



SESSION SPOTLIGHT

February 5, 2021

Welcome to the 2021 Edition of the Clark County School District (CCSD) Session Spotlight! While the 81st Session of the Nevada State Legislature will look a bit different this year, we will continue to keep you up to date on what's happening in Carson City weekly about education issues in terms of the budgets and bills that touch upon our community.

Virtual Session

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, for the first time ever, the [Legislative Building is closed to the public](#) for the start of session, with only legislators, essential staff, and some reporters able to access the building.

The timeline for when the building reopens is still unclear, but a sufficient amount of staff and legislators must be vaccinated first before the building is opened in a limited capacity. Even then it will be accessible by appointment only and any individual must first pass an on-site rapid COVID-19 test or demonstrate a vaccination card.

Meanwhile, while floor sessions will continue as normal (minus any guests), [Committee Meetings will operate completely virtually](#). This means legislators will spend most of their time in Carson City working from their own Legislative offices participating in committees and all meetings virtually.

The public will still be able to participate in committee hearings and are invited to provide input on bills and through public comment periods. More information is listed below in the 'Want to Learn More?' section.

This Week in Education

Committees spent most of the first week getting familiar with the "virtual" process and the topics they will tackle this session. At Thursday's [Assembly Committee on Education](#) meeting, the Nevada Association of State Superintendents presented the [iNVEST](#) document which showcases education priorities throughout the state for 2021.

CCSD Superintendent Dr. Jesus F. Jara gave a presentation that touched upon the [reopening of schools in CCSD](#) as the District prepares to move toward a hybrid model for its Pre-kindergarten through third grade students on March 1, 2021. These same presentations will again be given Monday, February 8, 2021, in the Senate Committee on Education.

Want to Learn More?

In case you did not know:

Many ways exist for constituents to voice their opinions on legislation. You are encouraged to speak up about issues and bills that are important to you. Here are a few ways you can let legislators know how you feel even during this virtual session:

1. Participate in Committee Meetings. The Legislature has put together a page on information for how to virtually participate in Committee Meetings for 2021 at <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/81st2021/SessionInformation/Help>. When you find a Committee Meeting on the schedule you are interested in, you can select the 'Participate' button to register and get the information needed to call in to the meeting and have an opportunity to provide testimony.
2. Send an email or hard copy mail. Go to <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Legislator/A/Senate/Current> and <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Legislator/A/Assembly/Current> to get contact information for legislators. Email addresses, office addresses, phone numbers (sometimes even personal cell phone numbers!) are listed.
3. If you don't know who your legislators are, visit <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/whosmylegislator/>. Type in your address and you will get a list of which senate, assembly, congressional and board of regents district you are in, as well as a link to the elected officials in those offices.
4. Use the "share your opinion" option on the Nevada Legislature website: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Opinions/81st2021/>. On this website you can identify the bill number, indicate whether you are for or against it, and type in comments.

A few suggestions to ensure your messages are impactful:

- Identify yourself by name and include your address. Most legislators make it a priority to correspond with individuals who live in their district, so make sure you include your contact information so they can verify that you are a constituent.
- Be brief! Legislators get a lot of input and they appreciate short, specific messages.
- Be respectful as you communicate, even if you have a difference of opinion.

For a full list of bills we are tracking, click [here](#).

The "[Calendar of Meetings](#)" on the Nevada Legislature website is always up to date.

Refer a friend!

If you know someone interested in receiving the CCSD Session Spotlight, they can sign up for our newsletter by visiting ccsd.net/spotlight or by emailing their name and email address directly to SessionSpotlight@nv.ccsd.net.

CCSD Government Relations