SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

(Video Conferenced)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:
Samantha Molisee
Mark Newburn
Felicia Ortiz
Elaine Wynn
Robert Blakely

In Carson City:
Pat Hickey
Teri Jamin
Dave Jensen – Departed at 5:15 p.m.
Beth Swanberg

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT:

In Las Vegas
Steve Canavero, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Dena Durish, Deputy Superintendent, Educator Effectiveness and Family Engagement
Jana Wilcox-Lavin, Superintendent in Residence, Achievement School District
Rebecca Feiden, Deputy Director, Achievement School District
Kim Bennett, Administrative Assistant
Amelie Welden, Legislative Council Bureau
Inge Carter
Bob Potts,
Adan Prost, Legislative Council Bureau

In Carson City
Dena Durish, Deputy Superintendent, Educator Effectiveness and Family Engagement
Brett Barley, Deputy Superintendent, Student Achievement
Roger Rahming, Deputy Superintendent, Business and Support Services
Greg Bortolin, Public Information Officer
Dave Brancamp, Director, Standards and Instructional Support
Lauren Hulse, Management Analyst 3
Karen Chessell, Career Readiness, Adult and Education Options
Anne Willard, Career Readiness, Adult and Education Options
Randi Hunewill, Education Programs Supervisor
Lauren Hulse, Management Analyst
Will Jensen, Director, Office of Special Education
Kristine Nelson, Director, Career Readiness, Adult Learning and Education Options
Nate Hanson, Management Analyst
Shawn Osborne, IT Technician
Karen Johansen Assistant to the State Board
LEGAL STAFF PRESENT
In Carson City
Greg Ott, Deputy Attorney General

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE
In Las Vegas:
Randy Cheung, Craig Elementary School
Christopher Hartley, Cambeiro Elementary School
Andre Yates, Clark County School District, Human Resources
Michelle Pallases, Cambeiro Elementary School
Shiobhan Henderson, Craig Elementary School
Cecilia French, Orr Middle School
Sindy Chaidez, Craig Elementary School
Marva Cordova, JP Morgan Chase
David Gomez, Nevada Peace Alliance
Monte Bay, National University
Craig Knotts, Celerity Schools Nevada
Ben Gerhardt, Nevada Virtual Academy
Barbara Gnatovich, Sierra Nevada College
Joyce Flynn, Sierra Nevada College
Lisa Coruzzi, Opportunity 180
Judy Mantle, National University
Julio C. Lopez, Disabled Veteran
Michael Robison, GOP
Todd Levinson, Counsel of Chief State School Officers
Allison Smith, University of Las Vegas
Danica Hays, University of Las Vegas
Jeanne Donadio, Clark County School District
Tish Nilsen, National University
Tara Carrington, National University
Fred Watson, Clark County School District
Tony Chipp, Chase Bank
Ryan Woodward, Chase Bank
Manny Lamarre, OWINN
Bill Garis, Clark County Association of School Administrators
Jenn Blackhurst, HOPE
Suynn Davis, Comm. Act
Alaina Criner, Clark County School District
Terri Janison, United Way
Kenneth Thompson
Sylvia Lazos, Educate Nevada Now
Dr. S.S. Rogers
Rev Fouston Jordan Sr.
Jonas Peterson
Amanda Meyer, Educate Nevada Now
Brenda Pearson, Clark County Education Association

Carson City
Ray Bacon, Nevada Manufactures Association
Mary Pierczynski, Nevada Association of State Superintendents
Chris Day, Nevada State Education Association,
Lindsay Anderson, WCSD
Amelie Welden, Legislative Council Bureau
Public Comment #1
Deputy Attorney Greg Ott clarified that public comment #1 is restricted to those who wish to make comments related to items on the current agenda. The second public comment period at the end of the meeting is the general public comment period when the Board hears comments on any matter within the Board’s jurisdiction. This is consistent to the Nevada Open Meeting Law, page 71, section 705.

Public Comment
Sylvia Lazos acknowledge that the Clark County School District (CCSD) filed a lawsuit challenging the validity of the CCSD re-organization regulations being very specific about areas they believe are legally questionable. She recommended that the regulations are re-opened for reconsideration. A compromise is needed on this issue, the students and employees at CCSD require clarity going forward about the reorganization. She noted the problems are in the details. The process was rushed and there are portions of the regulation that demand more attention. She asked the board to please consider re-opening the regulations. The children will be better off if the concerns can be worked out.

Approval of Flexible Agenda
Member Newburn moved to approve a flexible agenda. Member Ortiz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

President’s Report
President Wynn welcomed new Board members including member Lieberman representing the Regents, member Blakely representing District 1 in Las Vegas and member Carter representing District 2 in Carson City. It was noted that Member Swanberg was been reappointed representing teachers in Nevada.

Superintendent’s Report
Superintendent Canavero provided an update on the ESSA plan. About a year ago the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) transitioned to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). On behalf of the work group, the advisory group and the Governor, he is releasing the draft ESSA plan for public comment feedback. The emphasis is on equity and ensuring every child has the opportunities to succeed in life. This plan is a tremendous accomplishment with a lot of stakeholder engagement and a step forward for the state. The plan will be submitted in early April to the federal government.

President Wynn said she is pleased to see the dramatic increase in the graduation rate and also the enhanced participation in the ACT testing. However, preparing students who are graduating to reach the national average of being college and career ready has a ways to go. It is not enough for kids to get through high school; they need to be ready for the next step including post-secondary education.

Approval of Consent Agenda
a. Possible Approval of findings of fact and conclusions of law on the Ratcliffe hearing.
   b. Possible Approval of Nevada Career & Technical Education Course Catalog School Year 2017-2018
   c. Possible Approval of Nevada Career & Technical Education Standards for Respiratory Science
   d. Possible Approval of Dual Credit Request offered by Great Basin college to White Pine County High School Students.

Member Blakely moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Member Newburn seconded the motion. The motion carried.
Election of Officers of the State Board of Education to include President and Vice President. Member Blakely moved to re-elect President Wynn and Vice President Newburn. Member Ortiz seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Information and Discussion regarding Workforce Development: New Skills for Youth National Competitive Grant (NSFY).

Dr. Canavero said he is proud of the hard work and collaboration put forth to secure the competitive Phase I grant. A large New Skills for Youth team was assembled with people from the Department of Training and Rehabilitation (DETR), Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE), Office of Workforce Innovations (OWINN) and the Governor’s Office of Economic Development. He went to Washington DC with the core group of the New Skills for Youth pitch team and was one of ten states selected for Phase II.

Kristine Nelson, director, Office of Career Readiness, Adult and Education Options, expressed excitement about the announcement of the New Skills for Youth $2 million grant that will promote career and technical education in Nevada. The team worked hard through 2016 on Phase II of the application which details a strategic plan for career readiness reform, increasing employer engagement and focus on re-structuring state level organizations.

Tony Chopp, executive director, JP Morgan Chase Bank, said he knows there are many students that have anxiety about what they are going to do after high school. Originally there were 44 states that applied for this grant, 25 made the first cut and then there were 10 finalists. Nevada is the most western state that was approved for the grant. He said he was proud to share this with Nevadans today.

Manny Lamare, executive director, Governor’s Office Workforce Innovation, noted that Nevada, being one of the selected of the New Skills for Youth Grant, is reflective of a process where institutions came together as a team towards a common goal with strong leadership beginning with the Governor and continuing at NDE. It is important to note that the New Skills for Youth Grant is reflective of the Governor’s goals of diversifying the economy and closing the skills gap.

Todd Levinson, state coach, Council of Chief State Officers (CCSSO), said he was privileged to be Nevada’s coach before and during the grant competition process. Over 30 states are working to improve career education for students, and Nevada was awarded this grant because an innovative and courageous plan put forward and demonstrated through the planning process that Nevada has a heavily engaged and effective cross-sector team with highly involved committed leaders. He stated the plan represents an important vision plan. There is a moral imperative that every child has access to relevant quality career pathways that will ensure they have the opportunity to secure and succeed in high skill, high demand well-paying careers. It is clear from labor market trends that the jobs of today and the future will continue to demand more in the form of education and training. He said he is excited to see what Nevada does over the course of the next three years.

Frank Woodbeck, NSHE, noted that what the community colleges can contribute to post-secondary education is very important. He is going to the Economic Development Board today to pitch a project with Truckee Meadows Community College to put a program in place for training workers at the new Panasonic Factory. This was also done with Faraday and their funding is put in place for building a new factory. The community college system has the flexibility by which they can provide whatever form of post-secondary education is necessary to put people to work.

Jonas Peterson, Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance (LVG), added this is an exciting and inspiring opportunity. They believe that the single greatest thing that can be done to advance Nevada’s economy is to strengthen its education system and in turn develop a stronger work force.

Information, Discussion and Possible Action regarding the request of the Clark County School District (CCSD) Board of School Trustees to pass upon the validity of the State Board adopted
regulation R142-16 as required pursuant to Petition submitted by CCSD Board of School Trustees on November 9, 2016.

Deputy Attorney Greg Ott recalled at the last Board meeting there was an agenda item to possibly consider opening the regulation process for R142-16, implementing the plan of the advisory committee to reorganize the CCSD. That was responsive to a CCSD petition that was filed and submitted to the Board. This is a separate item that CCSD also requested which is a request to pass upon the validity of the regulation. This is pre-cursor in statute, they must request prior to filing a lawsuit. It is still important for the Board to be presented with the points raised in the petition as well as the legal counsel analysis. This does not require a written response in statute. Mr. Ott discussed the eight points raised in their petition. He concluded by stating that he does not think any of the eight points raised in the petition invalidate the regulation.

Member Newburn moved to confirm the validity of the Board’s adoption of regulation R142-16. Member Carter seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Information, Discussion and Overview of the Department’s proposed bills and Governor’s Recommended Budget.

Dr. Canavero said there are three key objectives in the Governor’s recommended budget; one is to stay the course, a high priority is alignment to the workforce, and last is the vision to be the fastest improving state in the nation. Together these are embodied in the Governor’s recommended budget with the NDEs legislative bills to. He discussed the financial investments in the Governor’s recommended budget and provided details about the K-12 budget.

Dr. Canavero provided an overview of the NDEs proposed legislative bills:

- **AB7** - makes necessary changes to NRS in order to comply with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act and the State Plan developed in response to the new federal law
- **AB64** - revises requirements for receipt of a standard high school diploma to create an additional pathway for pupils with disabilities
- **AB77** - makes necessary changes to NRS to revise teacher licensure
- **SB66** - removes limitations and expands meaningful work-based learning opportunities
- **SB77** - requires that certain programs and information relating to the provision of a safe and respectful learning environment be derived from evidence-based research, and revises provisions relating to the code of honor for pupils concerning cheating

Information and Discussion regarding the Office of Educator Licensure updates. Members will hear a presentation on enhanced customer service provided by the Office of Educator Licensure, results/recommendations from the 2015 legislatively approved Licensure Study, and highlights from the Commission on Professional Standards annual report pursuant to NRS 391.028. The presentation may include licensure processing timelines and workflow; staffing reconfigurations and roles/responsibilities; background clearance and fingerprinting guidelines/procedures; provisional licensure and reciprocity; modernized online licensure application, management, and reporting system; as well as possible legislative/regulatory modifications recommended by the Study.

Jason Dietrich, director, Educator Licensure and Mike Arakawa, program officer conducted a PowerPoint presentation with updates about the Teacher Licensure Office. The office is staffed by 13 positions in two offices and only five licensure analysts statewide. These analysts process about 15,000 applications a year. The licensure office is currently processing at six weeks which includes the background processing time. In late 2014 the office was processing at about 16 weeks and they have not increased staffing to accomplish this, rather the office restructured business practices and utilization of staff.

The licensure office has instituted live scan electronic fingerprint submissions and 18 months ago began accepting credit card payments which has expedited the process. The highest volume throughout the year is May through October, and approximately 65 to 70 percent of their annual business is conducted during that six months. About 70 percent of the daily business is by walk-in customers. Further information was provided about the licensure background investigation program for the NDE.
Proposals in A.B. 77 which makes necessary changes to NRS to revise teacher licensure for the 2017 Legislative session include

- Removal of testing requirements
- Pre-evaluation of applicants’ qualifications
- Required notification to schools/districts if applicant is denied due to criminal background
- Required arrest notification/tracking – unlicensed charter school teachers
- Educators denied for renewal due to background no longer protected under NRS 391.2015

Public Comment #2

Dr. Linda Young, CCSD, stated that Nelson Mandela said that education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. The CCSD board of trustees are working together to ensure that education is the most powerful weapon. However they have concerns about the ASD that are consistent with questions raised by the parents, stakeholders, and discussions at meetings. She listed concerns including maintaining property, disparate treatment of students and families, and student choice. The CCSD does not support the conversion to the ASD because of issues that need to be addressed.

Andre Yates, CCSD, human resources director, recognized the work of teacher licensure who he has worked with for over ten years. One key elements of their success is live scanning for the fingerprinting process. Provisional licensure has accounted for 850 of their applicants.

Fred Watson, principal, Fitzgerald Elementary School stated that parents, teachers and students are strongly opposed to Fitzgerald’s possible conversion to a charter school. Since joining the Turnaround Zone which occurred last year, they have made changes that have led to tremendous progress. They show increases in student proficiency of over 40 percent in math and over 20 percent in reading. Their progress has continued.

Dionne Lawson, parent, Fitzgerald Elementary School, expressed concern about the lack of choice. She wants her daughter to have a choice and be proud of her school.

Sonya Davis, parent, Fitzgerald Elementary School, said she is a grandmother of 17 children who have all gone through the CCSD, four are now college graduates. She is asking for the ability to send the children to the schools of their choice. The bill A.B. 448 has taken the choice away from them and she asked that it is revisited.

Alaina Criner, principal, Matt Kelly Elementary School, said this is her first year as a principal. Today she is representing 366 students and their families, 35 teachers, and 20 staff members who work in partnership to have a full service community model school. Their community is strongly opposed to Matt Kelly being converted into a charter school. She provided history about the school. They have come to ask that they be allowed to stay the course under the current treatment plan within CCSD. The right course and change for them is already in place. They have complete support from the CCSD board of trustees.

Patricia Gaither, grandparent, Matt Kelly Elementary School, commented about the success of her grandchildren who attend school at Matt Kelly. What principal Criner is doing is working well for her grandchildren and she asked that they be allowed to continue.

Maria Castillo said she is a mother of five children. All of her children attended school in CCSD. She is excited at the possibility of Celerity charter schools coming to Las Vegas. The assets they will provide her children are needed, especially in communities where kids struggle with EL. She has signatures from 500 parents who want to give the charter school a chance opposed to what is in place now.

Cassandra Avila said she supports Celerity charter schools because they help students. Charter schools help kids who struggle with EL. Smaller class sizes and quality education is important to her family which is why she supports Celerity.
Shiobhan Henderson, fifth grade teacher, Craig Elementary School, said she has been teaching at Craig since 2006 when she started as a long term substitute. She brought her children to Craig and they were nurtured as she was. The school has been given many opportunities with Zoom school initiatives and Title I funding to make Craig a great community school. They have had challenges but have persevered and maintained a collaborative effort to provide high quality rigorous instruction for their students. That is the heart of Craig.

Sindy Chaidez, communities in site coordinator, Craig Elementary School said she provides case management and schoolwide supports at Craig. She builds one-on-one relationships with students providing assistance and support. For the 2015-16 school year she provided 507 hours of one-on-one case management. The value of services for those case managed students was valued at $10,122. The value of services provided to all of Craig students was valued at $37,660 which includes basic needs, attendance, enrichment, family engagement and physical health. Fifty students receive week-end food bags because they do not have food on the week-end. They have a monthly food give away with up to 100 families receiving fresh produce.

Cecilia French, assistant principal, Orr middle School, serves an amazing group of parents, students and staff. She asked if the Board would use their influence to keep Orr Middle School in CCSD. Data says their students are underperforming in math and reading, and they are in the lower 5 percent. However their students are more than numbers. Their students have hardships in a building without functioning lockers, lack of/or working A/C or heating and limited internet. They were 1 point away from being a 3-star school, but it takes time when implementing new programs for students to be successful.

Julio Lopez said he is a disabled veteran and a single parent. When his daughter started school at Orr she had low grades. Now she has an art class on Saturday and a 1 hour class in Japanese on Sunday. She is succeeding at Orr School.

David Gomez, president Peace Alliance and parent of four children, said the definition of selfless is having little or no concern for one’s self, especially with regard to fame, position or money. He visits all schools, including Orr. He said Orr is very dilapidated and in bad repair. If Orr moved in the direction of the ASD they will lose and the charter will be unsuccessful. The school needs to be fixed or it will be closed down.

Christopher Hartley, assistant principal, Arturo Cambeiro Elementary School, said he is representing the staff, parents, students and school community. They have project based learning with exploration classes including robotics, engineering, photography, journalism, art and broadcasting all based on student interest. They are working with CCSD to raise rigor and provide the student population with effective instruction from the EL master plan and cultural competency. They have made great strides to build a school community. They asked that they be allowed to move forward without a cloud of uncertainty hanging over their head.

Ray Bacon, Nevada Manufactures Association, addressed internships. One of the issues that take place with internships for students is the criteria that students under 18 being allowed in many facilities, which goes back to the Taft Hartley Act of 1947. It has not been updated. An effort was made to update it during the Clinton administration. Legislation was proposed and it did not go anywhere. Additional attempts were made and it still did not go anyplace. The focus, risk and safety factors in the manufacturing environment have changed since 1947 and consequently for internships that make sense, the Taft Hartley bill will need to be modified by regulation or statute.

Dr. S.S. Rogers, president, the Ministers Alliance of Southern Nevada, commented that everyone should have a choice. He said he is against A.B. 448; it is not for our communities and will not help. He asked that their community is not ripped apart. The schools must be improved, but not this way, instead help keep the families and communities intact, beginning with the schools.

Rev. Fouston Jordan, pastor, said he is a retired probation supervisor having worked for the courts for 48 years. He opposes A.B. 448 stating the ASD has no place in CCSD. Parents and the community must have a choice of who should run the schools in the community. To impose your will on the children and their parents is wrong.
Superintendent Canavero clarified the law lays out the Board’s role and the selection of schools, and the final group of schools moved forward to the ASD. Any decision made related to the pairing of a school and an operator is ultimately up to the executive director Brett Barley. The Board’s role was complete when they made the final selection of schools to be moved forward. The selection process only reviews achievement data. The decision has nothing to do with the demographics of the community.

**Future Agenda Items**

President Wynn inquired whether any working committees require staffing and whether the new board members are interested in participating. Member Newburn said he chairs the High School Graduation Committee and noted the other members have termed out. Member Lieberman, member Blakely and member Carter expressed interest in participating on the High School Graduation Committee.

President Wynn acknowledged ESSA will be a future item and noted it would be helpful if the Board does not get too bogged down in varying detailed presentations but to pick apart the ESEA evolutions as they come forward to share what is the responsibility of the Board. In addition, a review of the newest information as it relates to the student population with disabilities would be good. She added the issue of the ASD is alive and unresolved. If there is any activity that will be occurring in the legislative session in terms of committee hearings, she asked that people direct their attention to the rightful place for discussion and debate, which is back to the source of bills, the Legislature.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM