

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
COMMISSION ON SCHOOL FUNDING
REPORTING AND MONITORING WORK GROUP
FEBRUARY 21, 2020
10:30 A.M.**

Meeting Location:

Office	Address	City	Meeting Room
Department of Education	2080 E. Flamingo Rd.	Las Vegas	2 nd Floor Conference Room

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE WORK GROUP MEETING

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

In Carson City

Dusty Casey

In Las Vegas

Andrew J. Feuling

Jason A. Goudie

Jim McIntosh

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

In Las Vegas

Jessica Todtman, Chief Strategy Officer

Beau Bennett, Management Analyst IV

James Kirkpatrick, Administrative Services Officer III

Megan Peterson, Management Analyst III

SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS PRESENT

Felicia Brown, WestEd

Jason Willis, WestEd

Rick Wells, SchoolNomics

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE

In Las Vegas

Alexander Marks, Nevada State Education Association

Kristin Marshall, Nye County School District

1: CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at approximately 11:20 A.M. by Work Group Lead Jim McIntosh. Quorum was established.

2: PUBLIC COMMENT #1

No public comment.

3: APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Member Jason Goudie moved to approve the December 20, 2019 and January 10, 2020 Reporting and Monitoring Work Group meeting minutes. Member Andrew J. Feuling seconded. Motion passed.

4: PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED FORMAT FOR BUDGET PROJECTIONS TO BE SUBMITTED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 76.2 OF SENATE BILL (SB) 543

James Kirkpatrick, Administrative Services Officer III, Office of District Support, Nevada Department of Education (NDE or Department), presented [information](#) regarding proposed formatting for budget projections to be submitted by school districts as described in section 76.2 of SB 543, due to the Commission by May 15, 2020.

Mr. Kirkpatrick noted that the shading on net proceeds was irregular, which was an oversight rather than distinction.

Lead McIntosh clarified that the proposed format reflected the request of the Work Group to compare budgets between the Nevada Plan in fiscal year 2020 and the Pupil-Centered Funding Plan. Member Goudie inquired if they needed a variance, and how the Work Group would like to view and compare the data.

Mr. Kirkpatrick noted that this template would be sent the first week of March upon the approval of the Commission, followed by a meeting with district Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) to discuss the template. Member Goudie inquired if the template should go out to CFOs for review prior to assignment. The Work Group discussed how they would compare the data. Mr. Kirkpatrick noted that districts have local revenues which are not included in the Pupil-Centered Funding revenues. The Work Group agreed that a summary of data would be helpful.

Due to technical difficulties, the Work Group took a short convenience break

Lead McIntosh noted that in future, this data should take into consideration the new template being developed by the Department of Taxation. Member Feuling noted issues with funds for protected categories, such as At-Risk, successfully being tied to follow specific students.

Due to technical difficulties, the Work Group took a short convenience break

Member Dusty Casey asked how this data would be used; Lead McIntosh responded that section 76.2 of SB 543 does not explicate what this data would be used for, only that the comparison be made. Lead McIntosh agreed that the Work Group needed focus on how they would use this data. Member Casey asked why there was not a “transfer in” column; Member Feuling noted that it may cause double counting.

Lead McIntosh summarized that the Department would reach out to school districts using the proposed format, and that the Department will draft a summary page of revenues and expenditures for comparison purposes.

5: PRESENTATION REGARDING THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE-FUNDED CATEGORICAL GRANTS

Beau Bennett, Management Analyst IV, Office of District Support, Nevada Department of Education, and Megan Peterson, Management Analyst III, Office of District Support, Nevada Department of Education, presented the [Reporting Requirements](#) for State-Funded Categorical Grants.

Lead McIntosh clarified that these grants and the dollars allocated for them are within the single appropriation bill provided to school districts; he further asked if class-size ratios were also in the appropriation bill. Ms. Megan Peterson noted that there are statutorily required target ratios set in Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 388.700 and funded target ratios within Senate Bill (SB) 555 that are slightly higher than those required in statute. Lead McIntosh asked what the requirements would be moving forward and what the requirements would be for school districts. Mr. Bennett noted that the intent appeared to be providing greater authority to local school districts; for example, Assembly Bill (AB) 309 notes that the funding can be used for supporting the operations of the school district if the district determines the money would be best put to use by doing so.

Mrs. Peterson clarified that the quarterly reporting requirement for class-size reduction has not changed; these funds would be within the base and would require reporting by statute. The statutory requirements are more restrictive than what is currently funded. If the target ratios are not met, districts are required to submit a variance and action plan to meet the target class-size ratio.

In the case of a program such as Read by Grade 3, the Department's understanding is that districts will be given the ability to address the program in their own manner without having to follow all of the previously prescribed language. Ultimately, the intention is to have greater flexibility to meet the needs of individual student populations.

Member Casey clarified that there is no grant-specific reporting outside of class-size reduction, which is non-financial; Mr. Bennett noted that was accurate for the grants currently presented.

6: PRESENTATION OF EXEMPLARS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PUPIL-CENTERED FUNDING MODELS

Jason Willis, WestEd, and Felicia Brown, WestEd, conducted a PowerPoint presentation on [Exemplars](#) of Implementation and Reporting Requirements for Pupil-Centered Funding Models.

Lead McIntosh pointed out that the base was inadequate; from the base, weights are applied, and the base only grows with inflation or enrollment growth. He inquired why the recommendation was not to augment the base.

Mr. Willis noted that Denver Public Schools constructed a model, and new models were targeted to schools through their need formula, using academic outcomes in part to determine those schools. Member Goudie emphasized that weights in the original APA Consulting recommendation were tied to specific dollar amounts of base funding, and base funding is woefully inadequate and requires great focus.

Lead McIntosh asked how school districts with a weighted funding model approach augmenting the base. Ms. Felicia Brown noted that there are options for new fund distribution and plans for that distribution need to be established.

Member Goudie raised concerns with measuring academic success and inquired about an effective means of measuring the academic outcome of a child. Mr. Willis noted that various states and districts are beginning discussions about how to use resources to test for desired outcomes.

7: UPDATE ON WORK PLAN TO DETERMINE THE ANTICIPATED LEVEL OF EFFORT AND FISCAL IMPACT OF THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS INCLUDED IN SENATE BILL (SB) 543

Jason Willis, WestEd, and Felicia Brown, WestEd, provided an [Update](#) on the work plan to determine the anticipated level of effort and fiscal impact of the reporting requirements included in SB 543.

WestEd will examine a handful of local education agencies (LEAs) across the State and survey them to find out who is involved in reporting and the systems used, followed by a site visit at each of those LEAs to better understand the systems in place. WestEd will then provide an update to the Commission in March on what the level of effort will be required to make a change to implement the required changes.

8: UPDATE ON THE WORK PLAN TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PUPIL-CENTERED FUNDING PLAN

Jason Willis, WestEd, and Felicia Brown, WestEd, provided an [Update](#) on the work plan to provide guidance to school districts to support the implementation of the PCFP.

WestEd will use the support and guidance drawn from the Exemplars of implementation and reporting for Pupil-Centered Funding models, focusing on a stair-step approach, thinking about holding intentions, and the support and accountability mechanisms used to support school districts.

9: PRESENTATION REGARDING IN\$ITE DATA COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS AND REPORTING

Rick Wells, Vice President, SchoolNomics, conducted a PowerPoint presentation on [In\\$ite](#) data collection requirements and reporting.

Member Feuling noted the difficulties his district has had with the verification of data, as the In\$ite numbers do not correlate to district numbers, and noted that this works against the goal of transparency. Mr. Wells responded that much of the data is held in the In\$ite data warehouse. Member Goudie added that allocation methodologies are the primary concern.

10: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No future agenda items.

11: PUBLIC COMMENT #2

No public comment.

12: ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:10 P.M