



SESSION SPOTLIGHT

March 8, 2019

This week in Carson City, the Nevada Legislature saw a new majority leader in Senator Nicole Cannizzaro and, with less than two weeks left to go before bill introductions from legislators are due, the hearings continued at a furious pace.

Pre-K Through 20 Initiatives with NSHE

On Monday in the Senate Committee on Education, and again on Tuesday in the Assembly Committee on Education, Superintendent Dr. Jesus F. Jara and Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Chancellor Thom Reilly presented on the [joint partnership between CCSD and NSHE](#) to help students better prepare for higher education or enter the workforce.

The new partnership will focus on strategies to increase dual credit coursework, better prepare students for the jobs needed today, and reduce the need for remedial education.

CCSD and NSHE are looking to increase dual credit options in high-need areas such as healthcare, manufacturing, information technology, and hospitality, among others.

To better prepare students for high-need jobs, the partnership will expand Career and Technology Education (CTE) programs in areas such as healthcare and information technology.

CCSD and NSHE will also look to decrease the need for remedial courses by identifying students who need remediation earlier and providing it in high school. CCSD and NSHE also will better align their curriculum to ensure students are prepared for college coursework.

School Safety

Monday night, in a special joint meeting of the Senate and Assembly Education Committees, Senator Yvanna Cancela and Assemblywoman Jill Tolles presented the recommendations of the Governor's Statewide School Safety Task Force. Superintendent Jara appeared before the committee to testify about school safety from a school district perspective.

Dr. Jara discussed CCSD's support for the Task Force recommendations and how his own Superintendent's Safety Task Force aligns with them. He also stressed the importance of addressing the need to make sure our students feel safe in our Southern Nevada schools by adding more police, social workers, and counselors on campus.

Dr. Jara also informed the committee about one of the recommendations he has already implemented from his safety task force. [Jack, one of the dogs of CCSD's newly implemented K-9 gun sniffing unit, has helped apprehended two suspects already.](#) Dr. Jara tied his presentation together with the important caveat that when the funding for these safety initiatives is distributed statewide, CCSD needs to receive a proportional amount so we can ensure our students feel safe physically, mentally, and emotionally.

Restorative Justice

Assembly Education on Tuesday also heard from Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson and CCSD Assistant Superintendent Dr. Tammy Malich on **AB168**. The bill requires schools to provide for restorative justice measures before using an exclusionary or punitive discipline on students for a first offense on students 10 years of age or older. This bill comes from the efforts of the School Justice Partnership with which CCSD was involved.

Restorative justice includes offering early intervention and wraparound support for students to emphasize social engagement and relationship. This collaboration between all parties tries to address the impact of the behavior and repair it. The bill intends to address disproportionality of discipline as well as make sure students do not lose valuable instruction time.

The Nevada Association of School Superintendents testified in support on behalf of CCSD. The Nevada State Education Association did propose a conceptual amendment to make sure the safety of educators are also addressed in **AB168**, and CCSD will continue to monitor the bill as the new language is drafted.

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

[Current Scheduled Meetings for the Week of March 11, 2019.](#)

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

Session Spotlight Now Comes in Glorious HD!

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