and other substantive exhibits, is available on the Nevada Legislature's Web site at www.leg.state.nv.us/73rd/Interim. In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Publications Office (e-mail: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775/684-6835).

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS

Assemblywoman Bonnie Parnell, Chairwoman
Senator Barbara K. Cegavske
Senator Bernice Mathews

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

Assemblyman Chad Christensen

OTHER LEGISLATOR PRESENT:

Assemblyman Brooks Holcomb, Washoe County Assembly District No. 24

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Carol M. Stonefield, Principal Research Analyst, Research Division
Brenda Erdoes, Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Sara Partida, Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division
Joi Davis, Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division
Maryann Elorreaga, Senior Research Secretary, Research Division

OPENING REMARKS

Chairwoman Parnell called the meeting to order and asked the Secretary to call the roll. She thanked Phyllis Dryden, Director, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Nevada Department of Education (NDE), and her staff; the Clark County and Washoe County School Districts; the Academy for Career Education Charter School; the Community College of Southern Nevada; and Truckee Meadows Community College for contributing to the Subcommittee's study of career and technical education (CTE). She also thanked the business leaders and employers who met with the Subcommittee to discuss their employment needs and willingness to commit to the education of young people. Chairwoman Parnell said the Subcommittee had concluded CTE was a way to make high school much more relevant to students and was an important economic development tool for Nevada.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE APRIL 13, 2006 AND MAY 9, 2006, MEETINGS

The Subcommittee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

SENATOR CEGAVSKE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 13, 2006, AND MAY 9, 2006 MEETINGS. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR MATHEWS AND PASSED.

REPORT ON THE QUALITY CRITERIA SURVEY OF NEEDS AND UPDATE ON FUNDING AND ACTIVITIES OF ADVISORY TECHNICAL SKILLS COMMITTEES

- James Barbee, Consultant, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, NDE, reviewed a document titled "Nevada Department of Education Quality Criteria Survey of Needs" ([Exhibit B](#)) and then conducted a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled "Report on the Quality Criteria Survey of Needs" ([Exhibit C](#)). Mr. Barbee discussed the results of the survey, which had been submitted to 308 of Nevada's Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers asking for their opinions regarding CTE performance levels on the following:
 - Standards and Instruction;
 - Leadership and Citizenship Development;
 - Practical Application of CTE Skills;
 - Qualified and Professional Personnel;
 - Facilities, Equipment and Materials;
 - Community, Business and Industry Involvement;
 - Career Guidance;
 - Program Promotion;
 - Program Accountability and Planning; and
 - Student-Teacher Class Ratios.

Mr. Barbee said the lowest performance level reported was in Student-Teacher Class Ratio. He commented on potential safety issues in shop or laboratory classes where there were more students than there were work stations.

Chairwoman Parnell asked if there were class size restrictions based on safety issues.

Mr. Barbee said he was not aware of any State requirements regarding class size or teacher to student ratios.

Senator Cegavske asked how many CTE teachers there were in Nevada.

Mr. Barbee said there were 1000 to 1100 CTE instructors.

Senator Cegavske asked if the results would have been different if all of the CTE instructors had been surveyed.

Mr. Barbee said he thought the results would have been similar.

- Mr. Barbee, previously identified in these minutes, referred to two documents, “AB 580 CTE Funding” ([Exhibit D](#)) and “Carl D. Perkins Secondary Basic CTE Funding” ([Exhibit E](#)), and reviewed the disbursement of grant funds to school districts for career and technical education. He also briefly reviewed the document “Education Accountability Brief #11” ([Exhibit F](#)) which listed the Nevada high school dropout rates, by gender and demographic categories, comparing statistics of the CTE students to all students for school year 2003-2004.

Chairwoman Parnell asked if similar information was available regarding attendance rates.

Phyllis Dryden, previously identified in these minutes, said those figures had not yet been compiled but would be available soon.

Chairwoman Parnell acknowledged the presence of Dr. Craig Kadlub, Director, Government Affairs, Clark County School District; Mr. Ray Bacon, President, Nevada Manufacturers Association; and Assemblyman Brooks Holcomb, Washoe County Assembly District No. 24, in the audience.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ann Loring, representing Washoe County School District, commented on proposal number one in the Work Session Document. She suggested a change in the language of the proposal to reflect the CTE academies could be established for all high school students, not just 11th and 12th graders.

Chairwoman Parnell said she agreed with the suggestion and that the language in the proposal would be amended.

- Ray Bacon, previously identified in these minutes, said the industry need for graduates of vocational technical programs far exceeded Nevada's capacity to produce those graduates. He said the CTE programs must be expanded in order to meet the employment needs of Nevada's businesses and industries.

PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE

- Carol M. Stonefield, Principal Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB), presented a document which listed the six findings of the Subcommittee ([Exhibit G](#)). She discussed the following statements:

- Career and technical education courses are effective in educating students; Career and technical education requires stable funding sources and increased revenues;
- Additional career and technical education high schools are necessary to meet the needs of employers and the interests of students;
- Articulated courses provide a means for high school students to start a college career and technical education major while still in high school;
- Guidance counselors, who provide crucial service in academic and career advising, are increasingly assigned non-guidance duties; and
- Schools and employers should make students and parents aware of skills needed to succeed in the 21st Century and increase opportunities available to students.

Chairwoman Parnell said information presented to the Subcommittee had made it evident that CTE programs were quite successful and benefited both the students and the business community. She said the Subcommittee wanted to expand CTE and make it available to more students.

WORK SESSION—DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION FOR THE 74TH SESSION OF THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE

- Carol M. Stonefield, previously identified in these minutes, introduced the Work Session Document ([Exhibit H](#)).

NEVADA LEGISLATURE'S LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION (NEVADA REVISED STATUTES 218.5351)

SUBCOMMITTEE TO STUDY THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CAREER AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS (Assembly Bill 388, Chapter 309, *Statutes of Nevada 2005*)

June 6, 2006

The following “Work Session Document” has been prepared by the Chairwoman and staff of the Subcommittee to Study the Effectiveness of Career and Technical High Schools of the Legislative Committee on Education [*Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 218.5351]. Pursuant to NRS 218.2429, the Subcommittee may request up to five legislative measures, which relate to matters within the scope of the study. It must also present its findings and recommendations for consideration by the Legislative Committee on Education by August 1, 2006, as provided in Assembly Bill 388 (Chapter 309, *Statutes of Nevada 2005*).

The document contains a summary of proposals for bill draft requests or other actions that have been presented during public hearings, through communication with individual Subcommittee members, or through correspondence or communications submitted to the Subcommittee. It is designed to assist the Subcommittee members in making decisions during the work session. The Subcommittee may accept, reject, modify, or take no action on any of the proposals. The concepts contained within this document are arranged under broad topics to allow members to review related issues. Actions available to the Subcommittee members include: legislation to amend the *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS); transitory sections that do not amend the statutes; resolutions; statements in the Subcommittee’s final report; and letters of recommendation or support. Upon approval of the Legislative Committee on Education, the recommendations of the Subcommittee for legislation resulting from these deliberations will be prepared as bill drafts of the Subcommittee and submitted to the 2007 Legislature.

- Ms. Stonefield reviewed Proposal 1.

PROPOSALS REGARDING JOINT FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

1. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 388.330 to 388.400 inclusive) to establish the Career and Technical Education Academies Act to authorize two or more school districts in cooperation with community partners to form a compact to establish a career and technical education (CTE) academy for students in the 11th and 12th grades. An advisory council would be formed consisting of members of the participating school district boards of trustees and representatives from the community partners, appointed by the respective participating boards of trustees. Transportation would not be the responsibility of the participating school districts. The compact among the participating districts must provide for the determination of apportionment of expenses, enrollment from each member district, employment of personnel, and other operations. The provisions would refer to NRS 387.531 to 387.591, relating to joint facilities and projects. (*Proposed by the Chair.*)

The Subcommittee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

SENATOR CEGAVSKE MOVED TO APPROVE PROPOSAL NUMBER ONE (AMENDED TO INCLUDE ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS). THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR MATHEWS AND CARRIED.

- Ms. Stonefield reviewed Proposal 2.

2. State in the final report of the Subcommittee that school districts and the institutions of the Nevada System of Higher Education should enter into agreements to share facilities designed and equipped to provide instruction in CTE courses. Include in this statement that such agreements should provide for the maximum use of facilities to ensure the greatest return on the investment of public funds in the delivery of CTE.
(Proposed by Senator Cegavske.)

Senator Cegavske asked that the proposal be amended to include a provision for establishing more than one session per day, for different groups of students, at existing facilities.

The Subcommittee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

SENATOR CEGAVSKE MOVED TO APPROVE PROPOSAL NUMBER 2, AS AMENDED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR MATHEWS AND CARRIED.

- Ms. Stonefield reviewed Proposal 3 (A) (B).

PROPOSALS REGARDING PROGRAM SUPPORT AND EXPANSION

3. A. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 388.330 to 388.400 inclusive) to establish a fund to be administered by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The fund will be used to provide grants to school districts and charter schools for the following purposes: to initiate, maintain, or expand CTE programs and to continue the advisory technical skills committees.
 - A school district or charter school may apply to the Nevada Department of Education for assistance with expenses incurred in planning, development, and implementation of a new or expanded CTE program, or the maintenance of an existing CTE program. A school district or a charter school would submit an application, including a description of the program, the number of students estimated to participate, and the cost to establish and maintain the program. To receive a grant from the fund, a school district or charter school would be required to provide a 50 percent match of the state funds requested (\$1 district to \$2 state). For the matching funds, the school district or charter school may use any revenues available to it, including state or federal funds, gifts, or contributions from non-public sources. Upon evidence that the school district or charter school is unable to provide the 50 percent match, the Superintendent may waive all or part of that requirement. The allocation amount would be based upon the estimated number of pupils who will participate in the program for that school year and the financial need of the school district or charter school. Articulated agreements between the high school and an institution of the Nevada System of Higher Education would factor into the calculation of allocations to a school district or charter school.

- No matching funds would be required to continue grants to functioning advisory technical skills committees, established pursuant to NRS 388.385.
(Proposed by the Chair.)

AND

B. Provide an appropriation from the State General Fund to the fund in the amount of \$10 million for the biennium to maintain and to expand existing high-school level CTE programs in Nevada. *(Proposed by the Chair.)*

The Subcommittee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION**

SENATOR MATHEWS MOVED TO ACCEPT PROPOSAL NUMBER 3A.
THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR CEGAVSKE AND
CARRIED.

The Subcommittee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

SENATOR MATHEWS MOVED TO ACCEPT PROPOSAL NUMBER 3B.
THE MOTION CARRIED.

- Ms. Stonefield reviewed proposals 4 and 5 (A) (B).

4. Send a letter to the members of the Nevada Congressional Delegation, expressing support for CTE programs funded in whole or in part with federal funds and urging the Delegation to maintain the federal appropriations for support of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act in the Fiscal Year 2007 budget and in future fiscal years.
(Proposed by the Chair.)
5. A. State in the final report of the Subcommittee that the public institutions of higher education and the public school districts should work to ensure a seamless transition from secondary education to postsecondary education. The P-16 Council, or a successor organization, should develop and recommend to the Nevada State Board of Education and the University of Nevada Board of Regents policies to ensure that a meaningful seamless transition is implemented, including the expansion of CTE course articulation agreements.
(Proposed by Senator Cegavske.)

AND/OR

B. Request a bill draft for a resolution urging the public higher education institutions and the school districts to collaborate to ensure CTE courses will articulate. Also urge that all school districts operating high schools increase the number of CTE dual credit courses offered to 11th and 12th graders.

The Subcommittee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

SENATOR CEGAVSKE MOVED TO ACCEPT PROPOSAL NUMBER 5B.
THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SENATOR MATHEWS AND
CARRIED.

- Ms. Stonefield reviewed Proposals 6 through 11.

6. State in the final report of the Subcommittee that health occupations programs with an emphasis on nursing should be expanded to increase the number of graduates prepared for licensure. *(Proposed by Senator Cegavske.)*
7. Consider action, if any on the findings and proposals presented under Item III, Agenda of the Subcommittee to Study the Effectiveness of Career and Technical High Schools, June 6, 2006, relating to the Quality Criteria Survey of Needs.

PROPOSAL REGARDING CAREER ADVISING AND EXPLORATION

8. State in the final report of the Subcommittee that each middle school should have an annual career day and provide all children with career exploration activities. Such activities should include interest inventories, alignment of career interests with clusters of study, and field trips to area businesses. Employers should be invited to participate.
(Proposed by the Chair.)

PROPOSALS REGARDING PERSONNEL

9. A. State in the final report of the Subcommittee that guidance counselors should be relieved of administrative duties with regard to test administration. Include in this finding that assistance with clerical and coordination activities could be provided by increased support staff or paraprofessionals. *(Proposed by the Chair.)*

AND/OR

- B. Include a recommendation to the Legislative Committee on Education that test proctors or facilitators be authorized and funded. Include a prohibition against using school guidance counselors as testing coordinators. For the purposes of a recommendation to the Legislative Committee on Education, the staff would be directed to explore the cost of implementation, including the employment of test coordinators. *(Proposed as part of the presentation on Agenda Item III, May 9, 2006 meeting of the Subcommittee, Legislative Building, Carson City, Nevada.)*

10. State in the final report of the Subcommittee that secondary teachers who teach articulated courses or dual credit courses should be eligible for incentive pay.
(Proposed by Senator Cegavske.)

PROPOSAL REGARDING ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTING

11. Amend the NRS (primarily at NRS 385.3469, 385.347, and 385.358) to include CTE data measures in the accountability reports of the state, district, and school, where applicable. These data measures should include, but not be limited to, the number of students participating in CTE programs, the percentage of students completing CTE programs, and the graduation rate of students completing CTE programs. *(Proposed by the Chair.)*

The Subcommittee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

SENATOR CEGAVSKE MOVED TO ACCEPT PROPOSAL NUMBER 11.
THE MOTION CARRIED.

The Subcommittee agreed to include proposals 6, 8, 9a, and 10 in the final report to the Legislative Committee on Education.

Chairwoman Parnell thanked Ms. Stonefield and the other LCB staff members for producing and presenting the Work Session Document. She said the Subcommittee would present its findings and recommendations for consideration by the Legislative Committee on Education by August 1, 2006, as provided in Assembly Bill 388 (Chapter 309, *Statutes of Nevada 2005*).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryann Elorreaga,
Senior Research Secretary

Carol M. Stonefield.,
Principal Research Analyst

APPROVED BY:

Assemblywoman Bonnie Parnell, Chairwoman

Date: _____

LIST OF EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the Meeting Notice and Agenda provided by Carol M. Stonefield, Principal Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB).

[Exhibit B](#) is a document titled “Nevada Department of Education Quality Criteria Survey of Needs,” submitted by James Barbee, Consultant, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Nevada Department of Education (NDE).

[Exhibit C](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Report on the Quality Criteria survey of Needs,” submitted by James Barbee, Consultant, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, NDE.

[Exhibit D](#) is a document titled “AB 580 CTE Funding,” submitted by James Barbee, Consultant, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, NDE.

[Exhibit E](#) is a document titled “Carl D. Perkins Secondary Basic CTE Funding,” submitted by James Barbee, Consultant, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, NDE.

[Exhibit F](#) is a document titled “Education Accountability Brief #11,” submitted by James Barbee, Consultant, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, NDE.

[Exhibit G](#) is a document titled “Findings Subcommittee to Study the Effectiveness of Career and Technical High Schools,” submitted by Carol M. Stonefield, Principal Research Analyst, Research Division, LCB.

[Exhibit H](#) is the “Work Session Document” submitted by Carol M. Stonefield, Principal Research Analyst, LCB.

This set of “Summary Minutes and Action Report” is supplied as an informational service. Exhibits in electronic format may not be complete. Copies of the complete exhibits, other materials distributed at the meeting, and the audio record are on file in the Research Library of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Carson City, Nevada. You may contact the Library online at www.leg.state.nv.us/lcb/research/library/feedbackmail.cfm or telephone: 775/684-6827.