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October 25, 2022

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Dear Superintendent Anderson, Superintendent Else, Superintendent Enfield, Superintendent Fecht, Superintendent Feuling, Superintendent Fossett, Superintendent Hess, Superintendent Jara, Superintendent Jensen, Superintendent Klein, Superintendent Lewis, Superintendent Ponder, Superintendent Shillingburg, Superintendent Stephens, Superintendent Teel, Superintendent Workman, and Superintendent Young:

The [Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education \(COE\)](#) spent a significant amount of time during the 2021–2022 Interim considering recommendations made by a variety of stakeholders to positively impact education in Nevada. During the COE’s work session on [August 30, 2022](#), a majority of the members identified multiple areas that they agreed should be priority items for consideration by the school district superintendents. Specifically, the COE endorsed the following recommendations:

- Encourage school district superintendents to continue looking at ways to address chronic absenteeism of pupils in Nevada's public schools, including charter schools. Examples provided in testimony include sending notices to families of chronically absent pupils, working with a local chamber of commerce to solicit support from employers, and forming other community partnerships aimed at supporting the district in strengthening the response to chronic absenteeism in schools;

October 25, 2022

- Encourage school districts and schools, including charter schools, to support teachers in learning how to use assistive technology to show visually impaired students how to use the Internet and other resources in order to better navigate the system in postsecondary education or the workforce;
- Request that school districts and schools, including charter schools, support cultural expressions in decorating graduation caps and other adornments for graduating pupils who wish to do so. This expression may include, but is not limited to, leis, beaded caps, and other cultural items;
- Encourage school district superintendents to continue to build capacity for change in their work in schools, empower student learning by ensuring that each learner has the supports and opportunities they need to succeed, cultivate systems change through financial and school improvement structures, and ensure quality in their implementation of these practices. This item also reflects the COE's support for competency-based education work in Nevada;
- Encourage school districts to increase educator pay by 20 percent and provide at least \$20 per hour for other school personnel; and
- Encourage school district superintendents to continue to collaborate with schools, including charter schools, to inform teachers and other school personnel, especially new or potential employees, about the benefits of the Public Employees' Retirement System. As Chair of the COE, I respectfully encourage consideration to expand or require this training.

Thank you for considering the COE's recommendations and for your continued passion and work in furthering our education system. Should you or your staff have any questions, please contact the Committee's policy analysts, Jen Sturm, Jennifer Ruedy, or Alex Drozdoff at (775) 684-6825 or by email ([jen.sturm@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:jen.sturm@lcb.state.nv.us); [JRuedy@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:JRuedy@lcb.state.nv.us); or [Alex.Drozdoff@lcb.state.nv.us](mailto:Alex.Drozdoff@lcb.state.nv.us)).

Sincerely,

Senator Moises (Mo) Denis, Chair  
Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education

MD/jk:W222997

cc: Adam Drost, Principal Program Analyst, Fiscal Analysis Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB)  
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