

Task Segregation and Deliverables

Commission on School Funding

December 15, 2023



NEVADA
Department of
Education

Pupil-Centered Funding Plan (PCFP)

- The Commission has been tasked with – on an ongoing basis – monitoring the performance of the PCFP and recommending actions that may improve the performance of the PCFP.
- It is also imperative that the Commission determine if the PCFP is working as intended. Assurance that the PCFP is working as intended and that it is constantly maintained to meet its core mission is prerequisite to doing a meaningful assessment of its impact upon student performance and achievement over time.

Optimal Funding and Funding Sources (OFS)

- As a part of its work prior to the 2023 Session of the Nevada Legislature, the Commission prepared a report that identified funding targets to evolve funding for education in Nevada into an optimal range.
- The Commission further identified methods of funding the gap between current and target funding levels and developed a series of funding scenarios for consideration.
- This report fully complied with the mandate set forth in Senate Bill (SB) 543 (2019). As this is a continuing responsibility of the Commission, the work previously performed in 2022 must be updated to reflect the realities of 2024.

Performance, Accountability and Reporting (PAR)

- Due to support from the Governor and the State Legislature, funding for education in Nevada was enhanced by more than \$2 billion for the 2024 and 2025 fiscal years.
 - This level of enhanced investment was also accompanied by a charge to the Commission to develop a system of reporting that would enable an objective evaluation of the changes that occur due to increased investment in education.
- Among the tasks to be discharged by the Commission in advance of the 2025 Legislative Session, this is the preeminent task and the one that is most complex. This can be divided into the sub-tasks in the following slides, each of which is essential to achieving the overarching purpose of the Commission. Because these tasks are interrelated, members of the Commission will be appointed to ensure that all elements are coordinated.

Current Reporting and Data Availability

- There is currently a lengthy roster of reports being prepared and filed, each containing data that may be essential to the preparation of a system of reporting that meets the objectives of SB543 (2019), AB400 (2023) and SB98 (2023). These reports are prepared at the State (NDE) level, the district level and, in some cases, the individual school level, and each report requires a dedicated level of effort to prepare.
- These reports are filed at the State or district level, as may be appropriate. There is a strong sense that several of these reports contain duplicative data and, far more concerning, there is uncertainty with respect to if and how these reports are used once they are filed.
- Notwithstanding these concerns, there is reason to believe that the data contained in these reports is of tremendous value – particularly if the data are assembled into the correct format. Much of the data required by AB400 and SB98 is likely already contained in the myriad of reports that are currently being prepared and filed.

New Reporting Framework

- To meet the requirements and objectives of SB98 (2023) and AB400 (2023), a new system of reporting will be needed. This task is aimed at constructing the reporting framework and the format in which the data will reside. In essence, this exercise is to design the appearance and content of the reporting system.
- As a beginning point, this is envisioned to be a user-friendly web-based dashboard, with data available for review at the state, district, and school levels. As such, the wire frame of the report portal will need to be conceived and developed. The dashboard will draw upon all data elements identified in AB400 and SB98, with additional data identified by the Nevada Association of School Superintendents, the Commission, and NDE also being included.

Presentation of Conclusions

- The dashboard envisioned by the preceding task will contain all required and desired data, with summary pages available to make the data user-friendly. This being the objective, the interpretation and inferential analysis of the data still remains.
- Since this is arguably the most important element involving the assemblage of the data, drawing upon the data to make periodic conclusions regarding progress over time will become the capstone of the reporting system.
- How these conclusions should be presented must be carefully considered. As important, how the information can be linked into the decision-making process should be equally considered.

Miscellaneous

There are mandates among the various tasks assigned to the Commission that do not neatly fit into one of the task groupings noted in previous slides. These may include, without limitation, subject tasks including open zoning, small school capital, sufficiency of compensation for teachers and support staff, online schools, and the surveying that is mandated. These will be segregated as separate tasks and assigned to the internal or external resources that best fit the task. These tasks are summarized and suggested for coordination as follows:

- Open Zoning, Accessibility, and Online Schools: Jim McIntosh (coordinator) and Joyce Woodhouse
- Teacher Pipeline, Retention, and Recruitment: Dusty Casey (coordinator) and Kyle Rodriguez
- Teacher and Support Staff Compensation: Punam Mathur (coordinator), Jason Goudie and Mark Mathers
- Small District Capital: Guy Hobbs (coordinator), Kyle Rodriguez and Paul Johnson