REVISED ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

LCB File No. R012-08

Effective June 23, 2014

EXPLANATION - Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1 and 2, NRS 385.080 and 389.0195.

A REGULATION relating to education; prescribing a uniform grading scale for pupils enrolled in high school; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest

Existing law requires the State Board of Education to adopt regulations prescribing a uniform grading scale for all public high schools, including charter schools that operate as a high school. (NRS 389.0195)

Section 1 of this regulation prescribes a uniform grading scale for pupils enrolled in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, in a school district or charter school. **Section 1** also prescribes weighted values to the grading scale for completion of honors courses, advanced placement courses and international baccalaureate courses. **Section 1** further prescribes the manner by which value must be assigned for course work completed by a pupil who transfers from a high school in another state or from a private high school in this State. The uniform grading scale applies to pupils who are enrolled in grade 9 beginning with the 2014-2015 school year. A school district or charter school may apply the uniform grading scale for pupils enrolled in grades 10, 11 and 12 for the 2014-2015 school year or may continue applying the grading scale in effect for those pupils before the 2014-2015 school year. **Section 1** also provides that a board of trustees of a school district or governing body of a charter school may adopt a policy assigning a plus or minus to the grades earned by a pupil. The policy must ensure that the value assigned to each grade earned by a pupil complies with the uniform grading scale.

Existing regulations prescribe the manner in which a pupil may earn units of credit towards graduation from high school. (NAC 389.666) **Section 2** of this regulation provides that the transfer of units from a public or private high school outside this State for application toward high school graduation in this State must be approved in accordance with the uniform grading scale set forth in **section 1**.

Section 1. Chapter 389 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall use the following uniform grading scale for pupils enrolled in the school district or charter school in grades 9 to 12, inclusive:

Course Point Range	Grade	Value
90.0-100	A	4.0
80.0-89.99	В	3.0
70.0-79.99	C	2.0
60.0-69.99	D	1.0
Below 60	F	0.0

- 2. The grading scale prescribed by subsection 1 must be weighted as follows:
- (a) For completion of an honors course with a grade of A, B, C or D, a value of 0.025 must be added to the value otherwise prescribed by subsection 1.
- (b) For completion of an advanced placement course with a grade of A, B, C or D, a value of 0.050 must be added to the value otherwise prescribed by subsection 1.
- (c) For completion of an international baccalaureate course with a grade of A, B, C or D, a value of 0.050 must be added to the value otherwise prescribed by subsection 1.
- 3. The grade point average of a pupil enrolled in grade 9, 10, 11 or 12 must be computed to the third decimal place. A grade point average that:
 - (a) Is less than 0.0005 must be rounded down; and
 - (b) Is 0.0005 or higher must be rounded up.

- 4. If a pupil transfers from a high school located outside this State or from a private high school located in this State and enrolls in high school at a school district or charter school in this State, the pupil's transcript must be reviewed and a value must be assigned for each grade earned by the pupil in the other state or at the private high school as follows:
- (a) If the pupil's transcript contains a letter grade for a course, that letter grade must be assigned a numerical value in accordance with the grading scale prescribed by subsection 1.
- (b) If the pupil's transcript does not contain a letter grade for a course but contains a numerical value for a grade in the course, that numerical value must be assigned in accordance with the grading scale prescribed by subsection 1.
- (c) If the pupil's transcript contains a notation that the pupil has completed an honors course, an advanced placement course or an international baccalaureate course with a grade of A, B, C or D, the weighted value prescribed by subsection 2 must be applied for that course. If the transcript does not contain such a notation, the grading scale prescribed by subsection 1 must be applied for the course.
- 5. The uniform grading scale prescribed by this section applies to pupils who are enrolled in grade 9 beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, until graduation of those pupils, including, without limitation, pupils who repeat grade 9 in the 2014-2015 school year.
- 6. For pupils who are enrolled in grades 10, 11 and 12 for the 2014-2015 school year, a school district or charter school may, until graduation of those pupils:
 - (a) Apply the uniform grading scale prescribed by this section; or
- (b) Continue applying the grading scale in effect for those pupils before the 2014-2015 school year.

- 7. The board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school may adopt a policy assigning a plus or minus to the grades set forth in subsection 1. The policy must ensure that the value assigned to each grade earned by a pupil complies with the value set forth in the grading scale prescribed by subsection 1 and, if applicable, the weighted value prescribed by subsection 2.
 - **Sec. 2.** NAC 389.666 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 389.666 Units of credit which a pupil may apply toward graduation from high school may be earned:
 - 1. In a public or private high school located in this State.
- 2. In a public or private high school located outside this State if the school district approves a transfer of the units for this purpose [...] in accordance with subsection 4 of section 1 of this regulation.
- 3. In an institution of higher learning whose academic programs are accredited by a national accrediting organization.
 - 4. In the Nevada Youth Training Center or the Caliente Youth Center.
- 5. In a course of independent study conducted in accordance with NAC 389.710 to 389.750, inclusive.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW OF ADOPTED REGULATIONS—NRS 233B.066 Informational Statement LCB File No. R012-08

1. A clear and concise explanation of the need for the adopted regulation:

To prescribe a uniform grading scale for pupils enrolled in high school.

2. Description of how public comment was solicited, a summary of public response, and an explanation of how other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

The Notice of Intent to Act Upon a Regulation for public hearing and adoption of Proposed Amendments was filed at the following locations on April 24, 2014: The offices of the Nevada Department of Education in Carson City and Las Vegas, at the 17 Nevada School District Superintendent's Offices, the 17 county main public libraries, the Nevada State Library and Archives, the Department of Education website and the Legislative Council Bureau website.

A summary may be obtained by contacting Karen Johansen, Administrative Assistant, Nevada Department of Education, 775-687-9225 or by writing to the Nevada Department of Education, 700 East Fifth Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5096.

- 3. The number of persons who:
 - (a) Attended each hearing: 36
 - (b) Testified at each hearing; 2
 - (c) Submitted written comments: 0
- 4. For each person identified in paragraphs (b) and (c) of number 3 above, the following information if provided to the agency conducting the Hearing:
 - (a) Name: Lindsay Anderson
 - (b) Telephone number:
 - (c) Business Address;
 - (d) Business telephone number;
 - (e) Electronic mail address;
 - (f) Name of entity or organization represented: Washoe County School District (WCSD)

Lindsay Anderson stated WCSD would like to propose a technical and brief amendment to Section 4 of the proposed grading policy to clarify that if a pupil is coming from out of state, they would take the letter grade from the pupil before the numerical value. Ms. Anderson read the proposal into the record: Propose that Section 4 have a new bullet (a) to read: if the pupil's transcripts contain letter grades for the course, those letter grades must be assigned as prescribed by subsection 1. The current (a) would not be (b): if the pupil's transcript does not contain letter grades, but contains a numerical value for a grade in a course, that numerical value must be assigned as prescribed by section 1.

Dr. Vineyard confirmed he is in agreement with the proposed amendment.

(a) Name: Nicole Rourke

- (b) Telephone number;
- (c) Business Address;
- (d) Business telephone number;
- (e) Electronic mail address;
- (f) Name of entity or organization represented: Clark County School District (CCSD)

Nicole Rourke stated she is in support of the policy and regulation as well as the WCSD technical amendment to the policy. She added while CCSD does not recognize plus or minuses, she encouraged other districts to adopt a common way of handling pluses and minuses. There are different ranges and points that can be assigned when using plus or minuses. She encourage that if other districts utilize that type of system, they come to a common understanding so the grading policy is a uniform grading scale.

5. A description of how comment was solicited from affected businesses, a summary of their response and an explanation of how other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

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6. If the regulation was adopted without changing any part of the proposed regulation, a summary of the reasons for adopting the regulation without change.

The proposed regulations were adopted with the proposed amendment made by Lindsay Anderson, WCSD to clarify that if a pupil is coming from out of state, they would take the letter grade from the pupil before the numerical value.

- 7. The estimated economic effect of the regulation on the business which it is to regulate and on the public:
 - (a) Estimated economic effect on the businesses which they are to regulate None.
 - (b) Estimated economic effect on the public which they are to regulate None
- 8. The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulation: None
- 9. A description of any regulations of other State of governmental agencies which the regulation overlaps or duplicates and a statement explaining why the duplication or

- overlap is necessary. If the regulation overlaps or duplicates a federal regulation, the name of the regulating federal agency. None.
- 10. If the regulation includes provisions that are more stringent than a federal regulation that regulates the same activity, a summary of such provisions. None.
- 11. Of the regulation provides a new fee or increases an existing fee, the total annual amount of the agency expects to collect and the manner in which the money will be used. None.