

STATE OF NEVADA MEETING OF
THE COMMISSION ON EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Nevada Department of Education – Battle Born
700 E. 5th St.

Carson City, NV 89701

**MEETING
MINUTES
March 29, 2016**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** Chairman David White called the meeting to order at 8:05am. Roll call was read, and the attendees present are as recorded below. It was noted that the meeting had a quorum. **Chairman David White** led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

David White, Commission Chairman
Mike Amie, Commission Member
Irene Chachas, Commission Member
David Flatt, Commission Member
Gina Hoppe, Commission Member
Sena Loyd, Commission Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Bruce Meissner, Commission Member
Assemblyman Paul Anderson

Steve Canavero, Superintendent
Senator Scott Hammond

Ji Wang, Commission Member

STAFF:

Kimberly Vidoni
Amanda Pinter
Evelyn Barragan
Andy Jorgensen
Mike Malone

OTHERS PRESENT:

Amy AL-Khalisi, CTL

Dave Brancamp, Standards & Instructional Support Director, NDE

Cody Christensen, Lincoln County School District

LeAnn Morris, Carson City School District

Janice Towns, Carson City School District

Valarie Dockery, Carson City School District

Mark Oakden

Ed Grassia, Washoe County School District

Mike Mahanay, CTL

Gabriele Neumann, The Ferraro Group

Brian Saffle, Clark County School

District

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

Chairman White asked for public comment. There was none.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF 02/29/16 MINUTES

Commissioner Flatt moved to approve the 02/29/16 minutes. Commissioner Loyd seconded. Commission Chachas abstained. Motion carried.

4. PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON NEVADA READY

21: Chairman White turned the discussion over to **Dr. Vidoni**.

Dr. Vidoni stated that after last meeting, the grant awards were issued; Andy Jorgensen worked with the provisional awardees to ensure their bandwidth will be up to speed, and Dr. Vidoni worked with all the awardees to find other ways to further invest in their success. **Mr. Jorgensen** stated that after speaking with the provisional awardees, he had some concerns but those were addressed and all awardees satisfied the requirements to be included in the first cohort. **Dr. Vidoni** stated that a survey was sent out to the grantees about the unallocated funding. The following are the requests received:

- a. Funding for coaches, all grantees except Lander
- b. Extra-Duty pay to support teacher attendance at professional development activities
- c. Clark & Elko requested support for on-site IT Technicians.
- d. Clark requested funding for a part-time secretary to organize the grants.
- e. Funds for travel expenses for the Teacher Summits
- f. Wifi Hot Spots

Dr. Vidoni also mentioned that in July the state-level program staff was cut back to part-time, which included the internal evaluator. After realizing that this specific position needed to be full-time, it is being requested to add \$50K back to the program staffing. **Dr. Vidoni** stated that if all requests were to be approved, this would increase the allocation to \$17,664,245.90, leaving \$561,379.10 unallocated.

The unallocated amount added to the 5% buffer leaves \$1.5 million in extra funds. These funds can be carried forward to FY17, which leaves funding to possibly assist current and future grantees with their planning or any other obstacles that may come about. **Dr. Vidoni** also stated that enrollment counts are going to fluctuate throughout the life of the program, and she would ask that the Commission consider a motion to allow NR21 staff to reconcile actual enrollment counts that would lead to the purchase of additional devices throughout the course of the program.

Chairman White asked if the Commission is legally allowed to add these amounts to the grants. **Dr. Vidoni** stated that yes, the legislation states the funds are to be used to support NR21 Plan, and so as long as the funds support the plan, it is allowed. **Commissioners Chachas** and **Hoppe** both asked if the unallocated funding could be used for travel/summits for districts. **Dr. Vidoni** stated that the 5% reserve is to account for fluctuations in enrollment or unexpected events. However, if at the end of FY17 funds were still available, they could be used for conferences.

Chairman White asked for a motion to approve the Nevada Ready 21 budget as presented at today's meeting and district expenses for the Teacher Summit. **Commissioner Flatt** motioned. **Commissioner Chachas** seconded. **Motion carried.**

Chairman White asked for a motion to approve the NR21 staff to alter grantees' awards to account for actual enrollment counts throughout the grant cycle that will lead to fluctuation of awarded funds, without having to come back to the Commission for approval. **Commissioner Amie** motioned. **Commissioner Flatt** seconded. **Motion carried.**

5. UPDATE ON UPCOMING SUNSET COMMITTEE COMMISSION

HEARING: Chairman White turned the discussion over to **Dr. Vidoni**.

Dr. Vidoni stated that the hearing has been set for April 21st at 9am. **Chairman White** will be attending if the Sunset Commission has a video conference to Elko, however if not she'd like to ask another Commissioner to volunteer. **Commissioner Flatt** volunteered. **Dr. Vidoni** stated that the application was submitted and went over the suggested changes:

- a. Change the ex-officio seats to full voting members
- b. Allow the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Administrator of the Division of Enterprise Information Technology Services to appoint designees to attend Commission meetings in their place
- c. Require members to attend meetings, and any member who misses more than 2 consecutive meetings should be removed from the Commission
- d. Remove language that requires the Commission to develop technical standards for ED Tech and electrical wiring
- e. Remove language that requires the needs assessment to be submitted to the Commission by the Department on April 1. As long as we meet the June 1 deadline, we don't need benchmarks legislated.
- f. Removes language that allows the Commission to appoint an advisory committee for school networks. This work is now being done by the Broadband Task Force.

6. UPDATE ON BROADBAND TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES AND THE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH WORK GROUP:

Chairman White turned the discussion over to Dr. Vidoni.

Dr. Vidoni stated that she is a member of the Broadband Task Force, and through that she became the chair of the Education and Outreach Work Group, that will make recommendations to the Governor on ways to improve K-12 school connectivity by June. Last week, Ray Timothy, Executive Director of the Utah Education and Telecommunications Network presented to the Task Force and also met with school districts about their networks. The Task Force and the Work Group are looking very closely at Utah as a potential model for Nevada. Ninety-six percent of schools in Utah are connected through fiber, with the remaining schools expected to be connected through fiber in the coming year. They have done this through a process of going out to bid at the state level and leveraging their urban areas to get service providers to serve their most rural areas. They have also coordinated with E-Rate at the state level rather than the district level to ensure the state is getting full benefit of this federal funding program. Dr.

Vidoni stated she will keep the Commission apprised as the Task Force and Work Group move forward. She also added that anyone is invited to attend either of these meetings, and she'd be happy to send out meeting dates for those interested.

7. COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

Chairman White thanked the Nevada Ready 21 team for all of their hard work reaching out to the districts to help make them successful. No other comments.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT #2:

Chairman White asked for public comment. There was none.

9. SELECT DATE FOR NEXT MEETING AND POSSIBLE TOPICS:

Chairman White stated that the next meeting will be a GoTo meeting on Monday, May 16th at 8am.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman White entertained a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Chachas moved to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26am.