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NEVADA VISION STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Summary of SWOT Analysis For Education

Strengths / Weaknesses / Opportunities / Threats

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EXHIBIT D NevadaStakeholder Document consists of 4 pages.

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Higher Education

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Affordability and access (Millennium Scholarship)» Alternative models of education (apprenticeship, distance learning)» Capital financing (UNLV capital campaign)» Infrastructure (UNLV and UNR)» Affordable student loans	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Education rankings (less attractive to relocating businesses and households)» Limited opportunities for graduate level education» Relative lack of research spending
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Research partnerships (Brookings and Lincy Institutes)» Business involvement (align research/training with regional economy)» Capital financing (potential community college capital campaign)» Economic downturn (chance to train the underutilized workforce)» Employment opportunities (skilled workers attract growing firms and vice versa)» Relatively few federal research funds» Potential to grow with expanding health service providers» Philanthropy (young system)» Relative lack of research spending	<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Employment opportunities (must have jobs for newly trained workers)

K-12 Education

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » AP classes (Clark Co) » Alternative models of education (empowerment, magnet and charter schools) » Class size (primary grades) » Infrastructure (Clark and others) » Nevada Plan (eliminates some disparities) » Highly motivated teachers » Unified school district (addresses under-performing schools, however have led to some issues of scale in large districts) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Teacher accountability » Bureaucracy (limits innovation and parental involvement) » Competition (little school choice) » Economic downturn (hurts student performance and enrollment) » Education rankings (less attractive to relocating businesses and households, and suggests failure of system) » Infrastructure (Washoe and others) » Low per-pupil spending » Low amount of federal funding relative to tax payments » Disparities in outcomes and resources across school districts » Language barriers » Nevada's culture (need to place more value on education) » Lack of parental involvement » Lack of professional development for young teachers » Transient student population
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Low housing and other living costs together with local quality of life attractive to teachers » Business involvement (Empowerment schools, potential to increase parental involvement) » Capital financing (offset weakness in general fund revenues) » Philanthropy (young system) » Community involvement (mixed experience across the state, a weakness/strength in some areas) » Diversity (high potential returns from educating diverse population) » Slower population/enrollment growth » Sustainable projects and systems » Teach for America » Reciprocity in teacher licensing » Technology (can aid rural districts) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Capital financing (competing demands for infrastructure funds) » Class size (high school) and student-teacher ratio » Diversity (challenge to educate diverse population) » Teacher retention/potential teacher shortage » Transportation to rural schools

Possible Benchmark Metrics

- » 4th, 8th grade NAEP scores, SAT scores
- » Relative teacher compensation across state and U.S.
- » Level of federal funding relative to other states
- » % enrolled in Pre-K programs
- » Graduation/completion/attainment rates
- » Transiency rate
- » Penetration of computers in classrooms, urban and rural, high-speed internet availability to schools
- » Level of university research funding
- » Level of philanthropic giving
- » Per pupil expenditures (among districts)
- » Student/teacher ratio
- » Technical, vocational certificates
- » Degrees conferred/attainment in fields related to high-growth, modern industries
- » Years of service among teachers
- » Test scores and educational outcomes among minority populations