Progress Report

ON 2015 LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION INITIATIVES

Nevada Department of Education

1 Early Learners

2 Modernizing the Nevada Plan

3 Middle School + High School

4 Investing in Change

REV. 05.16

EARLY LEARNERS—$76.4 Million

FUND PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT MATCH — $10.3 MILLION
Needs Attention

Set a goal of enrolling 980 students in new and improved high quality preschool programs in Year 1. Enrolled 782 students (80% of goal). Expanded 277 half-day seats to full-day seats and created 505 new seats. Need 1,408 seats to meet our Year 2 goal.

EXPAND FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN — $38.9 MILLION *On Track*

All first year of biennium funds, have been distributed to schools seeking to become full-day kindergarten (FDK).

READ BY GRADE THREE — $27.2 MILLION *On Track*

All first year of biennium funds, $4.9 million, have been distributed to support activities found to be effective in improving the academic achievement of students in reading in grades Kindergarten through third grade (e.g., literacy coaches, monitoring, early interventions, etc.).

FUND SOCIAL IMPACT BONDS — $25,000 *On Track*

These funds were used to partner with an outside vendor to study the feasibility of social impact bonding to continue and expand preschool services in Nevada. Based on that study, NDE recently issued an RFP for a pilot program to add 200 additional high quality preschool seats that would be supported through private philanthropy and would measure what type of cost savings the State could obtain so we can understand what type of social impact bond we could ultimately issue.

Nevada Ready!

MODERNIZING THE NEVADA PLAN—$140 Million

ADD SPECIAL EDUCATION WEIGHTS — $25 MILLION *On Track*

This initiative doesn't take effect until FY 2017. Special education units will be converted to an equivalent per pupil "weighted" formula. This will begin an increase in weighted formula funding over each year of subsequent biennial budgets until the desired weight (estimated to be twice the basic per pupil guarantee) is achieved, as recommended by the SB 500 Task Force during a previous Interim Study.

ESTABLISH SPECIAL EDUCATION CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT — $5 MILLION *On Track*

The Department has held a workshop to establish regulations concerning the reimbursement qualifications and procedures; the State Board will review and approve. A $5 million account was created for FY 2017 to reimburse districts and charter schools for extraordinary expenses related to the education of students with disabilities.

EXPAND ZOOM SCHOOLS PROGRAM — $50 MILLION *On Track*

Doubled previous funding for program in 2015 session. An additional $25 million was awarded in the first year of the biennium.

CREATE A VICTORY SCHOOLS PROGRAM — $49.9 MILLION *On Track*

$24.8 million was awarded to identified Victory Schools. Funds have been spent on additional personnel, professional development for teachers, materials, additional courses, upgrading technology, and implementing programs to increase student achievement. Some districts have partnered with Communities in Schools to provide wrap-around services, as well as hired social workers, counselors, psychologists and behavior strategists.

FUND GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT — $10 MILLION *On Track*

Gifted and Talented Students (GATE) were identified and $5 million have been distributed through State-approved assessment/processes and based on a count day(s) reporting mechanism established by the Department. Calculations for future "weights" will be determined through this pilot program. Prior State spending on GATE was less than $200,000/year.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL—$52.1 Million

NEVADA READY 21 TECHNOLOGY GRANTS & WAN GRANTS — $22 MILLION *On Track*

Nevada Ready 21 has contracted with CTL, a computer manufacturer, and $14 million was awarded to 20 middle schools throughout the state.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE) EXPANSION — $16.3 MILLION *On Track*

Applications were reviewed by a committee consisting of representatives from each industry sector council, and all applications for allocation funds have been processed. All first year of the biennium funds have been distributed.

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS GRANTS — $8 MILLION *On Track*

State General Fund of $3 million in FY 2016 and $5 million in FY 2017 for College and Career Readiness Grants. The Department distributed the funds for FY 2016 through a competitive grant process.

JOBS FOR AMERICA'S GRADUATES (JAG) EXPANSION — $4.6 MILLION *On Track*

An additional $1.8 million was added to the program and awarded in FY 2016.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT — $1.2 MILLION *On Track*

Nearly $500,000 has been distributed through a competitive grant process to districts and a charter school in October 2015.

Nevada Ready!

INVESTING IN CHANGE—
$74.6 Million

GREAT TEACHING AND LEADING FUND — $9.8 MILLION *On Track*

$4.9 million has been awarded to programs that incentivize professional development, programs of preparation, peer assistance/review, and leadership training and development for teachers, administrators, and other licensed educational personnel, as well as programs to recruit, select, and retain effective teachers and principals.

TEACH NEVADA SCHOLARSHIPS AND INCENTIVES — $25 MILLION *On Track*

$9.9 million has been allocated to 14 districts for incentive pay and $2.5 million was awarded to six Alternative Route to Licensure programs.

SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS — $7 MILLION *On Track*

$2.5 million has been allocated to districts and charter schools to reimburse up to $250 per teacher to cover out-of-pocket expenses for classrooms. A program of peer assistance and review of teachers was also funded in the Clark County School District, with $1 million allocated each fiscal year.

SOCIAL WORKER GRANTS SAFE AND RESPECTFUL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT OFFICE — $16.8 MILLION *On Track*

The Superintendent hired the director for the new office in August 2015. Awarded $6.1 million for FY2016 to provide for contract social workers or other licensed professionals in schools with identified needs.

UNDERPERFORMING SCHOOLS TURNAROUND— $5 MILLION *Needs Attention*

State General Fund of $2.5 million in each fiscal year to provide support to both districts and schools in implementing research-based strategies that have been proven successful in underperforming schools throughout the nation. Have only been able to allocate $1.1 million to schools this fiscal year due to a slow program start.

CHARTER SCHOOL HARBOR MASTER — $10 MILLION *On Track*

State General Fund of $5 million in each fiscal year of the biennium will be utilized to match private philanthropy to recruit and aid the establishment and operation of high quality charter schools to serve pupils who live in poverty, and to aid in the recruitment and development of people to assume leadership roles in the formation and operation of such charter schools. The Department's contract with the vendor, Opportunity 180, was approved in April.

PUBLIC BROADCASTING — $466,000 *On Track*

State General Fund of $233,000 in each fiscal year of the biennium will be utilized to expand educational programming throughout the State, including the provision of kindergarten readiness and literacy initiatives.

TEST SECURITY/DATA PRIVACY — $500,000 *On Track*

State General Fund of $250,000 in each fiscal year of the biennium will be utilized to augment existing staff positions and programs with the availability of contractors. Contractor has been identified and will assist the Department in meeting the recommendations of the review by WestEd's review of Nevada's Test Integrity.

Nevada Department of Education

New Education Program Investment Schedule

2016: $131.2 million

2017: $211.8 million

Total: $343 million