



SESSION SPOTLIGHT

May 7, 2021

It is hard to believe that there are only 24 days left of the 81st Nevada Legislative Session. With the May 14 second committee passage deadline closing in, committees will be hearing and voting on a great deal of bills in the upcoming week. In addition, with the news of the Economic Forum's revised revenue projections, legislators will begin looking at where to spend those dollars (more on that below). Finally, on Tuesday, May 11th, and Friday, May 14th, the legislature will work to close the Nevada Department of Education's budget. This will provide great insight into what the future holds for education in the state.

A reminder to our readers - at the bottom of each Session Spotlight there is a link to click the bills CCSD is tracking, and any scheduled meetings for next week. These reports will help you stay informed of what is happening with each bill as it moves through the legislative process.

Below is a summary of what has taken place this week at the Legislature!

Economic Forum

On [Tuesday](#), March 4th, the much anticipated meeting of the Economic Forum convened to discuss the revised economic projections for the upcoming biennium (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2023). In the end, the numbers were better than many expected as the forum projected an increase of \$586 million more dollars to come into the state compared to the projections the forum made this past December. In addition, the Economic Forum projected additional revenues of \$324 million for the current fiscal year leading to a total infusion of \$910 million into the general fund for three fiscal years.

Earlier this week, the Nevada Association of School Superintendents (NASS) put out a statement asking to restore the cuts of nearly \$160 million to the Class Size Reduction program and more than \$33 million to the Read By Grade Three program originally in the Governor's recommended budget. School districts will continue to have conversations with legislators regarding this priority in light of the Forum's revised projections as the session comes to an end. NASS' statement can be viewed [here](#).

Governor's Response to the Economic Forum

Following the forecast provided by the Nevada Economic Forum, Governor Sisolak delivered an address regarding the state's recovery. Highlights of Governor Sisolak's address include the following quotes:

- “Yesterday’s Economic Forum proved that our crisis management, strategic budgeting decisions, and most importantly—the shared sacrifices of every Nevadan in the last 14 months—has resulted in the State having \$586.2 million more than we thought we would have when we first created this budget in December.”
- “We need to take the same approach -- we need to refill our savings account, pay off our debts, and restore the difficult cuts that we suffered in areas like mental health and education. We need to bring our State back to a baseline. And we also need to fix what’s broken by investing in new systems -- including the one at DETR.”

A link to the video recording of the Governor can be found here: [Governor Sisolak addresses Nevadans after Economic Forum](#)

Senate Committee on Education

The following bills received a hearing this week in the Senate Committee Education:

Monday's Hearing

- [**AB261**](#) - Diversity and inclusivity in textbooks
- [**AB417**](#) - Removes criminal penalties related to bus repairs

Wednesday's Hearing

- [**AB19**](#) - Adds civics, financial literacy, and multicultural education as core academic subjects
- [**AB235**](#) - Requires school districts to provide information sessions related to the Free Application for Student Aid
- [**AB266**](#) - Revises provisions related to teacher evaluations and class sizes.

The committee also work sessioned the following bills:

- [**AB257**](#) - Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) testing and repairs in schools
- [**AB420**](#) - Revises provisions governing education management organizations

Assembly Committee on Education

The following bills received a hearing this week in the Assembly Committee on Education:

Tuesday's Hearing

- [**SB2**](#) - CCSD’s bill on efficiencies in education
- [**SB352**](#) - Streamlines process for paraprofessionals to be able to teach as students in the school of employment
- [**SB363**](#) - Revises provisions related to charter schools

Thursday's Hearing

- [**SB151**](#) - Report relating to health support staff
- [**SB193**](#) - Revises provisions relating to the education of veterans and their spouses and dependents
- [**SB249**](#) - Mental health days for students and information on student identification cards

The committee also work sessioned the following bills:

- **SB173** - Invites school districts to present a summer school plan to address learning loss
- **AB450** - Revises provisions relating to workforce development

Want to Learn More?

In case you didn't know: the Legislative Counsel Bureau's Research Division produces a variety of publications on many topics. On the left side of the Nevada Legislature website is a picture of a portion of the Nevada State Seal. Superimposed on top of that graphic are several links that take you to rich resources that may not be accessed as often as other links. The sixth link, "Research/Library," is well worth exploring.

Are you a history buff? Want to find bill information from a prior legislative session? Or find the representative for your school? The Research Division publishes bill summaries, legislative reports, Policy and Program Reports, Research Briefs, the Directory of State and Local Government, and general information regarding the Nevada Legislature. The site is a wonderful historical resource. It contains information on legislators dating back to 1861, a list of vetoed bills as early as 1899, and many other interesting facts from sessions of the past. Visit <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Division/Research/Publications/index.html>.

Looking for more recent information? Under Research Briefs and Issue Papers you can find a number of articles written about the state of Nevada's education system. The Division also posts research on many education topics including full-day kindergarten, teacher performance pay, Career and Technical Education and other issues. The site is also a rich resource for other Nevada industries such as healthcare and energy. Visit the Research Division by clicking [here](#).

There is also a search function in this area of the website that allows you to search by school to see who represents your campus: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/dbtw-wpd/SchoolSearch.htm>.

Happy Hunting!

For a list of bills CCSD is tracking click [here](#).

[Current Scheduled Meetings for the Week of May 10, 2021](#)

The "[Calendar of Meetings](#)" on the Nevada Legislature website provides up to date information regarding meetings.

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.