



NEVADA LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
(Nevada Revised Statutes [NRS] 218E.605)

SUMMARY MINUTES AND ACTION REPORT

The fifth meeting of the Nevada Legislature's Legislative Committee on Education (NRS 218E.605) was held on Wednesday, May 9, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. in Room 3138 of the Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. The meeting was videoconferenced to Room 4401 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building, 555 East Washington Avenue, Las Vegas, 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 website at <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/interim/76th2011/committee/>. In addition, copies of the audio record may be purchased through the Legislative Counsel Bureau's (LCB's) Publications Office (e-mail: publications@lcb.state.nv.us; telephone: 775/684-6835).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN CARSON CITY:

Assemblyman David P. Bobzien, Chair
Senator Don Gustavson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS:

Senator Moises (Mo) Denis, Vice Chair
Senator Shirley A. Breeden
Senator Mark A. Manendo
Assemblywoman Marilyn Dondero Loop
Assemblyman Harvey J. Munford
Assemblyman Lynn D. Stewart

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU STAFF PRESENT:

Melinda Martini, Senior Research Analyst
H. Pepper Sturm, Chief Deputy Research Director
Kristin Roberts, Senior Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel
Colleen Platt, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel
Wayne Thorley, Program Analyst, Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and
Program Evaluation, Fiscal Division
Nita Barnes, Senior Research Secretary, Research Division

OPENING REMARKS

- Assemblyman David P. Bobzien, Chair, welcomed members and the public to the fifth meeting of the Legislative Committee on Education and opened the meeting for public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- April Tatro Medlin, private citizen and Las Vegas resident, thanked Committee members for their service and presented two articles titled “How to Destroy Education While Making a Trillion Dollars,” and “Competing Models for Public Education.” (Please see [Exhibit B](#) and [Exhibit B-1](#).)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 21, 2012, IN CARSON CITY, NEVADA

- The Committee **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

VICE CHAIR DENIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 21, 2012, MEETING HELD IN CARSON CITY, NEVADA. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ASSEMBLYMAN STEWART AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

PRESENTATIONS CONCERNING THE TEACHERS AND LEADERS COUNCIL OF NEVADA (NRS 391.450 THROUGH 391.465)

Progress of the Council in Recommending a Statewide Performance Evaluation System for Teachers and Administrators

- Rorie Fitzpatrick, Deputy Superintendent of Instructional, Research and Evaluative Services, Nevada’s Department of Education (NDE) provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Nevada Educator Evaluation, Presentation to the Legislative Committee on Education–May 9, 2012” ([Exhibit C](#)). She stated that Assembly Bill 222 (Chapter 487, *Statutes of Nevada 2011*) instructed NDE to provide administrative support to the Teachers and Leaders Council of Nevada (TLC), and create a “Uniform Performance Evaluation System” for teachers and administrators. She explained that prior to A.B. 222, teacher and administrator evaluations did not support enhanced student outcomes. Ms. Fitzpatrick added A.B. 222 required the development of a valid teacher and administrator performance evaluation based on pupil achievement data. She explained the bill also required the evaluation system to: (1) assess the use of strategies for family engagement; (2) provide a method for improving performance of teachers and administrators by sharing successful educational methods; and (3) develop a four-tiered classification system of ratings ranging from “highly effective” to “ineffective.” Ms. Fitzpatrick asserted that in order for Nevada’s accountability system to be effective, the PreK–12 standards, curriculum, pedagogy, assessment, personnel evaluation, and professional development need to be integrated and aligned.

- Pamela Salazar, Ed.D., Chair, Teachers and Leaders Council stated the Council has met regularly since October 2011 and concluded that: (1) a clear understanding of the expected level of student learning; (2) common core standards for student career or college preparation; and (3) new teacher and leadership standards, are necessary to raise teaching and leadership quality. She offered the following evaluation goals to parallel the requirements in A.B. 222:
 - Provide professional development based on the evaluation results;
 - Evaluate effective practices and student growth;
 - Measure student, teacher, and administrator effectiveness over multiple years and measurements;
 - Align guidelines to include the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Waiver; and
 - Implement the goals statewide with fidelity.
- Ms. Fitzpatrick explained proposed frameworks will differ between school districts. She stated additional resources will be requested to develop and implement a model for the next budget cycle.

There was discussion among Ms. Fitzpatrick, Ms. Salazar, and Assemblyman Stewart. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated A.B. 222 authorized the TLC to recommend evidences that demonstrated attainment of specific criteria and for the State Board of Education (SBE) to develop necessary regulations. She noted challenges with the timeline for this process: (1) the SBE will receive recommendations in December 2012; and (2) the new SBE must develop and adopt a new set of regulations in the spring of 2013. Ms. Fitzpatrick added that evaluations for specialists, librarians, and counselors must be factored in. Ms. Salazar stated the student performance portion of the evaluation is not yet developed and poses a challenge. She added the TLC is examining other states' approaches to establish a fair, consistent, and accurate evaluation process to determine the needed professional development.

Discussion ensued among Assemblyman Munford, Ms. Fitzpatrick, and Ms. Salazar regarding a teacher's ability to motivate the marginal student, how to incorporate that ability in the teacher's evaluation, and incentives that might be offered to teachers who accept positions in lower socioeconomic areas. Ms. Salazar noted that measuring student growth data would need to be included for a fair evaluation system.

In response to Assemblywoman Dondero Loop, Ms. Salazar stated high-leverage instructional practices impact student performance. She added that the Regional Professional Development Programs (RPDPs) will facilitate the implementation of these practices.

- Chair Bobzien agreed the TLC has a daunting task and he requested that Ms. Fitzpatrick and Ms. Salazar relay his encouragement to the other members. Chair Bobzien agreed the new paradigm will require fiscal requirements for information technology and training. He asked about other necessary investments.

- Ms. Fitzpatrick stated the TLC will submit costs to the Governor this summer. She stated that a shift in the philosophical orientation, a reallocation of existing funds and resources, and additional resources to implement the mandates in A.B. 222 would be necessary to implement the new evaluation process.

Responding to Chair Bobzien's inquiry, Ms. Salazar stated that the Washoe County School District (WCSD) is currently utilizing a pilot program using student surveys to predict and project the effectiveness of teachers.

- Continuing, Ms. Fitzpatrick remarked that enhancing the System for Accountability Information in Nevada to conduct evaluations would not be cost effective, and could divert resources that focus on improving teacher and administrator effectiveness.
- Chair Bobzien agreed and offered his assistance with statutory changes. He stated he strongly supports teacher and parent involvement during the development of the evaluation.
- Ms. Salazar invited members to attend the TLC meetings and stated updates for the evaluation process are posted on NDE's and the Office of the Governor's websites.

Nevada's Participation in the National Governors Association's (NGA) State Strategies to Evaluate Teacher Effectiveness Policy Academy

- Judy Osgood, Policy Analyst and Agency Liaison, Office of the Governor, commended the work of the TLC and conveyed Governor Sandoval's appreciation. She provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled "Nevada's Participation in the National Governors Association's (NGA) State Strategies to Evaluate Teacher Effectiveness, Policy Academy," ([Exhibit D](#)) and a document titled "NGA Center for Best Practices, Technical Assistance Plan" ([Exhibit D-1](#)). Ms. Osgood explained the staff of the Office of the Governor was awarded a \$35,000 NGA Policy Academy grant for technical assistance, consultation with NGA policy advisors, and attendance at two policy academy meetings.
- Tabitha Grossman, Ph.D., Program Director, Education Division, NGA Center for Best Practices (CBP), Washington, D.C., commended the Committee's support of the TLC and mentioned that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (funders of the CBP), are aware of the great progress Nevada has made.

Ms. Grossman stated the Race to the Top Assessment Program spurred legislation nationally for evaluating educators. She noted most laws are tying results to salary, licensure, and the granting of tenure. Ms. Grossman pointed out the following challenges other states have encountered: (1) non-teaching personnel evaluations, and (2) training for principals on performing the evaluations and time constraints to conduct and complete the evaluations.

Ms. Grossman opined professional development is necessary to improve teachers' instructional practices. She suggested that the TLC recommendations also be

communicated to parents, business leaders, teachers, principals and local school boards.

In response to Assemblyman Stewart, Ms. Grossman offered to provide examples of forms used in Tennessee and New York for employees who do not teach or oversee an instructional program.

Responding to Chair Bobzien, Ms. Grossman offered to provide information regarding the inclusion of charter schools in Tennessee's statute. (Please see [Exhibit D-2](#) provided subsequent to the meeting.)

Role of the Regional Training Programs for the Professional Development of Teachers and Administrators (RPDPs) in the Statewide Performance Evaluation System for Teachers and Administrators

- Bill Hanlon, Director, Southern Nevada RPDP, provided the history and purpose of the RPDPs and counties served in the southern region. He noted budget cuts have necessitated the increased use of Polycom, utilizing websites, and newsletters. Mr. Hanlon asserted that personal contact cannot be substituted for developing high-quality professional development statewide.
- Pamela Salazar, previously identified, provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation ([Exhibit E](#)) that included the following priorities of the RPDPs:
 - Assist teachers to understand the common core state standards;
 - Assist administrators to help teachers implement the common core state standards; and
 - Train evaluators to prepare teacher evaluations in a consistent, accurate, and reliable manner.
- Dave Brancamp, Director, Northwestern Nevada RPDP, commented on the phases for implementing the common core standards.
- Dawn Hagness, Director, Northeastern Nevada RPDP, stated the focus of her team has been on common core state standards training and preparing, and equipping administrators and teachers for mandated evaluations.

In response to inquiries made by Assemblyman Stewart, Mr. Hanlon stated that RPDP assistance is conducted by coaching during a class, on staff development days or after school, and generally focuses on English, math, and science.

PRESENTATIONS CONCERNING THE NEVADA GROWTH MODEL (NGM) FOR MEASURING PROGRESS OF STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Report of the Rollout of the NGM, Including Its Role in the Statewide Performance Evaluation System for Teachers and Administrators

- Carol Crothers, Director, Office of Assessments, Program Accountability and Curriculum, NDE, stated the NDE is in the process of analyzing 10th grade growth data for release with the Nevada Report Card in the fall. She noted growth data is part of the waiver application request from the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). Ms. Crothers added that NDE is developing professional development for school districts to understand how to use growth data.

Report on Research Concerning the Reliability of School-Level Growth Scores in Nevada

- Mary L. Peterson, Senior Program Associate, WestEd, presented a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Nevada’s Growth Model: An Early Look at Reliability,” which provided an overview of the growth model for evaluating school personnel for accountability purposes ([Exhibit F](#)).
- Andrea A. Lash, Senior Research Scientist, Regional Educational Laboratory West, offered interpretations of test scores and an explanation for each as: descriptive, inferential, and causal. She stated NDE requested WestEd’s assistance to investigate the reliability and stability of the test scores.
- Dr. Richard Vineyard, Assistant Director, Office of Assessments, Program Accountability and Curriculum, NDE, stated the numbers produced by Nevada’s growth model were relative to similar models in other states. He added that as more data becomes available, more reliable judgments will be produced for classifying schools and teachers in the future.
- Ms. Peterson stated the growth model is built into Nevada’s NCLB Waiver and measures of growth need to be combined with other measures to examine decisions for school accountability and teacher evaluation.
- Chair Bobzien stated this analysis, transparency, accessibility, and comparisons with other states is important information for the public to review.

Discussion ensued among Senator Denis, Ms. Lash, and Ms. Peterson regarding the significant changes in mathematics for 2008 and 2009 in some schools. Ms. Peterson stressed the importance of averaging data over an adequate number of years to be fair in terms of reliability and validity of scores.

Update on the Clark County School District (CCSD) Growth Model

- Dr. Kenneth Turner, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, CCSD, provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Concerning the Growth Model and Its Role in the School Performance Framework (SPF), Update from Clark County School District” ([Exhibit G](#)). He explained that the CCSD has used the growth model since 2009 when Assembly Bill 14 (Chapter 93, *Statutes of Nevada*) was passed. Dr. Turner pointed out the results for the elementary and middle school performance framework. He stated the capability for high school growth would be forthcoming.

He stated that focus groups of 20 high school principals and teachers were conducted, which favored the school performance framework. Dr. Turner commented on a school performance framework that included: (1) graduation; (2) college-and-career readiness; (3) growth and improvement; and (4) climate.

Dr. Turner stated that approximately 50 percent of the variance in proficiency scores can be associated with poverty. He explained that as more data is collected for measured improvements, it would be replicated over time to improve reliability. Dr. Turner presented information on a five Star Rating process, which is monitored for two consecutive years and used to account for variability and growth.

PRESENTATIONS CONCERNING PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

Report of the Newly Created Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement at NDE (NRS 385.630)

- Monie Byers, Education Programs Professional—Parent Involvement, NDE, reported on a website for parent involvement that may be expanded with information from the Washoe County Education Alliance and the Parent Information Resource Center (PIRC). She said she has established parent involvement contacts in school districts, co-facilitated two sessions at the American Indian Education Summit, and attended the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) conference in Las Vegas.

Progress of the Commission on Professional Standards in Education in Prescribing Course Work on Parental Involvement and Family Engagement

- Monie Byers, previously identified, stated that the Parental Involvement Task Force for the Commission on Professional Standards in Education has met four times since July 2011. She provided a copy of the proposed regulation developed by the Task Force ([Exhibit H](#)).

Progress of the RPDs in Establishing a Statewide Program Concerning Effective Parental Involvement and Family Engagement

- Monie Byers, previously identified, reported she met with the Statewide Council for Coordination of the RPDs to review the requirements of A.B. 224 (Chapter 351, *Statutes of Nevada 2011*). She noted that the PIRC has programs in place for training, family engagement, and working with schools and families. Ms. Byers stated that the PIRC funding will end this June, and attempts are being made for the RPDs to assume the program.

Report of the Advisory Council on Parental Involvement and Family Engagement, Including a Status Report of the 2012 Connecting the Dots Family Engagement in Education Summit

- Monie Byers, previous identified, reported that the Parental Involvement and Family Engagement Advisory Council (PIFE) will meet in June to address policy updates, review examples of other PIFEs, and receive input from advisors to the PIFE Advisory Council. She provided a copy of a newsletter ([Exhibit I](#)) and a schedule of events and goals for the upcoming months ([Exhibit I-1](#)). Ms. Byers reported that a “needs assessment” survey is being produced for feedback from the Connecting the Dots Family Engagement in Education summit attendees.
- Barbara Clark, Chair, Advisory Council on PIFE reported the Council was established by Senate Bill 143 (Chapter 500, *Statutes of Nevada*) in 2007. She provided a list of Advisory Council members ([Exhibit J](#)), and explained the requirements set forth in S.B. 143 that include: (1) review of the parent involvement policies; (2) examining accountability reports for parent involvement; (3) review of effective instructional practices in and out of state; (4) identifying effective communication methods; (5) examining methods for communicating with non-English language parents; and (6) assessing the need for a statewide parent involvement coordinator.

She stated the Advisory Council has no funding; however, the PIRC covered costs for Council meetings to strategize long-term goals. Ms. Clark described accomplishments made by the PIFE Advisory Council and noted the importance of family engagement for academic achievement.

Ms. Clark provided information on the fourth Connecting the Dots Family Engagement in Education Summit that will be held in Las Vegas in May 2012 ([Exhibit J-1](#)).

- Monie Byers extended appreciation to the PIRC for the funding they provided for this year’s Connecting the Dots Summit. She noted there will be funding issues for future summits due to the defunding of the PIRC.
- Ms. Clark stated that Governor Brian Sandoval, Senator Steven Horsford, Assemblyman John Ocegüera, and State Superintendent Guthrie provided welcome letters to Summit participants.

Discussion ensued among Senator Denis, Ms. Byers, and Ms. Clark regarding each districts’ plan for parental involvement standards. Ms. Clark remarked that the PIFE Advisory Council will discuss future plans in June 2012 for parent involvement centers in each school district.

Report of the Parent University in the Washoe County School District (WCSD)

- D’Lisa Crain, Administrator, Department of Family–School Partnerships, WCSD, provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Washoe County School District, Parent University” ([Exhibit K](#)) and a catalog of free classes for adults ([Exhibit K-1](#)). She stated the University offers free childcare and Spanish translations. Ms. Crain reported funding is provided from the WCSD general fund and grants provided by

International Game Technology and the United Way. She noted in 2013 the University will be fully funded through the new Washoe Education Foundation and a local foundation.

Ms. Crain stated over 150 parents attended a class offered at Hug High School on how to access a Hispanic scholarship fund. She noted that approximately 100 parents in the WCSD have attended classes regularly throughout the year. Ms. Crain presented information on the demographics of the parents served. She stated their goal is to improve outreach to at-risk populations.

- Maria Fernandez, Parent University Coordinator, Department of Family–School Partnerships, WCSD, provided information about “Parent Ambassadors,” who recruit other parents to attend the Parent University classes. She reported on plans for future outreach efforts. Ms. Fernandez stated a grant from the United Way provided funds for an evaluator for the 821 evaluations that have been collected. She stated that in one evaluation 90 percent of the parents rated the quality of the class as outstanding; and the usefulness of the information they received was rated at 86.4 percent.

Presentation of Family Engagement Resource Centers in the CCSD

- Eva Melendrez, Coordinator, Parent Services, Community and Government Relations, CCSD, gave a brief history of their five Family Engagement Resource Centers, which included updates, action plans, effective strategies, and highlights. She stated the goal of the 2009 grant was to improve the graduation rates of high school students through parent involvement and family engagement. Ms. Melendrez reported there have been 5,858 visitors to the high school centers.

Responding to Assemblyman Stewart, Ms. Melendrez stated the Centers are staffed with volunteers from AmeriCorps through their partnership with the United Way of Southern Nevada and the Woman’s Leadership Council.

There was discussion among Ms. Melendrez, Senator Manendo, and Senator Denis regarding how the Centers reach out to parents. Ms. Melendrez stated volunteers make every attempt to contact families that did not attend “report card night.” She opined the flyers, personal phone calls in a native language, and reaching out to apartment managers surrounding the schools has improved attendance.

- Assemblywoman Dondero Loop acknowledged the success of the Centers and thanked Ms. Melendrez for the efforts made by their service.

Presentation of the Effectiveness of Parent/Teacher Academic Teams at Rundle Elementary School in the CCSD

- Laura Dickensheets, Principal, Rundle Elementary School, CCSD, submitted an Action Plan and an informational document on Family Engagement in Education ([Exhibit L](#) and [Exhibit L-1](#)). She stated that Rundle Elementary School is located in a high-risk neighborhood with a large non-English speaking population.

Ms. Dickensheets commented that improvements have been made using the Academic Parent Teacher Teams approach, which traces a child's personal scores using a goal line relating to class progress.

She noted that approximately one-third of the school's parents participated during the first year and expects that amount to increase. She stated that three parental meetings are scheduled for each year including one meeting for an in-depth individual parent conference that will provide practical suggestions for academic success.

- Senator Denis expressed his support for the Parent/Teacher Academic program. He stated that Ms. Dickensheets has demonstrated that parents are interested in learning how to assist their child academically.

Discussion ensued among Assemblyman Munford, Senator Manendo, and Ms. Dickensheets regarding test scores at Rundle Elementary. Ms. Dickensheets reported that performance on reading and math proficiency is around 53 percent and more improvements are expected as additional parents become involved. She stated that approximately 750 students are enrolled in the program, and 80 percent are Hispanic. Assemblyman Munford, Senator Manendo, and Chair Bobzien expressed interest in visiting the school.

ASSESSMENT OF THE TRAINING NEEDS OF TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS AND SUBMISSION OF A PROPOSED BUDGET TO MEET THOSE NEEDS BY THE RPDPS: 2013–2015 BIENNIUM

- Bill Hanlon, Director, Southern Nevada RPDP (SNRPDP), explained the role of the RPDPS is to improve student achievement by improving instruction in the classroom. He added the SNRPDP engages parental involvement through zone pack, school, and PTA meetings, videos, and web resources. Mr. Hanlon stated SNRPDP provides one trainer for 228 elementary schools for literacy, two math trainers for 54 high schools, two trainers for middle school math, and one and one-half trainers for K–12 science. He stated his budget for the biennium requests \$11.6 million, which is an increase of \$1.9 million. (Please see [Exhibit M.](#))

In response to Chair Bobzien, Mr. Hanlon stated many tasks required of the SNRPDP are intertwined and they are working with Pam Salazar, Chair, TLC of Nevada, on administrative evaluations while addressing the common core standards and performance frameworks.

Discussion ensued among Assemblyman Stewart, Chair Bobzien, and Mr. Hanlon regarding the previous biennium budget and the requested increase of \$1.9 million. Mr. Hanlon reported the budget provides for the cost of two additional literacy K-5 trainers, substitute teachers, and extra duty pay in order for teachers to attend mandated training.

There was discussion between Chair Bobzien and Mr. Hanlon regarding accountability for the requested budget increase. Mr. Hanlon explained a breakdown of costs was submitted to the governing board. Chair Bobzien suggested that future SNRPDP budgets include administrative and programmatic reviews.

- Dawn Hagness, Program Director, Northeastern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program (NNRPDP), stated each RPDP is unique and requires different budget requests. She stated the NNRPDP's budget increased from \$2.6 to \$3.5 million, which includes salaries and increased expenses for the following positions: (1) an additional secondary English as a Second Language specialist; (2) a K–12 science specialist; (3) a parent engagement specialist; and (4) a technology specialist. Ms. Hagness provided details to support the need for the increase in staff. (Please see [Exhibit N.](#))

Ms. Hagness stated her budget includes funds to replace high-mileage vehicles plus two additional vehicles for new staff.

- Dave Brancamp, Director, Northwest Regional Professional Development Program (NWRPDP), requested a budget increase from \$2.1 million to \$2.4 million. He noted this includes funding a position for a parent facilitator and a secondary math trainer ([Exhibit O](#)). Mr. Brancamp requested the due date for all the RPDPS to submit proposed budgets be changed from October to May.

In response to Assemblywoman Dondero Loop, Mr. Hanlon and Mr. Brancamp provided the budget line items for their salaries and stated they would provide a break out of those numbers.

Discussion ensued between Assemblywoman Dondero Loop and Ms. Hagness regarding how information in the budget codes and employee benefits is reflected. Assemblywoman Dondero Loop commented that the reflected travel expenses seemed high.

Responding to Assemblywoman Dondero Loop's request for a breakdown of the travel expenses for the RPDs, Ms. Hagness, Mr. Brancamp, and Mr. Hanlon provided explanations.

There was discussion between Senator Denis and Mr. Hanlon regarding the lack of a parent and family engagement coordinator for the SNRPDP. Mr. Hanlon stated he would not be against requesting funds for that position, but opined the SNRPDP is fulfilling that mandate by embedding parent and family engagement with the well-received specific strategies they offer.

- Chair Bobzien stated this discussion will be revisited next legislative session and requested the directors work with staff for follow-up and fulfilling requests.

IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR PRINCIPALS

Implementation of the Principal Leadership Training Program by the CCSD, as Funded Through Assembly Bill 527 (Chapter 468, Statutes of Nevada 2011)

- Judith D. Steele, President and Chief Professional Officer, The Nevada Public Education Foundation, provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled "The Leadership Institute of Nevada" ([Exhibit P](#)). She clarified The Foundation works collaboratively with all school districts and the funding provided by A.B. 527 (*Chapter 468, Statutes of Nevada 2011*). She explained the measure appropriated \$100,000 to The Foundation if it could match that funding. Ms. Steele reported \$325,000 was garnered from Barrick Gold Newmont Mining, Nevada Energy, and The Foundation.

She stated The Leadership Institute of Nevada is challenged to transform school districts to solve problems in better ways. She discussed a model developed with the RPDs and the Nevada Association of School Superintendents for best methods to train principals, supervisors of principals, business leaders, unions, and university representatives in the State.

- Brian Myli, Director of Leadership and Innovation, The Nevada Public Education Foundation, described the design of The Leadership Institute of Nevada and the northern and southern summits they offer for exposing participants to new educational leadership concepts from the nation's best scholars, practitioners, and business experts. He stated a Leadership Academy is offered one weekend each

month for leaders to re-think the status quo and apply flexible, creative, integrated, and strategic approaches to the challenges surrounding public education.

- Ms. Steele stated the expected outcome of the Institute and the Academy is to: (1) have a talent pool of leaders who will propel students forward; (2) transform public education; (3) impact on-going systemic school improvement; (4) increase student achievement and graduation rates; (5) create graduates who are college-and-career ready; and (6) provide a positive return on public and private investments. She commented that principals are charged to retain the best teachers and eliminate teachers who are impeding student achievement.

In response to Senator Denis, Ms. Steele stated business leaders are willing to mentor participants. She added participants will be tracked for indicators and stated the Academy will not be replicating other programs.

Responding to Senator Denis, Ms. Steele stated The Foundation is having discussions with existing leaders, principals, vice principals, and administrators regarding viewing issues from a different vantage point and being more accountable for allocating and growing resources.

- Assemblywoman Dondero Loop said she attended the Institute's recent southern Summit and commented on the diversity of groups and the attendance. She remarked that good educators continually seek knowledge and opined the program would be valuable for current administrators.
- Assemblyman Stewart extended his appreciation to Ms. Steele for her ongoing efforts for the benefit of Nevada's children. He mentioned he enjoyed the Institute's recent Summit.

Implementation of the Washoe Academy of School Leaders

- Scott Bailey, Chief Academic Officer, WCSD, provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled "The Washoe Academy of School Leaders" ([Exhibit Q](#)) that highlighted a "Leadership Development Pipeline" that provides a path for aspiring educators to become established administrators. He stated the pipeline cultivates a strong leadership pool for the WCSD.
- Stacey Ting-Senini, Consulting Principal, WCSD, stated the Academy uses a customized curriculum that is nationally recognized for its professional development, mentoring, and executive coaching to build individual capacities for leading, learning, creating an accountable school, managing changes and resources, and building relationships. She noted the first Academy will graduate leaders this month.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO DELAY THE STATUTORY DEADLINE FOR NOTIFYING CERTAIN SCHOOL EMPLOYEES OF REEMPLOYMENT STATUS

- Caroline B. McIntosh, President, Nevada Association of School Superintendents, presented a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled "Statutory Deadline for Notifying

Employees of Reemployment Status” ([Exhibit R](#)). She requested the deadline for notifying employees of their reemployment status be moved to June 1, or later. Ms. McIntosh commented on issues regarding the deadline of May 1 and problems encountered with the employees and the morale between the teachers’ association, boards of trustees, and administrators.

- Robert Slaby, Ph.D., Superintendent, Storey County School District, stated current law restricts planning for courses and programs for students due to the early teacher layoff notices. He commented that the notices are costly and that some teachers enter into litigation adding additional costs for the district. Dr. Slaby remarked that new teachers also face challenges with the new common core curriculum, new method of assessments, a new evaluation system, no pay raises during the past four years, and larger class sizes. He noted when a teacher leaves Nevada, taxpayers lose a sizeable investment. Dr. Slaby requested the Committee change the statute and added there would be no fiscal impact to do so.
- Dotty Merrill, Executive Director, Nevada Association of School Boards, stated that in past legislative sessions Assemblywoman Debbie Smith proposed to extend the deadline. She stated the 17 Nevada school boards and the 107 members of the Association support extending the deadline.
- Staci Vesneske, Ed.D., Chief Human Resources Officer, CCSD, said that extending the deadline for probationary employees would provide more time for principals to evaluate and identify professional development needs. She explained that because of the May 1 deadline, principals must complete their final assessments by April 1 for Board approval.
- Chair Bobzien commented this request is very important to have on record.

PRESENTATIONS ON EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS IN NEVADA SCHOOLS

Report on Nevada’s Commission on Educational Technology

- David White, D.D.S., Chairman, Nevada’s Commission on Educational Technology, provided an update on the Commission’s activities. He stated the mandated needs assessments are being conducted at the Raggio Research Center and results will be submitted to NDE in August. He added NDE will produce a chronological report for the Commission’s funding levels in June in preparation for budget requests.
- Dr. Kimberly Vidoni, Education Programs Professional—Educational Technology, NDE, provided information on hardware purchasing guidelines ([Exhibit S](#) and [Exhibit S-1](#)) and explained the Consortium is in the process of creating the accountability assessments that will be administered in School Year (SY) 2014-2015. She commented school districts reported that the guidelines are fairly standard for future purchases, but expressed concern that adequate devices and infrastructure to implement the assessment may not be available. She stated NDE is

conducting an inventory survey to assess the current status and determine the needs for meeting the goal to implement results for SY 2014–2015.

Report on Educational Technology Programs in the CCSD

(As directed by Chair Bobzien, this agenda item was taken out of order.)

- Jhone Ebert, Chief Technology Officer, CCSD, provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Supporting the 21st Century Learner” ([Exhibit T](#)). She stated to meet federal requirements, the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) requires students to complete tests electronically. She pointed out the limited number of devices available in the CCSD. Ms. Ebert commented the CCSD used bond funding to install WiFi so students can use personal devices, which will provide savings for the CCSD. She pointed out upgrades and equipment replacements are needed and will require additional resources. Ms. Ebert stated it cost \$3.7 million to keep devices refreshed, \$2.2 million for WiFi equipment, and \$780,000 for Internet access and security annually.

She reported on the current data systems used for food service, student data, transportation systems, and instructional operations at a cost of \$51 million and noted the estimated cost to replace computers on a five-year cycle is \$15 million. Ms. Ebert mentioned the Human Resource System is over 30 years old. She discussed the Technology Program that provides professional development for teachers across the State and offers driver education and health courses to students for a \$10 fee.

Discussion ensued between Senator Manendo and Ms. Ebert regarding priority projects for the CCSD, funding requests, and the bond issue.

Report on the 21st Century Learning Initiative and the One to One Initiative in the WCSD

- Scott Bailey, Chief Academic Officer, WCSD, provided a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “21st Century Learning” ([Exhibit U](#)). He commented that students entering the workforce need critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity.

Mr. Bailey stated the goal of the WCSD is for students to use technology as consumers and producers of information in the digital world. He added that over the next few years the WCSD will engage students more electronically at two middle schools, and then progress to two high schools.

PUBIC COMMENT

- Nicole Rourke, Executive Director, Government Affairs, CCSD, reported their Board of Trustees has decided to move forward on the \$669 million capital program. She noted the proposed schools are posted on the CCSD webpage at: <http://www.ccsd.net/divisions/facilities>.

In response to Senator Manendo, Ms. Rourke explained the voter question will request approval for a “pay as you go” program. She said it will not be a bond program and the project will proceed when the funding becomes available.

- Chair Bobzien noted that the next Committee meeting is scheduled for June 14, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nita Barnes
Senior Research Secretary

Melinda Martini
Senior Research Analyst

APPROVED BY:

Assemblyman David P. Bobzien, Chair

Date: _____

LIST OF EXHIBITS

[Exhibit A](#) is the “Meeting Notice and Agenda,” provided by Melinda Martini, Senior Research Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB).

[Exhibit B](#) is a document published by Common Dreams.Org, titled “How to Destroy Education While Making a Trillion Dollars,” dated April 29, 2012, by Robert Freeman, submitted by April Tatro Medlin, private citizen, Las Vegas.

[Exhibit B-1](#) is a document published by Common Dreams.Org, titled “Competing Models for Public Education, Which Model is Best?” dated February 26, 2005, by Robert Freeman, offered by April Tatro Medlin, private citizen, Las Vegas.

[Exhibit C](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Nevada Educator Evaluation, Presentation to the Legislative Committee on Education—May 9, 2012,” prepared by Pamela Salazar, Ed.D, Chair, Teachers and Leaders Council (TLC), and Rorie Fitzpatrick, Deputy Superintendent, Nevada’s Department of Education (NDE).

[Exhibit D](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Nevada’s Participation in the National Governors Association’s (NGA), State Strategies to Evaluate Teacher Effectiveness, Policy Academy,” offered by Judy Osgood, Policy Analyst and Agency Liaison, Office of the Governor.

[Exhibit D-1](#) is a document titled “NGA Center for Best Practices, Technical Assistance Plan,” provided by Judy Osgood, Policy Analyst and Agency Liaison, Office of the Governor.

[Exhibit D-2](#) is a memorandum dated May 25, 2012, to Chairman David P. Bobzien, Legislative Committee on Education, and Mindy Martini, LCB Senior Research Analyst, from Judy Osgood, on behalf of the Governor’s Office, titled “Follow-up to May 9, 2012 Meeting of Legislative Committee on Education.”

[Exhibit E](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Role of RPDPs, Statewide Performance Evaluation System for Teachers and Administrators,” dated May 3, 2012, submitted by Pamela Salazar, Ed.D., Chair, TLC of Nevada, Las Vegas.

[Exhibit F](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Nevada’s Growth Model: An Early Look at Reliability,” dated May 9, 2012, prepared by Andrea Lash, WestEd, Mary Peterson, WestEd, and Richard Vineyard, NDE, presented by Mary L. Peterson, Senior Program Associate, WestEd, Incline Village.

[Exhibit G](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Concerning the Growth Model and Its Role in the School Performance Framework (SPF), Update from Clark County School District,” dated May 9, 2012, offered by Dr. Kenneth Turner, Special Assistant to the Superintendent, Clark County School District (CCSD).

[Exhibit H](#) is a letter dated January 6, 2012, to Christina Harper, Department of Education, from Colleen L. Platt, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel, Legal Division, LCB, regarding LCB File No. R127-11, submitted by Monie Byers, Education Programs Professional—Parent Involvement, NDE.

[Exhibit I](#) is a newsletter titled “Parent Involvement & Family Engagement (PIFE), AB224 and NDE’s PIFE,” Volume 1, Issue 1, dated May 18, 2012, provided by Monie Byers, Education Programs Professional—Parent Involvement, NDE.

[Exhibit I-1](#) is a table containing a schedule of PIFE events and goals, submitted by Monie Byers, Education Programs Professional—Parent Involvement, NDE.

[Exhibit J](#) is a document titled “Advisory Council on Parental Involvement and Family Engagement Member List 2012,” offered by Barbara Clark, Chair, Advisory Council on PIFE, Reno.

[Exhibit J-1](#) is a flyer titled “Connecting the Dots, Family Engagement—Student Achievement, Nevada’s 4th Family Engagement in Education Summit,” dated May 18, 2012,” furnished by Barbara Clark, Chair, Advisory Council on PIFE, Reno.

[Exhibit K](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Washoe County School District, Parent University,” provided by D’Lisa Crain, Administrator, Department of Family—School Partnerships, Washoe County School District (WCSD).

[Exhibit K-1](#) is a catalog titled “2011-2012 School Year, Washoe County School District, Parent University Catalog,” submitted by D’Lisa Crain, Administrator, Department of Family—School Partnerships, WCSD.

[Exhibit L](#) is a document titled “Richard J. Rundle, Academic Parent-Teacher Team, Action Plan 2011–2012,” presented by Laura Dickensheets, Principal, Rundle Elementary School, CCSD.

[Exhibit L-1](#) is a document titled “Richard J. Rundle, Academic Parent-Teacher Team (APTT),” offered by Laura Dickensheets, Principal, Rundle Elementary School, CCSD.

[Exhibit M](#) is a document titled “SNRPDP 2013–2015, Biennium Budget,” submitted by Bill Hanlon, Director, Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program, Las Vegas.

[Exhibit N](#) is a document titled “NNRPDP Biennium Budget 2013–2015,” provided by Dawn Hagness, Program Director, Northeastern Nevada RPDP, Elko.

[Exhibit O](#) is a document titled “NWRPDP 2013–2015, Biennium Budget,” furnished by David Brancamp, Director, Northwest RPDP, Reno.

[Exhibit P](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “The Leadership Institute of Nevada,” dated May 9, 2012, provided by Judi Steele, President and Chief Professional Officer, and Brian Myli, Director of Leadership and Innovation, The Public Education Foundation, Las Vegas.

[Exhibit Q](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “The Washoe Academy of School Leaders,” offered by Scott Bailey, Chief Academic Officer, and Stacey Ting-Senini, Consulting Principal, WCSD.

[Exhibit R](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Statutory Deadline for Notifying Employees of Reemployment Status,” dated May 9, 2012, submitted by Caroline McIntosh, President, Nevada Association of School Superintendents, Yerington.

[Exhibit S](#) is a document published by Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, titled, “New Hardware Purchasing Guidelines, April 2012,” furnished by Dr. Kimberly Vidoni, Education Programs Professional—Educational Technology, NDE.

[Exhibit S-1](#) is a document published by Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, titled “New Hardware Purchasing Guidelines FAQ, April 2012,” furnished by Dr. Kimberly Vidoni, Education Programs Professional—Educational Technology, NDE.

[Exhibit T](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “Supporting the 21st Century Learner,” offered by Jhone Ebert, Chief Technology Officer, CCSD.

[Exhibit U](#) is a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation titled “21st Century Learning,” provided by Scott Bailey, Chief Academic Officer, WCSD.

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.