Amendment No. 619

Senate Amendment to Senate Bill No. 295

Proposed by: Senate Committee on Education

Amendment Box: Replaces Amendment No. 350.

Amends: Summary: No Title: No Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: Yes

Explanations:

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) blue bold italics is new language in the original bill; (2) variations of green bold underlining is language proposed to be added in this amendment; (3) red strikethrough is deleted language in the original bill; (4) purple double strikethrough is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) orange double underlining is deleted language in the original bill proposed to be retained in this amendment.

KRO/RBL

Date: 4/17/2015

S.B. No. 295—Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-789)
SENATE BILL NO. 295—SENATORS WOODHOUSE, FORD, DENIS, PARKS, KHIUEN; MANENDO, SEGERBLOM AND SMITH

MARCH 16, 2015

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN BUSTAMANTE ADAMS AND STEWART

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-789)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

EXPLANATION–Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the Department of Education to maintain an Internet website for public high schools to provide information on career pathways in science, technology, engineering and mathematics; requiring pupils enrolled in certain public schools to complete a course in computer science; requiring the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to ensure access to certain professional development training for teachers and administrators; requiring the board of trustees of each school district and governing body of each charter school to schedule a certain number of days of professional development for teachers and administrators; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Section 1 of this bill requires the Department of Education to maintain an Internet website for use by each public high school to provide information relating to career pathways in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Section 2 of this bill requires that all pupils enrolled in public high schools in this State, including charter schools and state facilities for the detention of children, complete at least 1/2 unit of credit in computer science to receive a certificate or diploma of graduation. Sections 3 and 4 of this bill make conforming changes.

Section 5 of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to ensure that the teachers and administrators employed by the school district or charter school have access to high-quality, ongoing professional development training which must address the academic standards adopted by the State Board of Education, including the academic standards for science based on the Next Generation...
Science Standards and the curriculum and instruction required for science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Section 6 of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to schedule for the professional development of the teachers and administrators employed by the school district or charter school, for the 2015-2016 school year and 2016-2017 school years, respectively, 1 day in addition to the number of days provided for professional development during the 2014-2015 school year, and 2 days in addition to the number of days provided for professional development during the 2014-2015 school year.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

The Department shall maintain an Internet website for use by each public high school to provide information and raise awareness of career pathways in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Sec. 2. Chapter 389 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

No pupil in any public high school, the Caliente Youth Center, the Nevada Youth Training Center or any other state facility for the detention of children that is operated pursuant to title 5 of NRS, may receive a certificate or diploma of graduation without having completed at least 1/2 unit of credit in computer science.

Sec. 3. NRS 389.018 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.018 1. The following subjects are designated as the core academic subjects that must be taught, as applicable for grade levels, in all public schools, the Caliente Youth Center, the Nevada Youth Training Center and any other state facility for the detention of children that is operated pursuant to title 5 of NRS:

(a) English, including reading, composition and writing;
(b) Mathematics;
(c) Science; and
(d) Social studies, which includes only the subjects of history, geography, economics and government.

2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a pupil enrolled in a public high school must enroll in a minimum of:

(a) Four units of credit in English;
(b) Four units of credit in mathematics, including, without limitation, Algebra I and geometry, or an equivalent course of study that integrates Algebra I and geometry;
(c) Three units of credit in science, including two laboratory courses; and
(d) Three units of credit in social studies, including, without limitation:
   (1) American government;
   (2) American history; and
   (3) World history or geography.

A pupil is not required to enroll in the courses of study and credits required by this subsection if the pupil, the parent or legal guardian of the pupil and an administrator or a counselor at the school in which the pupil is enrolled mutually agree to a modified course of study for the pupil and that modified course of study satisfies at least the requirements for a standard high school diploma or an adjusted diploma, as applicable.
3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, in addition to the core academic subjects, the following subjects must be taught as applicable for grade levels and to the extent practicable in all public schools, the Caliente Youth Center, the Nevada Youth Training Center and any other state facility for the detention of children that is operated pursuant to title 5 of NRS:
   (a) The arts;
   (b) Computer education and technology, including computer science;
   (c) Health; and
   (d) Physical education.

If the State Board requires the completion of course work in a subject area set forth in this subsection for graduation from high school or promotion to the next grade, a public school shall offer the required course work. Except as otherwise provided for a course of study in health prescribed by subsection 1 of NRS 389.0185, unless a subject is required for graduation from high school or promotion to the next grade, a charter school is not required to comply with this subsection.

Sec. 4. NRS 389.520 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.520 1. The Council shall:
   (a) Establish standards of content and performance, including, without limitation, a prescription of the resulting level of achievement, for the grade levels set forth in subsection 3, based upon the content of each course, that is expected of pupils for the following courses of study:
      (1) English, including reading, composition and writing;
      (2) Mathematics;
      (3) Science;
      (4) Social studies, which includes only the subjects of history, geography, economics and government;
      (5) The arts;
      (6) Computer education and technology, including computer science;
      (7) Health; and
      (8) Physical education.
   (b) Establish a schedule for the periodic review and, if necessary, revision of the standards of content and performance. The review must include, without limitation, the review required pursuant to NRS 389.570 of the results of pupils on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550.
   (c) Assign priorities to the standards of content and performance relative to importance and degree of emphasis and revise the standards, if necessary, based upon the priorities.

2. The standards for computer education and technology must include a policy for the ethical, safe and secure use of computers and other electronic devices. The policy must include, without limitation:
   (a) The ethical use of computers and other electronic devices, including, without limitation:
      (1) Rules of conduct for the acceptable use of the Internet and other electronic devices; and
      (2) Methods to ensure the prevention of:
         (I) Cyber-bullying;  
         (II) Plagiarism; and
         (III) The theft of information or data in an electronic form;
   (b) The safe use of computers and other electronic devices, including, without limitation, methods to:
      (1) Avoid cyber-bullying and other unwanted electronic communication, including, without limitation, communication with on-line predators;
(2) Recognize when an on-line electronic communication is dangerous or potentially dangerous; and
(3) Report a dangerous or potentially dangerous on-line electronic communication to the appropriate school personnel;
(c) The secure use of computers and other electronic devices, including, without limitation:
   (1) Methods to maintain the security of personal identifying information and financial information, including, without limitation, identifying unsolicited electronic communication which is sent for the purpose of obtaining such personal and financial information for an unlawful purpose;
   (2) The necessity for secure passwords or other unique identifiers;
   (3) The effects of a computer contaminant;
   (4) Methods to identify unsolicited commercial material; and
   (5) The dangers associated with social networking Internet sites; and
(d) A designation of the level of detail of instruction as appropriate for the grade level of pupils who receive the instruction.
3. The Council shall establish standards of content and performance for each grade level in kindergarten and grades 1 to 8, inclusive, for English and mathematics. The Council shall establish standards of content and performance for the grade levels selected by the Council for the other courses of study prescribed in subsection 1.
4. The Council shall forward to the State Board the standards of content and performance established by the Council for each course of study. The State Board shall:
   (a) Adopt the standards for each course of study, as submitted by the Council; or
   (b) If the State Board objects to the standards for a course of study or a particular grade level for a course of study, return those standards to the Council with a written explanation setting forth the reason for the objection.
5. If the State Board returns to the Council the standards of content and performance for a course of study or a grade level, the Council shall:
   (a) Consider the objection provided by the State Board and determine whether to revise the standards based upon the objection; and
   (b) Return the standards or the revised standards, as applicable, to the State Board.
   The State Board shall adopt the standards of content and performance or the revised standards, as applicable.
6. The Council shall work in cooperation with the State Board to prescribe the examinations required by NRS 389.550.
7. As used in this section:
   (a) “Computer contaminant” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 205.4737.
   (b) “Cyber-bullying” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388.123.
   (c) “Electronic communication” has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388.124.

Sec. 5. Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

The board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall ensure that the teachers and administrators employed by the school district or charter school have access to high-quality, ongoing professional development training. The professional development training must address, without limitation:
1. The academic standards adopted by the State Board, including the academic standards for science based on the Next Generation Science Standards; and

2. The curriculum and instruction required for science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Sec. 6. The board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall:

1. For the 2015-2016 school year, and 2016-2017 school years, respectively, schedule 1 day in addition to the number of days provided during the 2014-2015 school year, for the professional development of teachers and administrators employed by the school district or charter school.

2. For the 2016-2017 school year, schedule 2 days in addition to the number of days provided during the 2014-2015 school year, for the professional development of teachers and administrators employed by the school district or charter school.

Sec. 7. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Education for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 the sum of $12,000,000 for allocation to school districts and governing bodies of charter schools to provide professional development to teachers and administrators in public schools for the purposes of this act.

For Fiscal Year 2015-2016 $12,000,000

For Fiscal Year 2016-2017 $12,000,000

2. The Department of Education shall distribute the money from the appropriation made by subsection 1 as follows:

(a) To the Clark County School District, $7,200,000 to provide professional development training to teachers and administrators employed by the school district.

(b) To the Washoe County School District, $3,600,000 to provide professional development training to teachers and administrators employed by the school district.

(c) To the Department of Education, $600,000 for grants among the remaining school districts and governing bodies of charter schools to provide professional development training to teachers and administrators employed by those school districts.

(d) To the Department of Education, $600,000 for distribution among the three regional training programs to provide professional development training to teachers and administrators.

3. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2016, by either the entity to which the money was appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General Fund on or before September 16, 2016.

Sec. 8. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015.