June 6, 2017

Happy post-Sine Die Day! June 5 was the last scheduled day of session and after much speculation about a special session, the session ended on time at midnight. Our bills were a rush right up to the end as SB550 was amended in the Assembly to include funding for Washoe County School District and the Boys and Girls Clubs. SB550, which allocates $17 million to CCSD for the human capital management system (HCMS), did pass and now needs to be signed by the Governor.

The final days of the Nevada Legislature were different than any other session. A few unprecedented events took place that many did not recall seeing in prior sessions. One bill, SCR16, after a floor debate and consultation with legal counsel, failed after all of the sponsors withdrew their names from the bill. On the last night of session, the first vote on SB246 took 10 minutes as members changed from yay to nay back and forth and two members refused to vote. Most votes take about 10 seconds. This unusual turn of events led to the bill failing and then being brought back for another vote to pass the measure.

While many good, bad, and strange things happened over the past 120 days, overall the 2017 legislation session was a very productive one for the Clark County School District. See below for how we fared on the priorities set by the Board of Trustees and the latest update on our top 50 bills.

CCSD 2017 Legislative Priorities

Bill Draft Requests

- SB20 (BDR 342) eliminates the testing requirements in United States Constitution, Nevada Constitution, and Nevada law for teacher licensure.
  - AB78 (BDR 343) requires that charter school sponsors consult with local school districts on new charter school sites when authorizing new schools.

Priority Education Issues

- Weighted Student Funding Formula (SB178)
- Human Capital Management System (SB550)
- Property Tax Reform (SJR14)
- Liability Protection for School Organization Teams (AB469)
  - Education Stabilization Fund (SB89)
  - Early Childhood Programs (AB186)
Status of Top 50 Education Bills

AB7: ESSA – Enrolled. Makes conforming changes to Nevada's education laws in order to be in compliance with the Federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

AB43: Property Tax – Dead. Revises provisions governing the calculation of the amount of certain partial abatements of property taxes.

AB49: State Public Charter School Authority – Enrolled. Changes some of the operating practices of the State Public Charter School Authority.

AB64: Special Education Diplomas – Signed. Provides additional options for students with disabilities to earn a standard diploma.

AB70: Redevelopment – Signed. Allows the City of Las Vegas to expand the use of revenues spent for education purposes made from a redevelopment area.

AB77: Teacher Licensure – Enrolled. Revises provisions relating to the qualifications for issuance of a license to teach as well as provisions regarding to reciprocal licensure.

AB85: CPR – Signed. Requires instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) in schools by July 1, 2017.

AB117: ACT Requirement – Signed. Helps counselors, students, and parents to better plan for their child’s future after high school.

AB124: Code of Conduct – Enrolled. Establishes a code of conduct for all school employees.

AB127: Emergency Manager – Enrolled. Requires schools to appoint an emergency manager (which CCSD already has), ensure that new buildings are built with safety in mind, and require attendance at safety conferences for the chief of police or his/her designee.

AB154: Prevailing Wage – Vetoed. Requires all public works projects to provide for 100 percent of the prevailing wage for construction.

AB166: School Start Times – Failed. Mandates school start times for all elementary, middle, and high schools as well as adds 45 minutes to the school day for Breakfast After the Bell and additional recess time for students.

AB196: Culturally Responsive Leadership – Signed. Creates a voluntary endorsement on an educator’s license in culturally responsive leadership.

AB236: CCSD/DFS Partnership – Signed. Requires the District and the Department of Family Services to create a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to share electronic educational records of students in foster care.
**AB275**: Non-Instructional Supports – Signed. Requires the establishment of a statewide framework for providing integrated student supports for certain pupils and their families.


**AB348**: Sex Education – Enrolled. Governs the courses of instruction on sex education.

**AB385**: Fifth-Graders in Parks – Signed. Requires the State of Nevada to issue an annual permit, free of charge, to enter each state park and recreational area in Nevada to any pupil who is enrolled in the fifth-grade at a school in the state.

**AB387**: Social Worker Training – Signed. Requires a licensed social worker seeking to renew his or her license to complete two hours of instruction on evidence-based suicide prevention and awareness every two years.

**AB434**: Teacher Incentives – Enrolled. Provides $2.5 million for incentives for hiring new teachers to teach at Title I schools and schools designated as underperforming and incentives for certain teachers who transfer to teach at those schools

**AB447**: Victory Schools – Signed. Extends the duration of the Victory schools program and requires the Department of Education to consult with the board of trustees of a school district when designating Victory schools.

**AB451**: Trustee Training – Signed. Requires elected trustees to attend professional development training during the first and third years of their term.

**AB469**: Reorganization – Signed. Codifies the regulations passed by the Legislative Committee to Reorganize the Clark County School District that met during the 2015 interim.

**AB485**: Seat Belts – Signed. Requires all new school buses purchased after July 1, 2019, to install seat belts.

**SB3**: Breakfast After the Bell – Signed. Changes the provisions of a corrective action plan. This plan will now only have to be completed if a school does not maintain or increase their participation in the program.

**SB19**: Dual Enrollment – Signed. Revises provisions relating to dual credit courses.

**SB108**: Criminal Law – Signed. Requires the State Board of Education created standards regarding the instruction of criminal law.

**SB112**: Organ Donation – Signed. Requires high schools to provide students with information on the benefits of organ and tissue donation.
**SB132**: Graduation Plans – Enrolled. Allows for additional time for students to complete their diploma and requires school districts to create an individual graduation plan for every student that would be modified depending on credit deficiency and their score on a career- and college-readiness assessment.

**SB143**: School Librarians – Failed. Requires each public school in a school district to establish and maintain a school library, as well as a licensed librarian.

**SB164**: School Bus Leases – Signed. Allows school districts to lease up to 8.5 percent of total fleet for private events.

**SB165**: BMI Exams – Signed. Requires school districts in a county with a population of more than 100,000 to measure height and weight for a representative sample of students in grades 4, 7, and 10.

**SB173**: ASD Prevailing Wage – Vetoed. Requires that any additional construction on a school taken over by the Achievement School District (ASD) must be done under the prevailing wage laws.

**SB200**: Computer Science – Enrolled. Requires instruction in computer education and technology for all students in Nevada.

**SB212**: Safe-to-Tell – Enrolled. Expands the scope of the Safe-to-Tell Program requiring the appointment of a team at each public school to receive reports from the Program, providing immunity from civil liability to such a team and its members.

**SB213**: Special Education/Support Staff Fingerprinting – Enrolled. Makes changes to compliance measures for special education as well as a new requirement for paraprofessionals to be fingerprinted every five years of employment.

**SB224**: Special Education Cameras – Failed. A bill regarding cameras to be installed in identified pilot classrooms in which a majority of students in the classroom demonstrate significant nonverbal speech and language impairments.

**SB225**: Bullying – Enrolled. Clarifies certain provisions pertaining to the prohibition on bullying and cyber-bullying including some investigations and training.

**SB241**: STEM/STEAM – Signed. Establishes the State Seal of STEAM Program to recognize pupils who have attained a high level of proficiency in science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics.

**SB246**: Construction Manager at Risk – Enrolled. Allows the extension of the construction manager at risk (CMAR) program, which assists the District in securing new construction and renovation projects at a low cost.
SB300: PAR – Enrolled. Provides an appropriation to continue the Peer Review and Assistance program in the Clark County School District.

SB322: Civics Test – Signed. Requires an exam for all students in the subject of civics.

SB369: Professional Development and School Culture – Enrolled. Requires the Clark County School District to provide a program of professional development to work more collaboratively in order to improve the school-learning environment.

SB381: Appointed School Boards – Failed. Requires the creation of a community education advisory board by certain local governmental entities to make appointments to the board of the trustees of certain school districts.

SB390: Zoom Schools – Enrolled. Continues the Zoom school program that was first created during the 2013 legislative session.

SB430: Achievement School District – Failed. Provides for the creation of an additional type of achievement charter school (A+ Schools) and authorizes the Department of Education to enter into performance compacts with certain public schools.

SB506: Education Savings Account – Failed. Continues the Governor's program that allows parents of students in public schools to apply for an Education Savings Account (ESA) where they can use the money to pay for private or home school.

SB547: Mandatory Raises/Collective Bargaining – Failed. Requires CCSD to establish a salary incentive program for professional growth. This bill also requires the board of trustees to reserve a certain amount of money to carry out the salary incentive program and make salary incentive program a mandatory collective bargaining item.

SB550: HCM System – Enrolled. An appropriation to the Clark County School District for the purchase of a human resource management information system.

SB554: K-12 Budget – Enrolled. This is the major funding bill for K-12 programs, including the per pupil allocations for each county.

It’s a Wrap!

We are very fortunate to work with great partners who support public education. We’d like to thank the College of Southern Nevada, Education Nevada Now, HOPE For Nevada, the Las Vegas Metro Chamber, the Nevada State Education Association, the Clark County Education Association, Nevada Succeeds, and many others for working with us on behalf of CCSD students.
In addition to elected officials and other organizational partners, we work with some amazing education advocates who put countless hours into representing the over 450,000 Nevada students. A big thank you to the whole team who lobbied on behalf of urban and rural areas, districts, and school boards. We loved working with all of you.

We’ve enjoyed bringing you the Session Spotlight throughout the 120 days of the 79th Nevada Legislature and hope that it was useful to you. The CCSD Government Relations team will make a final report to the Board of Trustees on July 5, 2017, and the full report on all education-related legislation tracked throughout the session will be available on our Web site, http://ccsd.net/departments/government-affairs, by the end of July.

CCSD Government Relations