

April 19, 2019

After weeks filled with committee hearings as legislators tried to beat last Friday's deadline, things took a much different pace this week. Few committee hearings were scheduled as legislators mostly spent time on both the Senate and Assembly floor voting bills forward to the second house. This will continue until late Tuesday night when any bills that have not passed its house of introduction will be declared dead.

First Committee Deadline

Last Friday was the deadline for bills to pass committees in the first house. Of the nearly 1,000 bills introduced this session, 278 bills died because they did not meet the deadline and were not declared exempt by the legislature. Of the 319 bills CCSD was tracking, 96 bills died. Among those notable bills that would have affected K-12 education include:

- **SB26** CCSD's Ending Fund Balance Bill - Would have protected school districts' ending fund balance of up to 8.3 percent.
- **SB79** Chronic Absenteeism - State would have adopted a policy for chronic absenteeism that school districts would have to follow.
- **SB343** Training for Superintendents and Trustees - State would have adopted standards for initial training and continuing education for superintendents and trustees.
- **AB35** Achievement School District - Would have codified conversion schools and neighborhood option schools in the law.
- **AB57/SB105** Appointed School Boards - In large counties, it would have removed election districts and have three trustees elected at large, with the remaining trustees appointed by the county and the three biggest cities.
- **AB67** Achievement School District - Would have created designation of A+ achievement charter school, which an independent administrator would be appointed to oversee.
- **AB72** Turnaround Schools - Would have made it harder to remove principal at a designated turnaround school.
- **AB218** Education Savings Accounts (ESA) - Funding for ESAs, which are basically vouchers that can be used for private schools.
- **AB295** Comprehensive Sex Ed - Would have required a course of evidence-based, factual instruction on sexuality education that would have been opt-out.

For a full list of all the bills that died, click [here](#).

CCSD Student Legislative Working Group

For the past [few weeks](#), CCSD has been hosting sessions where students were invited to learn more about what education issues the Nevada Legislature was tackling this session and how they could share their voices and thoughts with legislators whether through testimony or through the [Nevada Legislature website](#). Students were able to learn about how our state legislature works, how education is funded in Nevada, the Nevada Youth Legislature, and the School Justice Partnership.

Students were then able to focus on bills of personal interest to them and work on either writing potential testimony or submitting their opinion online to legislators. [One student even called Senator Dallas Harris' office](#) to voice her opinion on a bill important to her. Many of the students who participated in these sessions [visited Carson City on Tuesday](#) as part of the [Leaders in Training](#) cohort to see the legislative process up close and meet with legislators to advocate on issues of importance to them.

Some of those students will also get to participate in an upcoming Java with Jara where they will be able to talk to Superintendent Jesus Jara about their experience up north and what issues matter to them. A special thank you goes to CCSD teacher Anna Slighting of Nevada Learning Academy for helping organize the events and getting students engaged.

Assembly Committee on Education

The Assembly Committee on Education met on Thursday afternoon. They heard the presentation on **SB126**, which would remove the requirement for administrators to reapply for their jobs every five years. CCSD will keep monitoring **SB126**. The current law has not been implemented yet, and it is important that administrators be held accountable for job performance.

The committee also heard **SB350**. This bill makes it easier for students to participate in the [Nevada Promise Scholarship](#) program by removing the requirement to reapply each year. It also decreases the community hours and mentoring sessions required for eligibility. CCSD supports **SB350** as expansion of the Nevada Promise Scholarship remains a part of our CCSD supplemental [legislative platform](#).

As always, you can find the full list of bills we are tracking [here](#).

[Current Scheduled Meetings for the Week of April 22, 2019.](#)

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

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