

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS IN EDUCATION
MARCH 16, 2022
9:00 AM**

Office			
Department of Education	2080 E. Flamingo Rd.	Las Vegas	Room 114
Department of Education	700 E. Fifth St.	Carson City	Board Room
Department of Education	Livestream	n/a	Link

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE COPS MEETING

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

Commissioner Kenny Belknap
Commissioner Jennifer Davis
Commissioner Jordan Wenger

In Carson City:

President Aaron West-Guillen
Commissioner Richard Stokes

Virtually:

Commissioner Maria Roberts
Commissioner Jennifer Carvalho

COMMISSION MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Commissioner Christina Tucker

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT:

In Las Vegas:

Jeff Briske, Director, Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement.
Anabel Sanchez, Education Programs Professional, Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement
Martha Warachowski, AA IV, Division of Educator Effectiveness and Family Engagement.

In Carson City:

Dylan Fuson, AA III, Nevada State Board of Education

Virtually:

LEGAL STAFF PRESENT

Deputy Attorney General David Gardner (Virtually)

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE:

In Las Vegas:

Kiana Tsu- Nevada Occupational Therapy Association (NOTA)

Susan Lingelbach- Nevada Occupational Therapy Association (NOTA)

Carson City:

Kate Schum- Washoe County School District (WCSD)

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President West called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Roll call attendance was taken as reflected above and quorum was established. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Kenny Belknap.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

1. Keeli Killian, Washoe County School District, provided a comment regarding NAC 391.180. *(A summary of the statement is available in Appendix A).*
2. Elissa Couch, Pahrump Valley High School, provided a public comment regarding NAC 91.065. *(A summary of the statement is available in Appendix A).*
3. Kristen Neville, State Affairs AOTA, provided a public comment regarding NAC 391.279, NAC 391.277. *(A summary of the statement is available in Appendix A).*
4. Rachel Drake, Washoe County School District, provided a public comment regarding NAC 391.180. *(A summary of the statement is available in Appendix A).*
5. Susan Lingelbach, Nevada Occupational Therapy Association, provided public comment regarding the proposed support changes to occupational language *(A summary of the statement is available in Appendix A).*
6. Kiana Tseu, Nevada Occupational Therapy Association, provided public comment regarding the proposed OTA and recommendations. *(A summary of the statement is available in Appendix A).*

3. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 24, 2022, MINUTES

Motion: Commissioner Wenger moved to approve the February 24, 2022, meeting minutes. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President had no comment at this time

5. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Jeff Briske, Director, Office of Educator Development, Licensure and Family Engagement, Director Briske stated that the department continues to work through regulation drafts for workshops. One of which that was pulled from a previous meeting, will be heard today.

6. 9:05 A.M. WORKSHOP TO SOLICIT COMMENTS ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO NAC CHAPTER 391.180 – ENDORSEMENT AS SCHOOL COUNSELOR.

**NAC CHAPTER 391.277 – ENDORSEMENT TO TEACH OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY;
NAC CHAPTER 391.279 – ENDORSEMENT TO TEACH PHYSICAL THERAPY; AND
NAC CHAPTER 391.315 – ENDORSEMENT TO SERVE AS SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST:
GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS; RENEWAL.**

Jeff Briske, Director, Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement, Director Briske stated the workshop is now open for public comment and discussion affecting NAC 391.180, NAC 391.277, NAC 391.279, NAC 391.315 regarding licensure renewal requirement for persons who are serving as a school psychologist, or school counselor. Which pertains to Senate Bill (SB) 151 from the 2021 sessions, the proposed regulation also clarifies that occupational and physical therapist provide services to students.

Amber Reid, Education Programs Professional, Office for a safe and respectful learning environment, cited SB 151, Chapter 391 section 2.

Amber Reid cited Section 1 & Section 2 of SB 151. Regarding regulations continuing education requirements for school counselors and school psychologist.

Commissioner Jordan Wegner provided concern regarding recommendation to the regulation. Regarding SB 151 limited language, Ethics, and suicide prevention. Commissioner Stokes agreed.

Commissioner Maria Roberts provided concern regarding model code of ethics.

Commissioner Richard Stocks agreed with current regulation standards.

Kirsten Neville, American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), regarding NAC 391.277, proposed to strike (1A), (1C). As AOTA does not offer the specialty certification in school systems. She also proposed to amend (1B) to be inclusive of occupational therapists, and occupational therapist assistants.

Motion: Commissioner Stokes moved the proposed amendments sent to public hearing with consideration on taking recommendations from this board back to the working group. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

Director Briske noted that the Commission could make a possible motion to send the amendments back to the Department with recommendations for another workshop, or the Commission could make a motion to send the regulation to public hearing, trusting that the Department would make all proposed changes. Once the regulation gets to public hearing, no further substantive changes can be made.

Commissioner Wenger recommended the commission take the changes that the commission recommended back to the stakeholder workgroups and bring back to another workshop.

Motion: Commissioner Stokes withdrew his previous motion.

Motion: Commissioner Wenger moved to send the item back to workshop. Commissioner Belknap seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Director Jeff Briske, Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement proposed a report from Education Testing Services, regarding multi-state testing reviews, possible licensure updates for teacher residents, school psychology interns, workshop pertaining to Assembly Bill 225, public workshop for emergency sub regulation. Commissioner Wenger, recommended core practices for other license professionals.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

There was no public comment from the north or south.

9. ADJOURNMENT

President West moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Stokes seconded.

Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:03am

APPENDIX A: STATEMENTS GIVEN DURING PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Susan Lungelbach, Nevada Occupational Therapy Association, provided a public comment regarding NAC 391.277.
1. Keeli Killian, Washoe County School District, provided a comment regarding NAC 391.180.
2. Elissa Couch, Pahrump Valley High School, provided a public comment regarding NAC 391.065.
3. Kristen Neville, State Affairs, provided a public comment regarding NAC 391.279, NAC 391.277.
4. Rachel Drake, Washoe County School District, provided a public comment regarding NAC 391.180.
5. Kiana Tseu, Occupational Therapy Student, provided public comment regarding NAC 391.277

ITEM A1: SUSAN LINGELBACH

Summary of Public Comment:

We are here to answer any question regarding Occupational Therapy Association.

Item A2: KEELI KILLIAN

Summary of Public Comment:

Good afternoon, members of the Commission on Professional Standards, I am submitting public comment in favor of adopting the proposed amendments to NAC 391.180, endorsement as a school counselor. The proposed amendments for school counselors support current Nevada Revised Statutes and the Nevada Educator Performance Framework (NEPF) School Counselor Evaluation. For example, the one-hour suicide prevention training currently meets the state statute requiring suicide prevention training for staff in schools. Both the one-hour requirement for ethics in school counseling and the one-hour requirement for diversity, equity, and inclusion are already embedded within the NEPF for School Counselors Standards 5 and 6. An important point to note is that the NEPF for School Counseling is built upon the American School Counseling Association (ASCA) framework for school counselors. The proposed two hours relating to the national model are reasonable as counselors use the ASCA National Model to build comprehensive school counseling programs and also strengthen the school counselor responsibilities listed in the evaluation. Another positive outcome of these proposed amendments is the professional development alignment with other school mental health professionals, specifically the requirements for ethics, suicide, and cultural competency, diversity, equity and inclusion. This alignment helps strengthen the collegiality and collaboration of school mental health professionals such as school counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers. Over the past few years, I have been fortunate to work with multiple stakeholder groups such as Washoe County School District (WCSD), Nevada Department of Education (NDE), the Nevada School Counselor Association (NVSCA), and several Legislators like Marilyn Dondero-Loop to advance the profession of school counseling. I am in favor of these proposed amendments because they align and strengthen the profession of school counseling in the state of Nevada. In order to ensure that we have equitable access to professional development training across the state, specifically considering the challenges many of our rural counselor's face, I would propose the idea of intra-district training and support from the Nevada Department of Education. An example of intra-district training would be if WCSD provides suicide prevention training to school mental health professionals on an annual basis, then school mental health professionals from other districts could participate and earn their hours. This is an example of supporting and strengthening school counselors and other school mental health professions across the state, while reducing siloed training and limitations placed on smaller districts. Counselors across the state currently have access to multiple professional associations and training that currently offer professional development in the proposed amendments. Some examples include ASCA, NVSCA, NDE, Hatching Results, Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC), and the National Center for School Mental Health (NCSMH).

Item A3: ELISSA COUCH

Summary of Public Comment:

I am in support of the following change:

(V) The remaining hours per year must directly relate to the ~~profession of school counseling~~, provisions of NAC 391.065, including, but not limited to, professional development, in-service training or course work on any content areas covered by the practice domains of the national model, integrated student supports pursuant to NRS 388.885, restorative justice and practices pursuant to NRS 392.4644 to 392.472, inclusive, school-based mental health, substance abuse and prevention, trauma informed practices, and crisis response.

Removing those four words and replacing them with "provisions of NAC 391.065," provides more opportunities for continuing education while still maintaining the integrity and intent of licensure renewal specific to school counselors. I am deeply appreciative of your efforts to remain steadfast and diligent regarding the commission's purpose and objectives.

Item A4: KRISTEN NEVILLE

Summary of Public Comment:

Dear Mr. Briskie and Mr. Fuson:

Thank you for the workshop today and for my opportunity to provide public comment. I wanted to clarify one thing and ask a question. First, AOTA is not taking a position or recommending any changes to the regulation related to physical therapy endorsements in NAC 391.279. Our suggested amendments were only to apply to NAC 391.277. My question is, based on the motion that passed at today's meeting, am I correct in understanding that another public workshop will be held in April to discuss potential additional amendments to the regulations discussed today. We are supportive of the proposed change that OT (Occupational Therapy) provides services to students then teach pupils. The other reason we're asking for changes we currently don't offer the board certification in school system. I think its regulation is cleaner and it currently reflects the current profession. Which a license is required to obtain the endorsement, for the regulation was put in place at a time before OT were licensed by a licensing board in the state of Nevada.

ITEM A5: Rachel Drake

Summary of Public Comment:

This is a response to the proposed modification to NAC 391.180 Endorsement as school counselor for the Wednesday, March 16, 2022, NDE workshop.

My name is Rachel Drake. I live in Reno and work as a school counselor. I maintain an endorsement on my teaching license as a school counselor. I am also licensed as a Clinical Professional Counselor, and I hold certification as a National Certified Counselor and a National Certified School Counselor through the National Board for Certified Counselors.

Professional Development (PD) for any licensed educator in the fields of ethics, suicide prevention, and cultural competency and diversity supports our children and our families. Additionally, we would expect our professional educators to put their own learning time into subjects that enrich their practice. The 2019 revision of NAC 391.065 reconfirms this expectation, confirms that professional development is expected to be a continuous process, and establishes that educators can meet this requirement during their contracted time. No educational license in Nevada has a requirement that specifies what topics must be explored. The combined features of NAC 391.065 allow for all professional educators in Nevada to pursue professional development appropriate to their professional needs and with the available supports from their district.

The proposal to modify NAC 391.180 Endorsement as School Counselor seems to solve a problem that does not exist. It does the following:

1. Makes School Counseling the only Nevada Educational License that has specific professional development topics required by NDE for renewal. (There are three license/endorsement types that require concurrent licensure: Automotive Service Technology, School Nurse, and School Social Worker. These licenses have specific requirements that are overseen by other professional boards. I did not include School Psychologists because that endorsement can be renewed by following NAC 391.065.)
2. Makes School Counseling the only Nevada Educational License that requires that all professional development hours be “directly related to the profession of school counseling.”
3. Requires that the NDE take action to track the topics of professional development pursued. This is not a system that currently exists. The system and the staff to manage it would have to be created and budgeted.

4. Additionally, the requirement that professional development in each topic be accumulated on a yearly basis encourages surface level treatment of each topic and does not reward deeper study.

5. Holding school counselors to specific requirements that exist for no other educational professional in the state of Nevada seems unnecessary. Everyone with an interest in licensure of educational professionals agrees that training in the field of education and specifically in the area of practice enriches skill levels and supports our children and families. The NAC 391.065 requirement is that educators must complete PD that “directly relates to the profession of education or the area for which the license is endorsed.” Many school counselors get training in the areas specified by this proposal (ethics, suicide prevention, cultural competency, ASCA National Model, and other areas directly related to the profession of school counseling). I would be interested in any data that shows that school counselors are more likely than any other educational profession to submit professional development.

Item A6: Kiana Tseu

Summary of Public Comment:

We are here to answer any question regarding Occupational Therapy Association.