

Legislative Update

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

March 27, 2015

Highlights from Week 8:

Monday brought the second major deadline of the session: Committee Bill Introduction, resulting in another flurry of new bills. Now that the majority of the bills have been introduced, the next few weeks will be busy with hearings to meet the next deadline of passing the first committee by April 10.

Of the 998 bills introduced so far, we are tracking 266 – about 27% of the bills. When you get to the section of this report that shows the bills scheduled for hearings, you'll get a feel for the numerous hearings on bills related to education.

During the Governor's State of the State address, he announced a broad plan of education reform related to his vision of a "New Nevada." We created a chart (attached, "New Nevada Education Bills") to help us keep track of the bills related to his objectives. It may not be a complete list of initiatives, but we'll add to the list as we become aware of them.

Here's the day-by-day summary of the past week:

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Assembly Committee on Education

- ~ **AB218** – This bill requires the Department of Education to coordinate emergency plans between school districts from across the state. The bill also requires that safety personnel meet once a year to share best practices on how to keep schools safe and how to handle emergencies as they are occurring. Moreover, the bill seeks a ratio of 250 counselors and social workers to every 1 student. This is a policy statement, a goal for the legislature to reach, and is not mandatory if the state doesn't fund a school at this level.
- ~ **AB221** on student data privacy is a bill, sponsored by Assemblyman Randy Kirner, that proposes to create a data dictionary at the state and local levels that must be published online to make parents aware of what data elements/categories are collected about their children. The bill also requires the district to include certain provisions in contracts that provide for the disclosure of data.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Senate Education

- ~ **SB236**, a bill sponsored by Senator Joyce Woodhouse, that extends the work of the STEM Council and provides for two events to recognize student work in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics was heard.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Senate Committee on Education

- ~ **AB351** clarifies which charter schools may qualify for the charter school facility loan money, which was created, and set-aside during the 2013 session. This bill would allow a charter school that has earned a 3 star rating to apply for these funds. Current law allows only those schools that are ranked 4 and 5 stars.
- ~ **AB 278**, sponsored by Assemblyman Elliot Anderson, requires the Department of Education to develop certain policies, procedures and guidance related to class-size reduction.
- ~ **AB285** was introduced by Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury. This bill will allow diabetic students who have parent and physician permission to self-administer insulin while in school. The District submitted an amendment to the bill to require students to follow the school's procedures for medical waste.

- ~ **AB328**, sponsored by Assemblyman Elliot Anderson, proposes to move due process hearings under the responsibility of the Department of Administration. The bill would also require hearing officers to reside in the county where the hearing takes place. The District is working with the sponsor to make some changes to ensure compliance with federal law.
- ~ **AB339**, the bill that would provide a process by which school board members could be appointed, was introduced by Assemblyman Pat Hickey, along with State Superintendent Dale Erquiaga. A robust discussion followed, with both supporters and those opposed weighing in. Numerous school trustees from across the state testified in opposition, maintaining that elected school boards are more responsive to the public, among other things.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

Senate Committee on Education: Two of the Governor's Education Reform bills were heard in the Senate Committee on Education on Thursday, **SB77** and **AB432**.

- ~ **SB77**, submitted by the Department of Education, establishes "turnaround schools" in the Nevada Revised Statutes. The bill sets parameters for selecting turnaround schools, requirements for the schools, and deadlines to show improvement. The District has been working with the Department and is seeking some additional changes in the language.
- ~ **AB432** establishes the criteria and funding for Victory Schools, a program that serves students living in poverty. The bill requires schools identified by the Department of Education to submit plans for the funds allocated. Schools would be able to use funding for: prekindergarten, expansion of full-day kindergarten, summer academies, or other instruction for pupils, additional instruction or other learning opportunities when school is not in session, professional development for teachers and other educational personnel, programs to recruit and retain highly effective teachers and other educational personnel, evidence-based social, wrap-around services, parent engagement, programs to improve school climate and culture, and evidence-based academic programs.
- ~ **SB226** – Heard by the Senate Committee on Education, this bill provides clarifying language that educator professional associations may provide professional development services. The bill would also allow these professional associations to apply for grant money should it be made available for professional development if Governor Sandoval's budget plan is passed.
- ~ **SB208** – During the Work Session portion of the meeting, the Committee passed SB208, a bill that requires new charter schools to advertise to the surrounding community that it is open and is accepting applications for admission.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Assembly Committee on Education

- ~ **AB448** was heard on Friday afternoon in a special meeting of Assembly Education. Another bill related to the Governor's reform package, this bill would create a new school district, the Achievement School District, to host low-performing schools with the goal of soliciting high-quality charter schools to come to Nevada to run the schools. Representatives of Nevada districts had lots of questions about the procedure, many of which were centered on the lack of local control and the implementation of requirements related to turning facilities over to non-district charters.

Senate Committee on Education

- ~ **SB390**, a bill sponsored by Senator Becky Harris, that would allow students attending a traditional public school that is 25% over capacity or more to have priority if they wish to attend a charter school was heard.
- ~ **SB338**, a bill sponsored by Senator Debbie Smith was heard. The District testified in support of **SB338**, which would require the Attorney General to establish the Safe-to-Tell Program to enable the anonymous reporting of dangerous, violent or unlawful activity in or at a public school. Although Senator Smith was not able to be there in person, she provided input via telephone. She plans to return to Carson City and resume her official duties on April 8th. We continue to wish her the very best as she completes her medical treatments in Texas and look forward to having her back.

Coming Up:

To keep current about hearings that are scheduled (and sometimes rescheduled) during the session, it's important to utilize the "Calendar of Meetings" link on the Nevada Legislature website (www.leg.state.nv.us). There you will find the most accurate list of committee meeting dates and times as well as the bills scheduled to be heard.

Bill #	Description	Sponsors	Next Meeting Title	Next Meeting Date
AB312	Revises provisions governing the Public Employees' Retirement System. (BDR 23-975)	Trowbridge, Moore, Dickman, Dooling, Jones, O'Neill, Seaman, and Shelton	Assembly Committee on Government Affairs	3/30/2015 8:00 AM
AB387	Revises provisions relating to the calculation of the years of service of certain members of the Public Employees' Retirement System, the Judicial Retirement Plan and the Legislators' Retirement System. (BDR 23-1061)	Kirkpatrick	Assembly Committee on Government Affairs	3/30/2015 8:00 AM
SB310	Revises provisions relating to local government financing. (BDR 22-827)	Kieckhefer	Senate Committee on Government Affairs	3/30/2015 1:00 PM
AB179	Revises provisions governing personal information. (BDR 52-756)	Assemblymen Flores, Carrillo, Diaz, Elliot Anderson, Araujo, Armstrong, Benitez-Thompson, Bustamante Adams, Carlton, Dickman, Dooling, Ellison, Gardner, Joiner, Jones, Kirkpatrick, Moore, Munford, Nelson, Ohrenschall, O'Neill, Seaman, Shelton, Silberkraus, Spiegel, Sprinkle, Swank, Thompson, and Trowbridge; Senators Denis, Kihuen, Spearman, and Manendo	Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor -- Work Session Item	3/30/2015 1:30 PM
AB292	Revises provisions relating to providers of health care who provide services through telehealth and various other provisions relating to insurance coverage for such services. (BDR 54-606)	Assemblyman Oscarson; Senators Hardy, and Goicoechea	Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor	3/30/2015 1:30 PM
AB394	Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-900)	Gardner, Fiore, Jones, Silberkraus, Hickey, Dickman, O'Neill, Seaman, and Trowbridge	Assembly Committee on Education	3/30/2015 3:15 PM
AB403	Revises provisions concerning peace officers. (BDR 23-813)	Assemblymen Shelton, and Jones; Senator Ford	Assembly Committee on Government Affairs	3/31/2015 8:00 AM

Bill #	Description	Sponsors	Next Meeting Title	Next Meeting Date
AB381	Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24-966)	Kirkpatrick	Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections	3/31/2015 3:00 PM
AB456	Abolishes certain committees, boards, funds and panels. (BDR 38-551)	Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections	Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections -- Work Session Item	3/31/2015 3:00 PM
AB457	Revises provisions governing reports required to be submitted by various entities. (BDR 1-937)	Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections	Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections -- Work Session Item	3/31/2015 3:00 PM
SB295	Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-789)	Senators Woodhouse, Ford, Denis, Parks, Kihuen, Manendo, Segerblom, and Smith; Assemblymen Bustamante Adams, and Stewart	Senate Committee on Education	3/31/2015 3:30 PM
SB330	Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-724)	Lipparelli, Hammond, Hardy, Harris, and Gustavson	Senate Committee on Education	3/31/2015 3:30 PM
SB204	Providing for protections from bullying in public schools. (BDR 34-51)	Senators Parks, Woodhouse, Manendo, Atkinson, Ford, and Smith; Assemblywomen Spiegel, and Joiner	Joint Meeting of the Senate Committee on Education and Assembly Committee on Education	3/31/2015 5:00 PM
SB504	Amends provisions relating to a safe and respectful learning environment in public schools. (BDR 34-1201)	Committee on Finance	Joint Meeting of the Senate Committee on Education and Assembly Committee on Education	3/31/2015 5:00 PM
SB339	Authorizes the Nevada System of Higher Education to impose additional restrictions relating to the use of tobacco. (BDR 15-873)	Senators Smith, Woodhouse, Denis, Parks, Brower, Atkinson, Ford, Hardy, Kieckhefer, Kihuen, Manendo, Segerblom, and Spearman; Assemblymen Sprinkle, Joiner, Araujo, Carrillo, Hickey, Kirner, Munford, and Stewart	Senate Committee on Judiciary	4/1/2015 1:00 PM
AB6	Revises provisions relating to autism spectrum disorders. (BDR 54-67)	Committee on Commerce and Labor	Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor -- Work Session Item	4/1/2015 1:30 PM
AB249	Makes various changes relating to collective bargaining. (BDR 23-521)	Wheeler, O'Neill, Dickman, Gardner, Hambrick, Dooling, Ellison, Hickey, Shelton, and Titus	Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor	4/1/2015 1:30 PM
AB303	Revises provisions governing academic standards in public schools. (BDR 34-886)	Assemblymen Jones, Dickman, Fiore, Moore, Shelton, Armstrong, Ellison, Gardner, Munford,	Assembly Committee on Education	4/1/2015 3:15 PM

Bill #	Description	Sponsors	Next Meeting Title	Next Meeting Date
		Ohrenschall, and Trowbridge; Senator Gustavson		
AB341	Mandates enhanced screening and intervention for children with certain disabilities. (BDR 34-832)	Assemblymen Ohrenschall, Diaz, Silberkraus, Spiegel, Carrillo, Elliot Anderson, Araujo, Carlton, Joiner, Jones, Munford, Neal, Stewart, Swank, and Thompson; Senator Ford	Assembly Committee on Education	4/1/2015 3:15 PM
SB460	Revises provisions related to the statewide system of accountability for public schools. (BDR 34-1108)	Committee on Education	Senate Committee on Education	4/2/2015 3:30 PM
SB461	Provides for an individual graduation plan to allow certain pupils enrolled in a public high school to remain enrolled in high school for an additional period to work towards graduation. (BDR 34-1091)	Committee on Education	Senate Committee on Education	4/2/2015 3:30 PM
SB463	Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-411)	Committee on Education	Senate Committee on Education	4/2/2015 3:30 PM
AB352	Revises provisions relating to permits to carry concealed firearms. (BDR 15-1070)	Assemblymen Ellison, Wheeler, Fiore, Oscarson, Dooling, Dickman, Jones, Moore, O'Neill, and Seaman; Senator Gustavson	Assembly Committee on Judiciary	4/6/2015 8:00 AM

Attachments

This update references the following materials which are attached to the email:

- *CCSD Legislation Status Report 3-27-15*
- *New Nevada Education Bills*

Want to Learn More?

In case you didn't know: Now you can view past hearings online. In the past, it was necessary to order a copy of the video recording of a hearing in order to watch a hearing that had already taken past. Not only was there a cost to do so, but it also had a rather lengthy turnaround time.

New this session is another amazing feature of the already-fabulous Nevada Legislative website. From the homepage (www.leg.state.nv.us), click on "Calendar of Meetings," at the top right hand corner of the page. Just above the blue bar labeled "Floor Sessions," you'll find a blue link to "Past Meeting & Floor Session Videos." Click on ">78th (2015) Session," then click on whichever segment you are interested in watching. Videos are listed by committee, and by date. When you hover on the screen, a progress bar appears, and when you slide across the bar it's easy to find the specific bill you'd like to listen to. Now you never have to miss a hearing!