

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
DECEMBER 06, 2023  
2:00 PM**

| <b>Office</b>           | <b>Address</b>     | <b>City</b> | <b>Meeting</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Department of Education | 2080 E. Flamingo   | Las Vegas   | Room 114       |
| Department of Education | 700 E. Fifth St.   | Carson      | Board Room     |
| Department of Education | Virtual/Livestream | Virtual     | Virtual        |

**SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Felicia Ortiz, President  
Dr. Katherine Dockweiler, Vice President  
Rene Cantu  
Tate Else  
Tim Hughes  
Michael Keyes  
Angela Orr  
Mike Walker

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT EXCUSED**

Joe Arrascada  
Maggie Carlton  
Tamara Hudson

**DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT**

Jhone M. Ebert, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Ann Marie Dickson, Deputy Superintendent of the Student Achievement Division  
Lisa Ford, Chief Strategy Officer  
Chisty McGil, Deputy Superintendent for Educator Effectiveness and Family Engagement  
Megan Peterson, Deputy Superintendent for Student Investment Division  
Rhodora Alonzo, Education Programs Professional  
Elizabeth Callahan, Public Information Officer  
Angie Castellanos, Administrative Assistant  
Kathleen Galland-Collins, Education Programs Supervisor  
Kathryn Hoyt, Education Programs Professional  
Anabel Sanchez, Education Programs Professional  
Jeremy Silva, Program Officer  
Karl Wilson, Education Programs Supervisor  
Peter Zutz, Director of Assessment, Data, and Accountability Management

**LEGAL STAFF PRESENT**

David Gardner, Deputy Attorney General

**AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE**

Clayton Anderson, Elko County School District Superintendent  
Joe Cacioppo, Clark County School District  
Dan Carstens, Clark County School District  
Jeff Church, Washoe County Trustee  
Chelise Crookshanks, Carson City School District

Laurel Crossman, Board President of Carson City

**AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE, CONTINUED**

Andrew Feuling, Carson City School District Superintendent

Susan Keema, Nevada Association of Superintendents

Mary Pierczynski, Nevada Association of Superintendents

Jennifer Ward, Carson City School District

Collen Westlake, WCSO Trustee

Joyce Woodhouse, Vice Chair Commission on School Funding

Adam Young, White Pine County School District Superintendent

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Meeting called to order at 2:17 P.M. by President Felicia Ortiz. Quorum was established. President Ortiz led the Pledge of Allegiance and provided a land acknowledgement.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1** *(A complete copy of their statements is available in Appendix A)*

- a. AJ Feuling, Carson City School District Superintendent, provided comment regarding agenda item 11.
- b. Chris Daly, Nevada State Education Association, provided comment regarding agenda item 9.
- c. Jeff Church, Washoe County Trustee, provided comment regarding agenda items 7 and 8.

**3. APPROVAL OF FLEXIBLE AGENDA**

**Member Cantu moved to approve a flexible agenda. Member Dockweiler seconded. Motion passed.**

**4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

• **Board Member Updates**

President Ortiz reported that some Board members attended the Nevada Association of School Boards Conference this past weekend and she mentioned that it was phenomenal. Member Else mentioned it was nice to see the Department of Education at the conference and that he would like to see the Board create more opportunities for this. Member Cantu informed the Board that he attended the National Student Leadership Academy for Jobs for America's Graduates and he mentioned that he took eight students who represented the State of Nevada, he also stated that he was voted onto the JAG National Board of Directors. Member Keyes mentioned that applications for the Student Board Member are available this Friday. Member Walker stated that it was nice to see other members from the State Board of Education and mentioned it was nice to be able to collaborate. Member Dockweiler thanked NASB for the conference and mentioned that one of the session she attended was navigating public records and she stated that during the session it was mentioned that the districts have to follow the statues and regulations that are established for them and that the question was posed, what authority does the State Board have over the public records for education, she elaborated that the question is probably more the Deputy Attorney General. She also mentioned that it would be beneficial to invite the Board of Regents to one of the NASB conferences.

• **High School Start Times**

President Ortiz mentioned that language hasn't been received from the LCB and mentioned that she would like to add it the January agenda for discussion.

• **Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Updates**

President Ortiz read the report for the record. She mentioned that the Board of Regents elected a new chair, Amy Carvalho, and vice chair Jeff Downs. She also mentioned that NSHE approved a 5% increase in student registration fees to fund an 11% increase for professional staff and faculty, she stated that classified employees are also receiving the same increase and that the system of education will have increased their

salary for faculty and staff by 23% in one calendar year. She went on to say that there were new academic programs and organizations approved, which included the UNLV Sports Innovation Institute, UNR Center for Drug Use Equity and Policy Research, a BS and MS in Industrial Engineering, Truckee Meadows Community College added an Associate's Degree in Agriculture Science, Great Basin College appointed an interim president Amber Donnelly and two new cabinet members: Chris Vinton for Vice Chancellor for budget and finance and Daniel Archer as Vice Chancellor for academic and student affairs.

## 5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- **Through Year Assessments**

Superintendent Jhone Ebert is currently discussing through year assessments with other states and having conversations with superintendents and principals. She mentioned that they're investigating the purpose of exams and the appropriate tools needed. She stated that everyone is collectively progressing in determining the next steps. President Ortiz wanted Superintendent Ebert to provide clarification on the meaning of Through Year Assessments. The State of Nevada, as mentioned by Superintendent Ebert, complies with Federal requirements, conducts limited testing, and implements the Read by Grade 3 program. The assessment system evaluates achievement at local and national scales. Additionally, she noted that the assessment system focuses on evaluating schools rather than individual students, with a goal of matching resources and support to areas of greatest need. Member Dockweiler questioned whether the tools would undergo changes to accommodate the new model. There are interim assessments at SBAC, as mentioned by Superintendent Ebert. Member Hughes raised concerns about embedded assessments and wanted to proceed with caution. Superintendent Ebert mentioned that the system right now is working on current federal law. Member Keyes mentioned that shorter assessments throughout the year might make it seem like the students know the information, but the students might know it for that quarter and not necessarily retain the information. President Ortiz asked Superintendent Ebert to see if she can ask what Nevada needs to do to get the Innovation Waiver, to stop doing SBAC till Nevada can get something that is aligned with the portrait of a Nevada learner. Superintendent Ebert clarified that the team is currently tracking and working on it but that it does not waive you from assessing.

- **Listening Tour**

Superintendent Ebert stated that Lyon County and Douglas County are the two school districts the Department has visited. Additionally, she discussed a chronic absenteeism problem at one school and shared strategies from other schools in the state. She mentioned that the Department plans to visit White Pine on January 9th in order to see some senior projects.

## 6. CONSENT AGENDA

**Member Dockweiler moved to approve the consent agenda. Member Hughes seconded. Motion passed.**

## 7. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING ACT ASSESSMENT

### **RESULTS***(Information/Discussion)*

Peter Zutz, Director, Office of Assessment Data, Accountability Management, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the [Statewide High School English Language Arts and Mathematics Assessment Results 2022-23 School Year](#).

Director Zutz started the presentation which mentioned that the ACT is Nevada's federally reported high school ELA and Math assessment, participation on the ACT is a graduation requirement per Nevada Revised Statutes, and that the ACT was administered to all grade 11 students in school year 2022-23. He continued and went over the ACT ELA proficiency rates in a 5-year trend beginning with 2018-19 through 2022-23. He then moved on to provide the Board with the ACT ELA proficiency, race/ethnicity comparison for school year 2021-22 and school year 2022-23 and mentioned that overall high school English Language

Arts proficiency increased 7 percentage points over last year. He continued the presentation and discussed the ACT ELA proficiency student groups comparison for students with disabilities, English language learners, and economically disadvantaged students with the overall State performance, for 2021-22 school year and for 2022-23 school year, he mentioned that all the student groups showed improvement over last year's performance. He continued the presentation with the results in ACT Math proficiency rates and then provided the ACT Math proficiency by race/ethnicity for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school year. He stated that the ACT Math proficiency student groups comparison for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school year, this included students with disabilities, English language learners and economically disadvantaged students.

President Ortiz mentioned that one of the questions was, why the focus is only on math and ELA, and she stated that the answer that was received by the Department was that's what the Federal government requires. Director Zutz mentioned that yes, the Federal government requires the Department to test and report annually students in elementary, middle, and high school and currently we have our proprietary science exam, however he mentioned that the Department uses the ACT to fulfill the mandated accountability requirements.

Member Hughes asked what the absolute score on the ACT is that the Department is counting as proficient. Director Zutz mentioned that in Nevada the cut score for proficiency is 17 in ELA and for Math its 20. Member Hughes had a follow-up question if the cut scores a national benchmark. Director Zutz mentioned that cut scores are established based on assessment administered in any given State and clarified that Nevada's ACT cut scores are not identical to the benchmarks. Superintendent Ebert wanted some clarification on how the cut scores arrived. Director Zutz mentioned that the process takes from impact data, which includes an analysis of the data to understand where the students would fall. Member Orr had a question about the ACT and if it was designed to determine if a student would be successful in a beginning freshman course. Director Zutz mentioned that ACT was approved by the Board, and this is the Federal High School accountability assessment for English Language Arts and Mathematics. He also mentioned that Nevada is required to submit for federal peer review and the process is currently under review, but that Nevada has received partial approval, and that the Federal peer review is looking in alignment with States standards.

Member Orr wanted to receive more clarification if a student that was determined by Nevada to be proficient in ELA and Mathematics would also be proficient in another state. Director Zutz mentioned that the ACT does not use the word passing but that he would suggest using achieving the benchmark and that Nevada current benchmark is 17 for ELA and 20 for Mathematics are below the ACT benchmarks. Member Cantu asked for clarification in proficiency in the ACT and if every state has their own benchmark and what are the factors that have led to a 20% decline. President Ortiz answered that no one really could answer this since it would be more of the opinions of the Superintendents on why.

#### **8. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING DATA OR THE 4-YEAR ADJUSTED COHORT GRADUATION RATE** (*Information/Discussion*)

Peter Zutz, Director, Office of Assessment Data, Accountability Management and Dr. Gunes Kaplan, Education Program Supervisor, Office of Assessment, Data and Accountability Management, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the [Nevada High School Class of 2023: Four-Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rates](#).

Dr. Kaplan started the presentation with the Statewide 4-year graduation rates, graduating classes of 2021, 2022, and 2023. This provided the Board with a breakdown of each graduating class and the overall rate. She continued and presented the Board with all districts graduation rate trends which included information on the graduation rate to the overall State rate. During the presentation, she went over the three largest districts graduation rate trends, which included Clark, SPCSA, and Washoe. She presented the Board with

information on the graduating class of 2023 demographics by race/ethnicity and presented the Board with information on the 3-year graduation rate trends by race/ethnicity. Dr. Kaplan presented the Board with the information on the percentage point difference between graduation rates by race/ethnicity, and information on the graduating class of 2023 demographics by student group. She continued and went over the statewide special population graduation rate trends.

Director Zutz started his presentation with the State Board of Education Goal of 50% of students achieving a CCR diploma which included the feasibility of achieving this goal.

Member Keyes mentioned that in the graduation year 2019 and 2020 it increased significantly and wanted to know why to be able to replicate that momentum. Director Zutz mentioned that the Department does not have this information but that he would research this information and provide the Board with that information. Member Hughes also wanted some clarification on whether the trend line on the chart was just mathematically input and not the impact of the legislation around using CCR as a default. Director Zutz mentioned that yes, he is correct. Member Else wanted clarification if this included the required GPA of 3.25 for the CCR Diploma. Director Zutz mentioned that he will get back to the Board with the answer. Member Keyes confirmed that it includes a 3.25 GPA for the CCR Diploma.

President Ortiz mentioned that she would've liked to see the trend goals to have started July 2021. Last slide was skipped due to not being aligned with the Boards goals as stated by President Ortiz. Member Hughes had a question if any analysis has been made on marginalized students in declining enrollment and how it impacts. Director Zutz mentioned that the Department doesn't have that information right now, but he would provide the Board with the requested information. Member Hughes also asked if information on National averages in terms of graduation rates was available. Director Zutz mentioned that the Department will provide the Board with that information soon.

Member Keyes asked about page number 12 and mentioned that the goal is correct, but it's just titled wrong, but that the chart is labeled right. President Ortiz wanted more clarification on whether it was just titled incorrectly or if the data is wrong. Director Zutz mentioned that the title is wrong. Director Zutz continued and mentioned that the chart is a study that was conducted by EdWeek. Member Walked wanted to make two points when looking at the trends in the African American, Indian American, and Alaskan Native the Board needs to address those graduation rates because the declining number.

President Ortiz wanted to receive more clarification on whether this chart included in adult education. Dr. Kaplan mentioned that they're included in the calculation.

Member Orr mentioned that she had a question regarding in 2021 CCSD decided to use community eligibility to qualify everyone for free and reduced lunch and mentioned that she is concerned about the data and the numbers being skewed. She would like to have it noted that not all students are eligible for free and reduced lunches.

President Ortiz mentioned that she would like a caveat added to CCSD data to mention that the FRL program in CCSD is based on community eligibility. Superintendent Ebert mentioned that it is not only CCSD that is a community eligibility program, but they're also several around the state and the Department would be more than willing to adjust the data to reflect which schools are part of the CEP. President Ortiz mentioned that she thinks this presentation needs to have this caveat to note which schools are part of CEP. Superintendent mentioned that the data is correct since this is the definition of the federal government and other states are also presenting their data this way but that she doesn't have any issues with adding a caveat to reflect that which schools are part of CEP.

Member Orr wanted to make sure that the public is aware of this data and can find the correct information on the Nevada report card. Dr. Kaplan mentioned that yes, the public can categorize the report card by student groups and use the subgroup category as well and wanted to make sure the Board was aware that whichever category a student starts their high school career, they will complete their high school career in the same category.

President Ortiz mentioned that she would like this information also added to make sure that people are aware of this. Member Else wanted to know if a student qualifies for multiple categories, is there dual counting. Dr. Kaplan mentioned that they're duplicated and that a student can have membership in more than one subgroup.

## **9. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CHARGE OF THE COMMISSION ON SCHOOL FUNDING***(Information/Discussion)*

Joyce Woodhouse, Vice Chair, Commission on School Funding, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the [Commission on School Funding Deliverables](#).

Vice Chair Joyce Woodhouse started her presentation with the introduction of the eleven members of the commission on school funding and mentioned that there is only one new member Kyle Rodriguez. President Ortiz did have a question regarding if the commission has a student member to reflect the student body. Vice Chair Woodhouse mentioned that there was not officially, but they had conversations. She continued with her presentation and mentioned that the commission on school funding statutory duties are set forth in NRS 387.12463 and the CSF has been directed to perform studies, reviews, and make recommendations. She continued and provided the Board with the Commission statutory duties breakdown.

President Ortiz asked if CSF could confirm how many recommendations passed through the legislative session. Vice Chair Woodhouse mentioned that the recommendations that CSF brought forward were not made into bills. She continued with her presentation on the Commission's statutory duties. She provided the Board with information on SB 98, the interim study, and small district funding. President Ortiz needed clarification on if the Commission was asked to investigate the infrastructure of the Nevada State Infrastructure Bank on how it was going to be used with small school districts. Vice Chair Woodhouse replied that the Commission was asked to investigate as one of the opportunities to help small school districts.

President Ortiz also requested to receive clarification on the Municipal Bond Bank. Vice Chair Woodhouse mentioned that at this time she is not able to provide the Board with that information, but she would get the information for the Board. President Ortiz also asked if the Commission on School Funding received a budget and staff. Vice Chair Woodhouse mentioned that the Commission has some funds for meetings, travel, and research. President Ortiz asked if the Department was receiving some of this funding. Vice Chair Woodhouse stated yes.

Member Cantu had a question regarding the access for small school districts acquiring capital building improvement and whether Charter Schools or Adult Education School have access to capital or what kind of funding though they have. Vice Chair Woodhouse mentioned that there is no funding for Charter Schools at this time. She continued her presentation with SB 98 regarding the teacher pipeline and provided the Board with some information.

President Ortiz inquired if this proposal had already been done. Vice Chair Woodhouse mentioned that yes, the bill is 6-7 months old and when CSF was working with Department staff, they're updating the data. She continued her presentation and went through the Teach and Support Personnel compensation. She also provided the Board with the law changes to sales and property tax structures.

Member Orr had a question regarding the vendor and how the weight for at risk is being calculated. Vice Chair Woodhouse mentioned that right now the weights are based upon the Department. Member Orr also wanted to make sure as the Board works with the Commission the meaning of at risk needs to be clear and transparent. Vice Chair Woodhouse mentioned that yes, an additional study has been added to make sure the Commission changes the meaning. Member Hughes had a question regarding the role of the Commission, and it seems like the work is being duplicated. Vice Chair Woodhouse stated that when the Commission was initially started it was only to look at funding and then this legislation session two bills were added AB400 and SB98, the bills are similar because the Commission was unsure of which one would pass.

President Ortiz mentioned if there was any thought that there are already accountability bodies that are doing the same work as well. Vice Chair Woodhouse stated yes and that the state of Nevada is small enough that both the Board and the Commission can work together. She continued her presentation regarding the accountability matrix. President Ortiz mentioned that the Commission and the Board should align calendars for certain presentations to eliminate that the Department presents twice. Vice Chair Woodhouse continued with her presentation with the achievement metrics and provided the Board with the accountability matrix.

President Ortiz had a question regarding the employment of licensed teachers serving as a literacy specialist section and inquired if this is a requirement already by the Read by Grade 3 law. Vice Chair Woodhouse stated yes and mentioned that the Commission has been asked to look at the data and then come up with a recommendation or not. She continued with her presentation and went on to the last section which was Nevada Legislative Letter of Intent and provided the Board with the topics that the Commission on School Funding shall study over the 2023-24 interim.

Member Orr had a question regarding what kind of public comment and/or collaboration from institutions or boards will the Commission be using for other metrics. Vice Chair Woodhouse mentioned that the Commission operates under the open meeting law and provided time for public comments, and they've also invited educational partners to see what they're doing, and the Commission is not duplicating the work.

President Ortiz asked if the Commission is creating a data base on the information. Vice Chair Woodhouse said not in the Commission, but the Department does, she also mentioned that she would be bringing this point up with Chair Hobbs. Member Else stated that accountability must be a priority and that unity and being on the same page from the Boards, Departments, and Commissions is what will make it easier.

Member Dockweiler was wondering if the Board or the Commission would have the final say on a recommendation and how it would move forward. Vice Chair Woodhouse mentioned that if the Commission recommended that didn't align with the Board, the Commission's recommendation under statute would move forward.

President Ortiz mentioned that the presentation by Todd Butterworth would be moved to another agenda.

## **10. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION PURSUANT TO NRS 385.040 FOCUSING ON THE GOALS AND BENCHMARKS OF THE STATE FOR IMPROVING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

Per NRS 385.040(2), the Board has invited the superintendents of the school district, presidents of the boards of trustees of the school district, representatives of the governing bodies of charter schools, representatives of the governing bodies of university schools for profoundly gifted pupils, and the chairs of all boards, commissions, and councils in the public education system of the State.

The Board will hear a presentation from the [Nevada Association of School Superintendents](#) presented by Adam Young the White Pine Superintendent and the NASS Vice President and CJ Anderson the Elko

Superintendent.

Superintendent Young started the presentation with Fiscal Investments. Superintendent Anderson continued the presentation and mentioned that there was surplus revenue and mentioned the increases of pay for 2024 and 2025 of 2% to 12%.

President Ortiz inquired about the section on SB231 and what was being contemplated. Superintendent Anderson mentioned that the contemplating factors were on how the funds will be dispersed over the two years that's still being negotiated as well as questions from the individual unions and other tasks that need to be done.

President Ortiz wanted some clarification on this and mentioned that what she understood was that there is funding for teachers and support staff raises but that before the money is sent there is a checklist of things you need to do. Superintendent Anderson stated yes and even before this point there are other steps necessary and went through some of the steps. Superintendent Young also mentioned that it has been quite the process to get the money where it's intended to be.

Member Cantu inquired about the requests that have been asked. Superintendent Anderson mentioned that a reasonable request was how is the money going to be distributed and an onerous one was we need to see every employee's calculation with the projections of over two years.

Superintendent Young continued with the presentation and mentioned some of the other fiscal investments that have happened. He continued the presentation with some of the concerns and went over them with the Board. Member Cantu inquired about the historic investment and primarily it is being used for teacher raises but if just provided raises to teachers is enough to address all the other concerns. Superintendent Young mentioned if they may defer answers to your questions because that will be addressed as the presentation continues. He continued the presentation with a few of the initiatives from NSPF, CSF, SB425, Acing Accountability, LCB, the Portrait of a Nevada Learner and he mentioned a few of the accountability measures that already exist. He continued the presentation with a case study and mentioned that the school was a STEAM school and went through the model and breakdown of the program and what kind of clubs and activities the students can opt in as part of their extra learning. He continued his presentation and mentioned that the school is a one-star school based on the State's measurement. Superintendent Anderson continued the presentation and provided the Board with accountability and how teachers and administrators feel about it.

Superintendent Young continued the presentation and mentioned the opportunity for coherence and alignment. He moved on and had a question of "What value do students and families place on standardized test scores?" He went through some of the responses and had a link that provided the Board with a video of Misha, 2022.

Superintendent Anderson continued the presentation which mentioned the current core top skills and mentioned the skills ranked by importance, he noted to the Board that reading, writing, and mathematics is listed as number 16. He acknowledged that some of the skills listed before number 16 are needed to achieve.

Superintendent Young continued and stated quotes from Zhao and Koretz. He continued his presentation which provided the Board with information on the elementary school performance framework.

Member Hughes asked about the current core top skills and mentioned that some of the top skills are in the current content standards. Superintendent Young mentioned that he agrees but he mentioned that they're better ways to gather data than the narrow data we currently collect using standardized tests. Superintendent



Anderson stated that the bigger picture is that the purpose of the standardized assessment is fundamentally flawed because the whole point is to help improve instruction not to demonstrate the intelligence of a student or effectiveness of a school.

Member Orr asked about the case study and mentioned that a school can have academic achievement and academic growth that can also be measured. Superintendent Young stated that he is familiar with the school because it is in his district and mentioned that there is high level of academic achievement in the case study school, he provided examples to the Board of the academic achievements of the school in the case study. Member Orr also asked about the Nevada Report Card and accountability measures and closing achievement gaps, she wanted to know if the growth measurement is valuable to measure growth. Superintendent Young mentioned that growth is an important measure for everyone, but he thinks it could be done in a way that could be more helpful to the individual taking the test and evolve the system.

Superintendent Young continued with the presentation which was titled unintended consequences of labels. Member Hughes asked about the bullet points and mentioned that no one is mandating this but that it is the individual schools deciding. Superintendent Young mentioned that when the one-star ratings come out and your school is on the list there is an immense amount of pressure to change the star rating. Member Hughes mentioned that it seemed like it is a leadership issue and not an accountability issue.

Member Cantu mentioned that the star rating is deeply flawed and not to hold the schools accountable with a star rating but perhaps through a growth measure. Superintendent Young mentioned what the National Association of School Superintendents is advocating for but in a more holistic way. Superintendent Anderson also mentioned that the study shows that standardized tests do not appropriately evaluate the way students of divergent backgrounds.

Superintendent Young continued with the presentation and cited some research. Member Cantu asked if standardized testing is not how are the measures of growth happen. Superintendent Young stated that he would like to be clear and mentioned that NASS doesn't believe that there should not be standard testing but that there can be vast reductions in standardized testing and should not be the entirety to judge anyone.

Member Hughes mentioned that we need to have some accountability measures and recognize the complexity. Superintendent Anderson mentioned creative ways that don't rely solely on a test are needed.

President Ortiz stated the ACT for the State is part of the federal funding requirement and the Board decided to move forward with the ACT being the test to help and eliminate students that can't afford it are able to take the ACT.

Superintendent Young continued his presentation titled "Faulty Assumptions" and mentioned that the Board has summarized the faulty assumptions and the system meant to drive higher achievement is the one limiting factors in approving achievement. He continued and presented the Board with a matrix that NASS has created as accountability measures.

President Ortiz stated that she liked the wording in the matrix that was provided by NASS. Superintendent Young continued the presentation with the Portrait of a Nevada Learner and some of the competencies. He continued his presentation with a Ven diagram on alignment and mentioned that the accountability system needs to be changed. He moved on with his presentation and mentioned a learner-centered and future-ready approach and included examples of accountability measures from various countries, which were presented to the Board.

Member Orr stated that all the countries listed have accountability measures have a very high level of

achievement and she would like to make sure the conversation is about a great academic education and are able to achieve with great social emotional learning. Superintendent Young mentioned that holistic does encompass rigorous academics.

Member Keyes mentioned that the State of Nevada is not getting the results and why hasn't it been changed.

Superintendent Anderson mentioned that unless we believe that the students are as capable to learning as the children from Finland, using different approaches.

Superintendent Young continued the presentation and mentioned to the Board that there are great models of learning happening in the State.

Member Walker stated that he challenges NASS to provide the Board with concrete examples.

Member Hughes had an observation and mentioned that the solution is not swapping one system for another one.

The next presentation was provided by Laurel Crossman the Board president of Carson City School District. She started her presentation highlighting the positives and mentioned that approximately 13 to 14% overall increases in their salaries for all employee groups. She also mentioned that multiple positions are in critical needs, however, there has been a 59% reduction in our vacancies. She also highlighted the GATE programming and mentioned that changing the identification process by using an alternative identification by using individual scores rather than a composite. She continued her presentation by mentioning that Carson City is piloting an Elementary Behavior Intervention Program.

President Ortiz asked Superintendent Ebert on seat time requirements. Superintendent Ebert mentioned they are requirements for the learning expectations and to obtain funding.

Member Else elaborated to President Ortiz's question and mentioned that there is a minute requirement for each course. President Ortiz asked Deputy Attorney General David Gardner on whether the Board has the authority to change the seat time requirements under the NRS requirement and mentioned that the Board would like to schedule a different work session regarding the NEPF and NSPF with the Deputy Attorney General David Gardner regarding what the Board is authorized to do. President Ortiz thanked Trustee Crossman.

## **11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Restorative Justice

President Ortiz mentioned that Member Cantu wanted additional information on restorative justice.

- Report regarding Read by Grade 3

President Ortiz mentioned that the Board is expecting a report on Read by Grade 3.

President Ortiz also mentioned that there was a request for talking about the free and reduced lunch and how the students are being identified and comparing the federal requirement to the state funding requirement and mentioned that this should be an agenda item. She also mentioned maybe collaborating with the Commission on School funding to make sure that both the Board and CSF are doing it together.

Member Else mentioned RPDP should come and present to the Board and mention some of the great work they are doing.

Member Hughes requested more information on the state public charter authority and some of their results

regarding performance ratings. He also mentioned regarding Senate Bill 320 that gave authority to the Board on some regulations.

Member Orr asked for literacy to be a recurring agenda item and expressed interest in hearing about RPDP's efforts to support teachers and the Department's stance on the science of reading. She also stated the importance of knowing the reporting requirements, including which reports are necessary and which NRS or NAC requirements they fall under.

President Ortiz mentioned if NASS could also provide the Board with a list of top ten that are redundant or don't add value to the work. She also asked Deputy Attorney General David Gardner if he can prioritize the list with items that the Board has authority.

Member Keyes requested NASB to make a presentation to highlight some successes in the districts.

**12. PUBLIC COMMENT #2**

No public comment.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 P.M.

**APPENDIX A: STATEMENTS GIVEN DURING PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Jeff Church, Washoe County Trustee, provided comment regarding agenda items 7 and 8.
2. Chris Daly, Nevada State Education Association, provided public comment regarding agenda item 9.
3. AJ Feuling, Carson City School District Superintendent, provided comment regarding agenda item 11.

## **APPENDIX A: STATEMENTS GIVEN DURING PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **APPENDIX A, ITEM 1: AJ FEULING**

Thank you, President Ortiz and thank you members. Today you're going to be hearing a bit about accountability from the other superintendents; and otherwise talking about achievement, and metrics, and that sort of thing. And I think it's really important to think about the impact of metrics, in terms of what that does to a system you are trying to improve. And the analogy that I'll use similar to education, will say healthcare. Okay, and we might think seems very rational to say that within a Health Care system you would expect 70% of your outcomes to be positive. If you have a community and a health care you might have a health care facility that has 85% positive outcomes. And that may be in a community that is a very healthy community, there might be a Whole Foods on every corner, but this community values health. And in spite of the system itself, in spite of that Health Care Facility, it still in spite of that facility. The system itself will produce positive results. The people there will look like it doesn't matter how bad the situation is, whatever the bad practices they have, they are going to have healthy outcomes. If you have in a neighborhood that doesn't have that kind of those healthy practices. You may have a facility that looks really bad because they only have 50% healthy outcomes. If that facility didn't exist it might be 30%, but they are doing so many great things for those who walk in that door. It makes a huge difference for them. They are doing so much positive work. They have great practices, yet one that has 85% healthy outcomes, we're going to look at them like have all the best practices. In fact, they could have terrible practices, but because the community itself is so healthy, it looks really good. So, we take, really good practices, really bad practices, from the high and we start looking at the lower. The one with the lower metric, saying here's the practices, you need to do to be more like them. And you start moving bad practices through the system and this whole system itself becomes worse and worse and worse. So, when you're thinking about these metrics accountability and setting compliance targets. Remember that just because you set that target, it doesn't mean that you're effective. If you're above it, and in fact by doing that, and setting those types of targets. You can actually make the entire system worse, and education can easily be the analogy to that. That is all, thank you.

### **APPENDIX A, ITEM 2: CHRIS DALY**

Chris Daily, Nevada State Education Association, the voice of Nevada Educators for over 120 years. Commenting on item number nine on your agenda. The charge of the Commission on School Funding, last month, I was at this table presenting to that Commission regarding new charges that the Commission received in this legislative session. With that said I found myself dwelling on the old charges of the Commission on School Funding. Specifically, out of SB 543 in the 2019 session and then 495 in the 2021 session. Very generally the Commission was charged with identifying what would be optimal education funding in Nevada. And a plan in terms of new revenue on how to get there. A little over a year ago that Commission, after three years of work, issued a very thick report. I brought it, then I didn't want to lug it over here for this meeting. It's quite hefty. But very generally speaking, they found that education is short billions of dollars, literally billions of dollars. And while progress was made during the last legislative session, with kind the economic bounce back and revenues that were available. I think it's important to keep in mind that two things happened, one while billions of dollars were put in, because of inflation. All of the numbers in terms of average and optimal also increased. And they increased almost at the same rate. So, in the end after billions of dollars put into education, we closed the gap. From optimal funding by about \$500 per pupil, we're still \$4,000 per pupil short. In terms of optimal funding, two recommendations the Commission made around possible new revenue sources. One to close loopholes in Nevada's property tax system. Two, to expand the base in Nevada sales tax system failed, even to receive a hearing during the last legislative session. So, it's interesting that while not taking recommendations from the Commission. The legislature you know, the legislature asked for the legislature turned around, and asked for new charges specifically. Around the issue of accountability, that I believe Superintendent Feuling was referencing, I will just be very briefly. I know you are probably on the clock here.

Like I said last month, and like NCA testified at the legislature. We were concerned that accountability needs to be more than just a student test score. I think on whether qualified educators are in front of students, in classrooms, what do class sizes look like. Those types of metrics, and finally let me just state that I'm glad, that this item is on your calendar today. Because there does seem to be some, perhaps merging of roles, in terms of accountability. You know that you have a charge on account accountability in NRS. I want to make sure that everyone is clear on what everyone's roles and responsibilities are. Thank you.

### **APPENDIX A, ITEM 3: JEFF CHURCH**

Thank you very much. Jeff Church, so I'm not a member, I'm just an attendee. And I wasn't sure if you took public comment over the internet or not but thank you very much. I think I want to just speak to items seven and eight. Number one, my name is Jeff Church, a trustee for the Washoe County School District. Views are definitely mine, don't necessarily represent any government agency. I did attend the Nevada Association for School Board conference in Las Vegas, very well done by Rick Harris. Saw many of you there, great program, as well as the great city schools in San Diego. My one big takeaway, number one, is absenteeism, it's a big crisis we have to deal with it. All our scores are down, so basically, I just want to urge the board to act. This is an emergency this is big we have to deal with it. It's not something that you're going to handle with some little minor tweaks or changes. Nevada consistently is the lower, and Nationwide, and so I'm just urging you to do it. My wife is from Mineral County, my home of record from the military was Mineral County, if you look at their report card, I am so sorry, but it is terrible. We you know we've got to help the rural we've got to do something to improve the quality of education, so I just wanted to bring that up. I'm no fan of credit recovery, but part of it is because I don't understand it. We've had you know briefings about how wonderful it is. But I would love to have some kind of a virtual or meeting or something. Where we actually got briefed on what it is what we can do what we can't do as a school district. So anyway, I just want to put that. I appreciate your time and thank you very much. And I'm sorry about Las Vegas I just tuned in, and I didn't even know. Thank you.