

Nevada State Board of Education

Nevada State Board for Career and Technical Education

ACTION REPORT

MARCH 19-20, 2009

Anthony Ruggiero, President
Dr. Keith Rheault, Superintendent of Public Instruction

On **Thursday, March 19 and Friday, March 20, 2009**, the State Board met at the Department of Education, 700 East Fifth Street, Carson City, for presentations and discussions at their regular Board meeting.

On **Thursday, March 19, 2009**, The Subcommittee on K-12 Governance was called to order at 1:15 p.m. with Ken McKenna, Chair. Motion made and approved to recommend to the whole Board to support the education stabilization bills to include amendments as discussed. The Subcommittee discussed legislative bills relating to K-12 governance. A motion was made and carried to recommend to the full State Board regarding Senate Bill 330 to:

- support elimination of councils and commissions;
- support performance aspects regarding teacher measures and tracking of student achievement;
- support expansion of a search committee for the position of State Superintendent to include the Governor's Office and Legislature; and
- support amendment regarding the makeup of the State Board of Education.

The Subcommittee on K-12 Governance briefly reviewed Senate Bill 326 and referred it to the full board for further discussion during the regular meeting. The Subcommittee recommends support of ACR 2, AB 55 and SB 150 (education stabilization funds with amendments).

The Subcommittee on Charter Schools was called to order at 2:50 p.m. on **Thursday, March 19, 2009**, with Dr. Cliff Ferry, Chair. A motion was made and carried to grant a Subsection 7 Charter to the Entrepreneurial-Technical & Engineering Charter School (ETECHS) for State Board Sponsorship.

The Subcommittee on Charter Schools discussed several legislative bills affecting charter schools. The Subcommittee moved support of ACR 2 and moved to send the remaining list to the full board during the regular meeting for further discussion and possible recommendations.

On **Thursday, March 19, 2009**, the Regular Meeting of the State Board of Education was called to order at 4:50 p.m. by President Anthony Ruggiero.

President Ruggiero gave an update of his meeting with the Governor and an update of his attendance to the National Association of School Boards of Education in Washington, D.C.

Superintendent Dr. Keith Rheault gave an update of the following:

- P-16 Council meeting held on February 18, 2009
- Council of Chief State School Officer's Legislative Conference March 8-10, 2009
- 2009 Legislative Session

Jodi Stephens, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor, thanked the State Board of Education for the communication of the Department and the Board President with the Governor's Office. Ms. Stephens answered written questions presented to her from Board members regarding the present economic difficulties of the State, governance structure of the Board, graduation rates and early childhood learning funding. Ms. Stephens encouraged members to contact her with concerns or questions as they take support of educational legislative bills in order to keep the communication line open with the Governor's Office.

The Board held a **WORKSHOP** to solicit comments to Proposed Revisions to NAC 387.215 – Reason for withdrawal of a pupil – Revision of the Cohort Graduation Rate. A **PUBLIC HEARING** was held on **Friday, March 20, 2009**, at which time the Board approved the revisions.

The Board held a **WORKSHOP** to solicit comments to Proposed Revisions to NAC 386 – Charter School Budget and Finance Regulations. A Public Hearing will be held at the May 7-8, 2009 meeting.

The Board held a **WORKSHOP** to solicit comments to Proposed Revisions to Language for NAC 389.056 – Procedures for Administration; 389.0565 – Use of Calculators on Examinations; 389.057 – Eligibility for Reexamination; 389.061 – Specific Norm Referenced and Criterion Referenced Examinations Required; 389.071 – Proficiency Examinations in Writing: Eleventh Grade and Above Fifth and Eighth Grade; 389.076 – Nevada High School Proficiency Examination in Reading; 389.079 – Nevada High School Proficiency Examination in Science; 389.081 – Nevada High School Proficiency Examination in Mathematics; 389.083 – Maintenance of Results of Examinations and List of Names and Scores; and 389.655 – Passage of Proficiency Examinations. A **PUBLIC HEARING** was held on **Friday, March 20, 2009**, with a motion to accept the revisions as presented; carried unanimously.

The Board held a **WORKSHOP** to solicit comments to Proposed Revisions to NAC 389.051 to eliminate the February administration of the High School Proficiency Examination, allow juniors to test in the fall and limit the July administration to pupils otherwise ready to graduate. A **PUBLIC HEARING** was held on **Friday, March 20, 2009**, at which time the Board approved the revisions.

The Board held a **WORKSHOP** to solicit comments to Proposed Revisions to NAC 389.048 – Eligibility for High School Proficiency Examinations; and 389.659 – Units Required for Promotion to Next Higher Grade Level; Waiver of Certain Requirements. A **PUBLIC HEARING** was held on **Friday, March 20, 2009**; approval was granted.

The Board held a **WORKSHOP** to solicit comments to Proposed Revisions to NAC 389.655 and 389.657 to Establish the Alternative Criteria for Students to Demonstrate Proficiency in Science. A **PUBLIC HEARING** was held on **Friday, March 20, 2009**; Board approval was granted.

The Board honored Steve Johnson, a chemistry teacher at Churchill County High School, Churchill County School District, as the 2009 Teacher of the Year. The Board presented Mr. Johnson with a plaque and gave a standing ovation for his accomplishments and award to represent Nevada.

The Board postponed the Public Hearing regarding the reconsideration of the hearing held on December 6, 2008, which was a hearing of Petition and Recommendation for Revocation of the Nevada Teacher's License for Kymberly (Tamburello) Laine to the May 2009 meeting.

The Board approved the following Consent Agenda Items:

- Minutes of January 15-16, 2009 Regular Meeting
- State Board Member Travel: Chris Wallace to attend the National School Boards Association Conference in San Diego, California, April 4-7, 2009
- Appointments to the Board of Trustees for the Nevada Public Education Foundation
- Special Education Discretionary Units FY 09
- Appointments to the Title I Committee of Practitioners
- Relicensing of Kids R Kids in Reno and the Las Vegas Day School, a member of the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools and a two year license for White Pine Boys Ranch School, a new boarding school seeking its first license.

The Board approved, separately from the Consent Agenda, the 2009-2016 Elementary and Secondary Textbook Adoption Lists for the Adoption period of March 22, 2009 to June 30, 2016.

Dr. Keith Rheault, Superintendent of Public Instruction, gave an overview of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 regarding the potential impact of the Act on K-12 education in Nevada.

Friday, March 20, 2009, in the absence of President Ruggiero, Vice President, Dr. Cliff Ferry, recalled the regular meeting to order.

Deputy Superintendent, Gloria Dopf, presented a summary of the Annual Submission of the 2008 District Improvement Plans.

The Board adopted the Nevada American Indian and Alaska Native Education Strategic Plan.

The Board approved the request for dual credit courses submitted by the Douglas County School District.

The Subcommittee on Charter Schools' recommended to approve a Subsection 7 Charter for the Entrepreneurial-Technical & Engineering Charter School (ETECHS) for State Board Sponsorship. A motion was made and carried to approve the Subsection 7 Charter.

The Subcommittee on Charter Schools recommended approval of support for the concept of BDR 297 to form a charter school institute. The Board agreed upon a separate charter district, but not apart from board authority, as the local school districts. The Board approved support. The Subcommittee also recommended support of ACR 2; carried.

The Subcommittee on K-12 Governance recommended support for Assembly Concurrent Resolution 2, Assembly Bill 55 and Senate Bill 150 in that the 1/3 property and sales tax per district be considered funds for stabilization. The Subcommittee also recommended support of elimination of councils and commissions as stated in Senate Bill 330, support performance aspect regarding teacher measures, tracking of student achievement, possible enhancement of the state board membership, be amendable to general idea of appointments to board by Governor, Senate and Assembly without specificity to elected members, and expansion of the search committee for the position of Superintendent. Carried with one opposing vote.

Public Comments were received.

The next scheduled meeting of the Nevada State Board of Education/Nevada State Board for Career and Technical Education will be held Thursday and Friday, May 7 & 8, 2009, at the Department of Education, at 700 East Fifth Street, Carson City.