

Legislative Update

CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 3, 2015

While the rest of the legislative building emptied out for Easter weekend, Senate Education forged on, adjourning at 8:19 PM on Friday night, ending Day 60, the halfway point of the 78th Session of the Nevada State Legislature. Next week brings a major deadline – First Committee Passage – so veterans of the process know that hearings next week will run long and late as bills are heard, amended, and passed out of committee before the April 10 deadline. Bills designated “exempt” – usually because they have a fiscal impact on the budget – do not have to meet this deadline. Next week’s deadline begins the weeding process as bills “die in committee,” either because they weren’t given a hearing or don’t have enough votes to pass out of committee.

Highlights from Week 9:

MONDAY, MARCH 30

Assembly Education

- ~ **AB394** – The Assembly Committee on Education heard AB394, a bill that would allow cities in Clark County to deconsolidate the Clark County School District by creating their own school precincts. The legislation would also allow smaller districts in the rural areas of Nevada to consolidate if they so choose. Specifically, the bill provides a process for cities in Clark County to create a plan that must be approved by the State Board of Education should they wish to separate from the Clark County School. The bill does not go into detail on how transportation, finances, and student services will be provided, nor how contractual issues would be handled. Much of the hearing centered on these ambiguities in the bill.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Senate Education Committee

- ~ **SB295** focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) instruction across the state. SB295 requires the Nevada Department of Education to create a website displaying the different career paths STEM majors may take. The bill also provides for an appropriation to school districts to provide professional development to its staff in not only STEM but also for the new Nevada Standards in English, math and science.
- ~ **SB330**, deals with two important issues that don’t necessarily have anything to do with each other – student athletics and the qualification of school nurses. Due to this difference as well as time constraints, the bill was actually split into two hearings. On Tuesday the Committee addressed the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) portion of the bill. SB330 revised the eligibility of students who transfer to different schools for sports purposes. Specifically, the bill requires that if a student appeals the decision of the NIAA, they shall receive an independent hearing to review and conduct the proceedings. The nursing portion of the bill was scheduled for Friday, April 3rd.

Joint Hearing of Assembly and Senate Education Committees

- ~ At 5:00 p.m. a special joint hearing on two bills that propose changes to the statutes on bullying was held. The Governor’s office introduced **SB504** followed by impactful, emotional testimony from parents of children who had experienced bullying. SB504 redefines bullying, adds deadlines for reporting and investigating incidents as well as notifying parents, and mandates disciplinary measures for failure to report, notify, or investigate by the deadlines outlined. The District requested modifications to the bill to ensure clarity for the implementation of the bill’s requirements. Late into the evening, **SB204** was

presented by Senator Parks and Assemblywoman Spiegel. This bill requires districts to provide assessment and counseling for suicide, allows a private cause of action against a school district, an employee or a volunteer for a breach of duty related to bullying, create safety plans for targets of bullying, and requires the Nevada Equal Rights Commission to establish policies and provide training.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

Senate Health and Human Services

- ~ Well into the evening, **SB394** was heard, a bill which requires the State Board of Education to include personal safety standards into the health curriculum. The bill establishes requirement for who can teach these standards and for the adoption of materials.

Assembly Education

- ~ The Assembly Committee on Education had a busy evening hearing two very important bills. However, before they heard the two bills, the Committee also held a work session. During the work session they passed **AB166**, the bill that creates the State Seal of Bi-literacy Program and **AB351**, which allows more charter schools to qualify for facilities financing.
- ~ **AB303** – After the work session the Committee heard AB303, a bill that would remove the current Nevada Academic Content Standards, otherwise known as Common Core. The Committee heard both sides of issue in depth, and the conversation was both educational and robust with so many speakers that two overflow rooms were needed for the hearing.
- ~ **AB341** – The final bill heard by the Committee that night was AB341, a bill that would require additional services for those students who suffer from dyslexia. The bill would require school districts to screen all students for dyslexia, to hire a dyslexia interventionist at every school location, and also provide professional development for teachers so they can identify students with dyslexia and employ specific tactics in teaching students who suffer from the learning disability.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2

Senate Government Affairs

- ~ **AB445** – This bill would extend the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) for many of the cities across Clark County. As originally written, it was intended to only include projects in the city of Henderson. However, do to certain restrictions in the Nevada Constitution, the bill had to be expanded to include projects in North Las Vegas, Mesquite, and Boulder City. RDAs are a tool used by cities to improve blighted buildings and neighborhoods. By withholding some property tax dollars, this money is reinvested into the neighborhood hoping to attract businesses and more community projects into the area.

Senate Committee on Education

- ~ Senate Education moved three bills out of committee on Thursday, including **SB211** (amended to delete the mandatory school start times and to make ethnic studies an elective course), **SB313**, and **SB390**. Two bills that were originally scheduled, **SB77** on turnaround school and **SB432** on Victory Schools, were pulled from the agenda.
- ~ The Committee also heard several bills for the first time. They considered **SB463** on data privacy, **SB13** on special education, and **SB227** on a grant program for higher education.
- ~ **SB461** – This bill would require all school districts to create an Individualized Graduation Plan for every student. Part of this plan is to help those students who are not on track to graduate in 4 years. The bill allows for school districts to continue helping students graduate beyond the 4 years as long as the student continues to abide by their graduation plan.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3

Senate Education

- ~ **SB330, Part 2** – The Senate Committee on Education continued the hearing on SB330 on Friday afternoon. The school-nursing portion of the bill changes the qualifications for people wanting to be a school nurse. The bill still would require applicants to be fully licensed as a nurse and would also still require a bachelors degree. To be hired by a school district, the applicant would not have to pass any teacher-specific test such as the PRAXIS or Nevada Constitution.
- ~ **SB460** creates in statute an alternative performance framework for schools that serve at least 75% of students that have been expelled, have behavioral issues, or are academically disadvantaged.
- ~ **SB302** is a bill sponsored by Senator Hammond that would establish a program for children to receive funds from their district’s per-pupil funding to enroll in a private school. The bill would require students to take standardized exams to demonstrate academic progress.
- ~ **SB474** is a bill that establishes the Teaching and Leading Fund, one of Governor Sandoval’s bills to establish a “New Nevada.” Regional Professional Development Programs (RPDP), school boards, charter schools, education associations, nonprofit organizations, and higher education institutions would be allowed to apply for grants to be used for professional development.

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.

Upcoming Meetings Week of April 6, 2015

Bill #	Description	Sponsors	Status/Location	Next Meeting Title	Next Meeting Date
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	Judiciary	Assembly Committee on Judiciary	4/6/2015 8:00 AM
AB388	Revises provisions governing certain leaves of absence for military duty for public officers and employees. (BDR 23-180)	Paul Anderson, Kirkpatrick, and Armstrong	Government Affairs	Assembly Committee on Government Affairs	4/6/2015 8:00 AM
AB479	Revises provisions relating to public notices. (BDR 19-1095)	Committee on Government Affairs	Government Affairs	Assembly Committee on Government Affairs	4/6/2015 8:00 AM
AB6	Revises provisions relating to autism spectrum disorders. (BDR 54-67)	Committee on Commerce and Labor	Commerce and Labor	Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor -- Work Session Item	4/6/2015 12:30 PM

AB356	Revises provisions governing labor organizations. (BDR 53-844)	Fiore, Gardner, Dooling, Dickman, Ellison, Jones, and Shelton	Commerce and Labor	Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor	4/6/2015 12:30 PM
SB241	Revises provisions relating to collective bargaining. (BDR 23-1030)	Roberson	Government Affairs	Senate Committee on Government Affairs	4/6/2015 1:00 PM
SB444	Revises provisions governing civil actions. (BDR 3-1137)	Committee on Judiciary	Judiciary	Senate Committee on Judiciary	4/6/2015 1:00 PM
AB221	Revises provisions relating to data concerning pupils. (BDR 34-147)	Kirner	Education	Assembly Committee on Education -- Work Session Item	4/6/2015 3:15 PM
AB278	Revises provisions governing class-size reduction. (BDR 34-749)	Elliot Anderson, Kirkpatrick, Diaz, Benitez-Thompson, Carlton, Paul Anderson, Araujo, Bustamante Adams, Carrillo, Flores, Hambrick, Joiner, Munford, Neal, Ohrenschall, Oscarson, Spiegel, Sprinkle, Swank, and Thompson	Education	Assembly Committee on Education -- Work Session Item	4/6/2015 3:15 PM
AB285	Revises provisions relating to the self-administration of certain medications in public schools. (BDR 34-812)	Woodbury, Oscarson, and Titus	Education	Assembly Committee on Education -- Work Session Item	4/6/2015 3:15 PM
AB421	Creates the Spending and Government Efficiency Commission for public education in this State. (BDR S-1083)	Committee on Education	Education	Assembly Committee on Education	4/6/2015 3:15 PM
AB447	Revises provisions relating to the statewide performance evaluation system. (BDR 34-1120)	Committee on Education	Education	Assembly Committee on Education	4/6/2015 3:15 PM
AB280	Revises provisions relating to relations between local governments and public employees. (BDR 23-858)	Assemblymen Nelson, Dickman, Jones, Wheeler, Ellison, Gardner, and Titus; Senator Gustavson	Government Affairs	Assembly Committee on Government Affairs	4/7/2015 8:00 AM
AB392	Revises provisions governing taxation. (BDR 32-585)	Kirkpatrick	Taxation	Assembly Committee on Taxation	4/7/2015 12:30 PM
AB393	Revises provisions relating to the Live Entertainment Tax. (BDR 41-591)	Kirkpatrick	Taxation	Assembly Committee on Taxation	4/7/2015 12:30 PM
AB464	Revises provisions relating to state financial administration. (BDR 32-851)	Committee on Taxation	Taxation	Assembly Committee on Taxation	4/7/2015 12:30 PM

SB13	Revises provisions relating to the provision of public education to pupils with disabilities. (BDR 34-311)	Committee on Education	Education	Senate Committee on Education -- Work Session Item	4/7/2015 3:30 PM
SB195	Revises provisions relating to higher education. (BDR 34-509)	Hardy	Education	Senate Committee on Education	4/7/2015 3:30 PM
SB266	Revises provisions relating to the tax on live entertainment. (BDR 32-720)	Lipparelli, Hardy, Goicoechea, Hammond, Kieckhefer, and Settlemeyer	Revenue and Economic Development	Senate Committee on Revenue and Economic Development	4/7/2015 3:30 PM
SB391	Revises provisions governing educational instruction in the subject of reading. (BDR 34-644)	Harris, Kieckhefer, Farley, Roberson, Woodhouse, Atkinson, Denis, Ford, Goicoechea, Gustavson, Kihuen, Lipparelli, Manendo, Parks, Settlemeyer, and Spearman	Education	Senate Committee on Education	4/7/2015 3:30 PM
SB399	Creates the Nevada Boost Grant Program. (BDR 34-890)	Senators Denis, Woodhouse, Kihuen, Ford, and Segerblom; Assemblymen Thompson, Carrillo, and Swank	Education	Senate Committee on Education -- Work Session Item	4/7/2015 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	Education	Senate Committee on Education -- Work Session Item	4/7/2015 3:30 PM
SB463	Revises provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-411)	Committee on Education	Education	Senate Committee on Education -- Work Session Item	4/7/2015 3:30 PM
SB503	Provides for the creation and implementation of the Breakfast After the Bell Program. (BDR 34-1200)	Committee on Finance	Education	Senate Committee on Education	4/7/2015 3:30 PM
SB504	Amends provisions relating to a safe and respectful learning environment in public schools. (BDR 34-1201)	Committee on Finance	Education	Senate Committee on Education -- Work Session Item	4/7/2015 3:30 PM
AB320	Designates certain elective offices as nonpartisan offices. (BDR 24-923)	Silberkraus, Woodbury, Gardner, and Seaman	Legislative Operations and Elections	Assembly Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections -- Work Session Item	4/7/2015 4:00 PM

AB182	Revises provisions relating to collective bargaining by local government employers. (BDR 23-646)	Kirner, Wheeler, Hambrick, Dickman, Edwards, Ellison, Gardner, Jones, Nelson, and Oscarson	Commerce and Labor	Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor -- Work Session Item	4/8/2015 12:30 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	Commerce and Labor	Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor -- Work Session Item	4/8/2015 12:30 PM
AB321	Clarifies that the jurisdiction of school police officers extends to all charter school property, buildings and facilities. (BDR 34-925)	Assemblymen Silberkraus, Dooling, Trowbridge, Gardner, Seaman, Paul Anderson, Armstrong, Dickman, Edwards, Ellison, Fiore, Flores, Hambrick, Hickey, Jones, Kirner, Moore, Nelson, O'Neill, Oscarson, Stewart, Titus, Wheeler, and Woodbury; Senators Manendo, and Harris	Education	Assembly Committee on Education	4/8/2015 3:15 PM
AB349	Revises various provisions relating to education. (BDR 34-901)	Gardner, Diaz, Dickman, Munford, and Shelton	Education	Assembly Committee on Education	4/8/2015 3:15 PM
AB374	Revises provisions governing education. (BDR 34-1064)	Assemblymen Flores, Araujo, Carrillo, Dickman, Hickey, Munford, O'Neill, Silberkraus, and Stewart; Senators Denis, Ford, Kihuen, and Spearman	Education	Assembly Committee on Education	4/8/2015 3:15 PM
AB378	Makes various changes relating to education. (BDR 34-807)	Dooling, and Shelton	Education	Assembly Committee on Education	4/8/2015 3:15 PM
SB411	Allows the imposition of additional statutory taxes in a county to fund capital projects of the school district based on the recommendations of a Public Schools Overcrowding and Repair Needs Committee and voter approval. (BDR S-140)	Senator Smith; Assemblymen Benitez-Thompson, Hickey, Joiner, and Sprinkle	Revenue and Economic Development	Senate Committee on Revenue and Economic Development	4/9/2015 3:30 PM

Attachments

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

- *CCSD Legislation Status Report 04-03-15*