

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION
FEBRUARY 21, 2018**

Meeting Locations:

Office	Address	City	Meeting Room
Department of Education	9890 S. Maryland Pkwy	Las Vegas	Board Room (2 nd Floor)
Department of Education	700 E. Fifth St	Carson City	Board Room

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

(Video Conferenced)

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

President Esparza
Vice President Pendleton
Commissioner Carvalho
Commissioner Zeh

In Carson City:

Commissioner McGregor
Commissioner Gallivan-Wallace
Commissioner Drum

COMMISSION MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Commissioner Maruyama
Commissioner Burnham

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

Jason Dietrich, Office of Educator Licensure
Michael Arakawa, Office of Educator Licensure
Paul Partida, Office of Educator Licensure

In Carson City:

LEGAL STAFF PRESENT

In Carson City:

Rick Perdomo

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE:

In Las Vegas:

Andre Yates, Clark County School District Human Resources
Brenda Pearson, Clark County Education Association
Doris L. Watson, University of Nevada Las Vegas
Jessica Bouchte, Clark County School District Human Resources
Katie Askew, Clark County School District Substitute Teacher
Margaret Joy Lane, Clark County School District Substitute Teacher

Michael Robison, University of Phoenix
Monica Beane, Educational Testing Service
Monte Bay, National University
Patricia Cooper, Sierra Nevada College
Toby Babina, Clark County School District Human Resources

Carson City:

Rubin Murillo Jr., Nevada State Education Association
Jose Delfin, Carson City School District
Kate Schum, Washoe County School District
Richard Stokes, Carson City School District
Christine Whitcome, Sierra Nevada College
Randi Hunewill, Nevada Department of Education
Cristal Cineros, Washoe County School District
Joyce Hilley, Nevada Department of Education
Keith Lewis, Douglas County School District
Romily Cronin-Mack, Douglas County School District
Desiree Gray, Northwest Regional Professional Development Program

Elko:

Tom Reagan, Great Basin College

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order; Roll Call; Pledge of Allegiance

President Esparza called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
Roll call attendance was taken as reflected above. It was determined a quorum was met.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Davis.

Agenda Item #2 – Public Comment #1

Public Comment Carson City:

Ruben Murillo, president of the Nevada State Education Association commented on teacher recertification and asked if it had been worked on yet as well as when the town halls around the state to speak with teachers were to be scheduled.

Public Comment Las Vegas:

Andre Yates, Clark County School District Technology Division, commented on being promoted to a new position and thanked the Commission on their progressiveness and stated that this would be his last meeting. Toby Babina will be his replacement for Human Resources. President Esparza thanked Andre and congratulated him on his new position.

Margaret Joy Lane, Clark County School District substitute teacher commented that the renewal credits for substitute teacher licenses shouldn't be subject to the 6 renewal credits requirement. She is very well educated and works a lot of hours per week. The money and stress to pass the Praxis Core testing is also a barrier to having qualified substitutes in the classroom. She has a letter from Administrator of sub services to this effect as well. The 6 credits renewal credits are a burden that she won't be working on and she will not be continuing her license with the Department.

Katie Asken, Clark County School District substitute teacher stated her opinion on substitutes not having to take the Praxis testing to keep their licenses valid. Furthermore, she stated that remembering the math requirements after being out of school for over 30 years is very difficult and shouldn't be a gauge for how effective a substitute teacher is. She is the most requested substitute at Powell High School. She loves her job and would like the Commission to remove the requirement.

Received letter from Darren Sweiker, Principal of Palo Verde High School for public comment which states that the Praxis Core testing does not give a true measure of a great substitute teacher and he speaks very highly of Katie Asken's abilities in the classroom. He would hate to be unable to call upon Ms. Asken to be a sub in his school. He asks the Commission to consider removal of the provisions placed upon substitute teachers. A full copy of this letter is available upon request from the Department of Education.

Received letter from Suzi Fitzgerald, Administrative School Secretary of Cadwallader Middle School for public comment which asks for removal of Praxis Core and Renewal Credits, states that substitute teachers are leaving and not coming back as the provisions are an undue hardship. A full copy of this letter is available upon request from the Department of Education.

No Public Comment from Elko.

Agenda Item #3 – Approval of Flexible Agenda

Motion: Commissioner Zeh moved to approve the flexible agenda. Commissioner Carvalho seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #4 – Approval of Minutes for January 17, 2018 Meeting

Motion: Commissioner Drum moved to approve the January 17, 2018 minutes with revisions. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #5 – Nevada Department of Education updates, presented by Jason Dietrich and Mike Arakawa.

Jason Dietrich presented updates to the Commission. Licensure has successfully gone live with new system since last meeting. A few data issues as expected and things are going remarkably well as a whole. The online application portion has been delayed for a few weeks to test a little longer and make sure everything is running correctly. Every applicant that comes into the office has been granted access to their portal as they apply with us, they can see the application move through the process and they receive updates to this effect. Soon we will also be opening the business partnership portals with the higher education institutions and districts.

To speak to Mr. Murillo's comments, we are still planning on doing the town halls, but the new licensure system has pushed back the plans on these for a month or two and there is no negative impact to the field because of this.

He attended and spoke at the Nevada Association of School Superintendents (NASS) meeting several weeks ago and a couple of topics of discussion dealt with the 6 renewal credits and substitute requirements. This body had previously passed at workshop the removal of the 6 credit requirements and Praxis Core requirements for substitute licenses. This body heard it at hearing last month and decided to go about it another way adding a differentiation for long term substitutes and did not pass forward the workshop as it was previously heard. The State Superintendents did not feel it was appropriate that we develop and design a long-term substitute license; they felt that role was better left up to the school districts to decide what was best. Some of the Superintendents stated they would be willing to speak to this. We will agendize an item for March 2018 to revisit this.

When we drafted the original language for the renewal credits being removed, the process was to use their NEPF as that vehicle. This was not the right way to go about it. We are re-drafting that proposed language and gathering our Deputy Attorney General's opinion on this language once this is all done we will schedule a few town hall meetings, but we want to bring the proposed language to the field before bringing it before the Commission.

Mike Arakawa presented an update about the Educator Ethics Advisory Group which had its first meeting in January 2018. The meeting was mostly informational to clarify the role of ethics in education and educator preparation. We also had a presentation by Troy Hutchings who did a very good job. The next meeting is scheduled for February 27, 2018.

Agenda Item #6 – Discussion of Senate Bill 20 of the 2017 Legislative Session

Jason Dietrich presented on the Senate Bill 20 of the 2017 Legislative Session which shifted the responsibility of Nevada School Law, Nevada Constitution, and U.S. Constitution from a licensing requirement and/or provision to an employment requirement. The new law charges this body with approval of the exam, coursework, or any combination of the two that must be taken by the educators and administered by their employers. The NDE has been working with CCSD and in that discussion it was determined that more information be obtained. The Department requests the involvement of one Commissioner of this body to work on this with us to move forward.

President Esparza asked the Commissioners for a volunteer to be a part of this workgroup. She asked Jason what would be involved to see how much of a time commitment it would require. Jason stated that it would be a couple of one hour meetings and information to look over to help keep the group on track and know what to bring forward to the Commission as a whole.

Commissioner Carvalho volunteered to be a member of the workgroup. Jason stated that she would be a great asset to have on the group and thanked her for volunteering.

Agenda Item #7 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of Proposed Amendments to: R050-17; NAC Chapter 391.111 relating to Qualifications for license; requirements and recognized subjects for endorsement, presented by Mike Arakawa.

Mike Arakawa presented on R050-17 which deals with NAC 391.111, the NDE has added a competency test rather than coursework. Pedagogy does not have to re-do pedagogy. It is bringing forward statutory requirements from Assembly Bill 77 of the 2017 Legislative Session.

President Esparza opened the floor to comments from the Commissioners. There were no comments.

Motion: Commissioner Pendleton moved to adopt the regulation and amendments as written for R050-17. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #8 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of Proposed Amendments to: R051-17; NAC Chapter 391.120 relating to Qualifications for license, presented by Mike Arakawa.

Mike Arakawa presented on R051-17 for NAC 391.120. He stated that this is an amendment to make the same changes as done to NAC 391.111. There are also language clean-ups regarding CTE requirements bringing into line with the statutory guidance in Chapters 389 of NRS and NAC

President Esparza opened the floor to comments from the Commissioners. There were no comments.

Motion: Commissioner Carvalho moved to adopt the regulation and amendments as written for R051-17. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #9 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of Proposed Amendments to: R077-17; NAC Chapter 391.XXX relating to Qualifications for an endorsement as a teacher of physical education and health; revising provisions governing comprehensive majors and minors, presented by Mike Arakawa.

Mike Arakawa presented on R077-17 which would create a new regulation for an endorsement to teach physical education and health. This lays out the requirements for a new endorsement and combines physical education and health coursework after conferring with several districts.

President Esparza opened the floor to comments from the Commissioners.

President Esparza asked if there was delineation between a secondary physical education license and an elementary license. Mike replied that she was correct that there will still be a secondary physical education license without the health component. This is, in a sense, comparable to a special education license in that regard. President Esparza stated that speaking from a secondary perspective this will be very helpful and makes a lot of sense.

Commissioner Zeh asked if there was any impact to current health teachers and if they would have to take any further coursework. Mike replied that current license holders would be grandfathered in and not be required to take any further courses and not need to meet the new requirements as a result of passage and implementation of this regulation.

Commissioner Carvalho stated she was very much in favor of this, especially after President Esparza's comments on it.

Motion: Commissioner Carvalho moved to adopt the regulation and amendments as written for R077-17. Commissioner Zeh seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #10 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of Proposed Amendments to: R079-17; NAC Chapter 391.1301 relating to Comprehensive majors and minors recognized by Commission, presented by Mike Arakawa.

Mike Arakawa presented on R079-17 for NAC 391.1301. He stated that following the adoption of R077-17, which would amend 391.1301 removing physical education and health since they are no longer needed due to being called out in the new regulation.

President Esparza opened the floor to comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Carvalho stated this looks like cleanup.

Motion: Commissioner Carvalho moved to adopt the regulation and amendments as written for R079-17. Commissioner Drum seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #11 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of Proposed Amendments to: R082-17; NAC Chapter 391.096 relating to Qualifications for physical education elementary license, presented by Jason Dietrich.

Jason Dietrich presented on R082-18 for regulatory changes to NAC 391.096. This was previously just an elementary physical education license and we are adding it to middle school based on statutory requirements. This body passed it at workshop previously.

President Esparza opened the floor to comments from the Commissioners.

President Esparza asked a clarifying question about middle school endorsement. Jason stated that this would open up that middle school pathway which has been overshadowed because of the overlap of the elementary and secondary licenses. President Esparza asked if this would help the rural districts. Jason replied that it would.

Commissioner Drum asked how this is different from the last couple of regulations they had heard about physical education. Jason stated that the previously heard regulations are specific new endorsements for physical education and health combined which have higher credit requirements for the K-12 setting. They are very different licenses/endorsements. This is one is specific to elementary and middle school licenses.

President Esparza asked if there have been many requests for this change. Jason stated that some of the districts require endorsements on their licenses even though the NDE does not require any endorsements to teach subject matters in elementary or middle school. This is to extend the pathway to middle school.

Commissioner Pendleton stated that she supports opening this pathway.

Motion: Commissioner Pendleton moved to adopt the regulation and amendments as written for R082-17. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #12 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of Proposed Amendments to: R105-17; NAC Chapter 391.335 relating to Endorsement to teach grades 5 through 9 and NAC Chapter 391.0895 relating to Qualifications for teaching pupils in grades 5 through 9, presented by Jason Dietrich.

Jason Dietrich presented on R105-17 which would revise NAC 391.335 and NAC 391.0895. The NDE is proposing repealing these specific regulations for qualifications for teaching pupils in grades 5 through 9. We have been removing grade level designations and calling simply them elementary school, middle school, or high school in new regulations. These two prove to be redundant. We have the support of LCB to remove them because of this redundancy.

President Esparza opened the floor to comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Gallivan-Wallace asked how this would affect current license holders and if educators would have to reapply for this license. Jason stated that it would have no impact on the field whatsoever, the qualifications stay the same. It is simply regulatory language clean-up since it is redundant and doesn't need to be in regulation.

Motion: Commissioner Zeh moved to repeal the regulations for R105-17. Commissioner Drum seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

President Esparza called a recess at 10:03 am.

President Esparza called the meeting back to order at 10:16 am.

Agenda Item #13 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of Proposed Amendments to: R106-17; NAC Chapter 391.339 relating to Endorsement to teach mathematics in grades 5 to 8, inclusive, presented by Jason Dietrich.

Jason Dietrich presented on R106-17 for NAC 391.339. This was previously heard at public workshop and passed through to hearing. The NDE is requesting repeal of NAC 391.339; this is another duplicative regulation and not needed. With LCB support at drafting, we are requesting repeal of this regulation.

President Esparza opened the floor to comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Carvalho asked if LCB commented on the repeal of this. Jason stated that LCB looks into the legality of every regulation that the NDE sends to them for drafting and found that this is no longer needed as a single strand regulation. NAC 391.111 covers this regulation as well. We are doing it in a much more comprehensive manner now without having to call out everything in its own regulation.

President Esparza stated that this is like an umbrella; there is no need to call out every endorsement on its own

Motion: Commissioner Carvalho moved to repeal the regulation for R106-17. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #14 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of Proposed Amendments to: R122-17; NAC Chapter 391.113 relating to Endorsement for recognized field of teaching, presented by Jason Dietrich.

Jason Dietrich presented R122-17 for NAC 391.113. This is a license to teach middle school and we have removed the grade level designations it also contains language clean-up. There is nothing changing the intent of this regulation. It remains on the books to give us the authority to keep a middle school license.

President Esparza opened the floor to comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Pendleton asked if this license a junior high school teacher would be able to teach 9th grade mathematics for example. Jason stated that middle school license is still there. It is not changing a pathway or closing a pathway; it is realigning and removing specific grade levels that were passed in statute. The content knowledge and examinations stay the same. Commissioner Pendleton asked a follow-up question about hiring of teachers to teach specific types of math. Mike Arakawa stated that per the current correlation directory there are provisions for certain instances where the 9th grade level was called out. We are going to be making changes to the correlation directory in the very near future.

Commissioner Drum asked if this would have any impact on the current licensing structure. Jason stated that currently there would be no impact on the field. This goes back to the conversation regarding realignment of grade levels. There are no changes to the field as a result of this regulation passing. This is simply clean-up.

Commissioner Pendleton moved to adopt the regulation and amendments as written for R122-17. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #15 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of Proposed Amendments to: R123-17; NAC Chapter 391.125 relating to Endorsement for recognized field of teaching, presented by Jason Dietrich.

Jason Dietrich presented the hearing on R123-17 and stated it was primarily language clean-up for NAC 391.125. It is similar to the previous regulation with the removal of specific grade levels and has no impact on the field or licensing structure.

President Esparza opened the floor to comments from the Commissioners. There were no comments.

Commissioner Carvalho moved to adopt the regulation and amendments as written for R123-17. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #16 – Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of Proposed Amendments to: R124-17; NAC Chapter 391.461 relating to Application for approval to become qualified provider; review; conditions of provisional approval; term of validity; approval to offer program for different area of licensure; annual evaluation, presented by Mike Arakawa.

Mike Arakawa presented the hearing on R124-17 revising NAC 391.461. This deals with the approval process for ARL providers. The change is to delineate who shall comprise the members of the ARL review team. This was previously heard and passed to hearing by the Commission. The proposal is to have the two Commission members chosen by the Commission, the Secretary to the Commission, and two NDE staff members chosen by the Secretary to the Commission.

President Esparza opened the floor to comments from the Commissioners.

Commissioner Carvalho stated that she likes the new ARL review team make-up.

Commissioner Carvalho moved to adopt the regulation and amendments as written for R124-17. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Agenda Item #17 – Future Agenda Items

Jason Dietrich stated that future agenda items on the March 21, 2018 agenda will include more regulations and possibly one re-hearing. This body heard it in workshop and hearing, there has been a change to the language which was caught after passing the hearing. He stated that all regulations passed through hearing by this body must be placed on the State Board of Education agenda, possibly a consent agenda. We are working out that process; we are working through the logistics process and hope to have 20 to 30 regulations on their agenda for March of 2018. If the State Board does not wish to pass a regulation, we will have to speak to the Deputy Attorney General and find out the next steps. We will make sure to send out information to all the Commissioners on when these items are agendized.

President Esparza stated she would be available to attend the State Board meetings if given enough time to place on her schedule.

Agenda Item #18 – Commissioners’ Comments

Commissioner McGregor stated that she would like to commend the NDE on their hard work. She is a member of a workgroup and would like to know the status of the workgroup. Jason Dietrich stated that once the revised language is in place, they will bring it back to the workgroup before going to the Commission.

Agenda Item #19 – Deputy Attorney General Comments

No comments.

Agenda Item #20 – Public Comment #2

Carson City public comment:

Richard Stokes, Superintendent of Carson City School District stated that he has heard a lot of rumors around teacher licensure and appreciates the comments and clarifications on K-8 and 7-12 licenses. He thanked the Commission for the work they are doing. He would ask if the Commission or Department on has any guidance on where they are leaning on new licensure expectations in the future. He would advocate for having enough flexibility in the system so that K-12 is serviced by K-8 and 7-12 licensure and the Superintendents would like to be part of this conversation.

Jason replied that he had the opportunity to speak at NASS a few weeks ago and it is his understanding that a liaison position is being created to work with his office directly so that the superintendents could be more directly linked to licensure. He is more than happy to have any conversations with Mr. Stokes at any time. President Esparza thanked Mr. Stokes for taking time out of his busy schedule to come to the Commission meeting and sharing his valuable perspective.

Ruben Murillo, President of Nevada State Education Association stated that the NSEA is prepared to help the NDE with the town hall meetings. They can reach 3,000-4,000 members easily and this would help to get the information that the NDE would like to get out and to entertain questions from across Nevada. This is a very important issue to all educators and we are happy to help throughout the process. If there are presentations being made to other groups that deal with this issue and the language, he would like to know the substance of them. In order to make sure that everyone agrees on the end result, the NSEA needs to be a part of this. Jason Dietrich replied that the original drafted language is what was shared at the NASS meeting and there has been no modification of the language, as he had stated earlier. They wanted to hear from NASS from their perspective to make changes from that original language as needed. Moving forward everyone in the workgroup will get the same language and it will be clarified as we work through this together.

No public comment in Elko or Las Vegas.

Agenda Item #22 – Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 am.