

Review of Current Reporting Requirements

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To support ongoing efforts to streamline data reporting requirements for school districts and charter schools in Nevada, the WestEd and Augenblick, Palaich and Associates (APA) team asked each Nevada Department of Education (NDE) office to provide input on the data reports that Local Education Agencies are currently required to submit to the state. NDE offices were sent a comprehensive list of current reporting requirements in an Excel spreadsheet and were asked to provide input on their use of—and need for—each report, including their input on whether the frequency of reporting aligned with their needs.¹ The spreadsheet contained a list of more than 200 reports that are currently required in Nevada. This report outlines a subset of responses from the NDE offices and recommended action steps for addressing NDE staff input.

Input on the Frequency of Reporting

Input from NDE staff suggests that at least four reports could be collected less frequently. Table 1 summarizes the reports that NDE staff reported are not collected at the correct intervals and any suggestions that offices made regarding how the reporting interval should change.

Table 1. Reports That May Require Changes to the Frequency of Collection

Report Name	Source of Requirement	Notes/Suggestions
Application for a Plan of Class Size Reduction (CSR)	NRS 388.700–725	Currently collected annually. The responding NDE office suggested, “We could get rid of ALL other reports and keep this one. To that end, either we could make this biennial [. . .] or we could keep it annual and have the CSR #s combined with this report (only once per year).”

¹ A similar Excel document was also sent to all school districts to collect their input on the current reporting requirements.

Report Name	Source of Requirement	Notes/Suggestions
Quarterly CSR Reports	NRS 388.700–725	The responding NDE office suggests that the CSR reports can be consolidated into one annual report that collects all CSR information.
Biannual Consultant Report	NRS 391.155	Currently collected at least once every six months. Both responding NDE offices suggest that it should be collected annually.
Physical Condition of Schools Report	NAC 387.501	This report is currently collected annually. The responding NDE office suggests that it should be collected every other year, prior to the legislative session, to inform funding requests.

Action step recommendation: Review the three reports and consider adjusting the frequency of the report collection to align with the offices' suggestions. This might require a review of statutes and/or recommendations for statute updates.

Reports Identified for Elimination

Based on input from NDE staff, 26 reports should be considered for elimination. Table 2 includes a summary of this input and any notes that respondents shared regarding how or why the report should be eliminated.

Table 2. Reports to Consider Eliminating

Report Name	Source of Requirement	Notes/Suggestions
Report on Number of Dropouts	NAC 387.281	The responding NDE office suggests that this information is already collected with NRS 385A.260.

CSR Biennial Report	<u>NRS 388.700(6)</u>	<p>The responding NDE office suggests that this report can be eliminated because it is potentially being reported in another office's report.</p> <p><i>WestEd/APA recommend following up with the office to identify which report provides the duplicative information before exploring the elimination of this report.</i></p>
CSR Report on Educators and Variances	<u>NRS 388.700(7)</u>	<p>The responding NDE office suggests that this report can be eliminated because it is potentially being reported in another office's report.</p> <p><i>WestEd/APA recommend following up with the office to identify which report provides the duplicative information before exploring the elimination of this report.</i></p>
Work-based Learning Report	<u>NRS 389.167 (6)</u>	<p>The responding NDE office suggests that this report can be eliminated because these data will be collected in the Perkins V CARs report (starting in 2024).</p>
Industry-recognized Credentials	<u>NAC 389.800</u>	<p>The responding NDE office suggests that this report can be eliminated because these data will be collected in the Perkins V CARs report (starting in 2024).</p>
Charter Annual Report Concerning Capital Improvements	<u>NAC 387.710</u>	<p>The responding NDE office notes that this information has not been collected or utilized for seven years.</p>
Charter/University School Tentative Budget	<u>NAC 387.720</u>	<p>The responding NDE office notes that the report is not important, but it is collected for compliance purposes.</p>
Minimum Required Expenditure (MER)	<u>NRS 387.206</u>	<p>The responding NDE office notes that the report is not important, but it is collected for compliance purposes.</p>
Charter Capital Improvement Plan	<u>NAC 387.700</u>	<p>The responding NDE office notes that the report is not important, but it is collected for compliance purposes.</p>
Charter Empowerment School Compiled Reports and Audit	<u>NRS 388G.200</u>	<p>The responding NDE office notes that the report is not important, but it is collected for compliance purposes.</p>

Reporting of Expenditures for Lobbying Activities	<u>NAC 387.750</u>	The responding NDE office notes that the report is not important, but it is collected for compliance purposes.
Alternate Route to Licensure Report	<u>NRS 391.135(3)</u>	The responding NDE office notes that it did not know this report existed. The office believes this reporting requirement should be removed for districts and reassigned to educator preparation programs.
Out-of-Field Teacher Report	<u>NAC 391.152</u>	The responding NDE office notes that the report can be eliminated because the information is already being collected in the Licensed Personnel Report in NRS 391.120.
Professional Development Report	<u>NRS 391A.205</u>	The responding NDE office notes that it does not have a use for this report (i.e., it is not useful at the state level), but that this information might be useful for districts and for the compilation of school performance plans.
Testing of Bilingual Educators	<u>NAC 391.059</u>	The responding NDE office notes that the NRS needs to be updated to remove the responsibility of testing from the employer to NDE, which will eliminate the need for this report.
Washoe/Clark Pupil Support Ratio Report	<u>NRS 388.892</u>	The responding NDE office notes that it does not use this report.
Empowerment School Compiled Reports and Audit	<u>NRS 388G.200</u>	The responding NDE office notes that Empowerment schools do not exist beyond 2010.
Application for Special Education Unit	<u>NAC 387.410</u>	The responding NDE office notes that this report is no longer required because the allocation of funding has changed with the per pupil funding formula.
Computation of Enrollment of Detained Students	<u>NRS 388.570</u>	The responding NDE office notes that these data are not used.
Physical Exam of Pupils	<u>NRS 392.420</u>	The responding NDE office notes that the report is not important, but it is collected for compliance purposes.

Immunization Report of Pupils	<u>NRS 392.435</u>	The responding NDE office notes that the report is not important, but it is collected for compliance purposes.
Incident Reports	<u>NRS 388.1351(13)</u>	The responding NDE office notes that there has been a change in the law so that this report is no longer required and should be eliminated.
Menstrual Products Report	<u>NRS 386.900(4)</u>	The responding NDE office notes that the report is not important, but it is collected for compliance purposes.
Opt Out of Participating in Breakfast After the Bell Program	<u>NAC 387.370</u>	The responding NDE office notes that the report is not important, but it is collected for compliance purposes.
Report on Number of Dropouts	<u>NAC 387.281</u>	The responding NDE office notes that it does not use this report and that the information is collected with another report (NRS 385A.260).

Action step recommendation: Review the reports recommended for elimination and the source of the reporting requirement. Work with legislative counterparts to reduce the reporting burden by eliminating some or all of the reports.

Reports Identified for Streamlining or Consolidation

Based on input from NDE staff, 22 reports should be considered for streamlining or consolidation. For this report, a suggestion of “streamlining” means collecting less information in the report, and “consolidating” means combining multiple reports together into a single report. To provide specific next steps for streamlining or consolidation, WestEd/APA plan to meet with the responding offices to better understand their needs and the legislative reporting requirements. In coordination with the offices, WestEd/APA will be able to make recommendations that are more specific about how reports can be streamlined or consolidated.

Action step recommendation: The WestEd/APA team will meet with NDE offices to discuss their responses and create specific action step recommendations for each report.

Reports That Need Further Clarification to Understand Next Steps

NDE staff indicated that there are 18 reports that, although rarely or never used, should be kept as is or kept with small modifications. To better understand recommended next steps, the WestEd/APA team will work with the offices to understand why they never or rarely use the report and ascertain if the report can be eliminated, consolidated, or streamlined.

Additionally, there were no responses provided for 48 reports, or the responses were unclear. The WestEd/APA team will work with NDE offices to gather action steps for these reports.

Action step recommendation: The WestEd/APA team will meet with NDE offices to better understand these reports and identify any additional reports that can be eliminated, streamlined, or consolidated.

Recommended Next Steps

The input collected from NDE offices on current reporting requirements suggests the need for additional action to eliminate, consolidate, or streamline unnecessary or redundant reporting requirements in the state. The following sections outline recommended next steps for the Commission on School Funding (“the Commission”) and/or NDE and WestEd/APA.

Recommended Next Steps for the Commission and/or NDE

The WestEd/APA team recommends that the Commission focus its attention on reports that NDE offices believe can be eliminated. Many of these reports require changes in state legislation and/or statute to remove the requirement. We recommend that the Commission, in coordination with NDE, work with legislative counterparts to recommend further streamlining of current education reporting requirements in Nevada.

Recommended Next Steps for WestEd/APA

The WestEd/APA team plans to meet with NDE offices to collect more information on the responses that need additional clarification. First, we will meet with NDE offices that recommended reports for streamlining and consolidation, to support development of specific recommendations to the Commission for how particular reports can be streamlined or consolidated. Second, we will meet with NDE offices that provided unclear or inconsistent responses about reports, to gain a better understanding of the office's response. As appropriate, these meetings will culminate in specific recommendations for each report to be streamlined, consolidated, eliminated, or kept as is. Finally, the WestEd/APA team will continue to work with NDE to ensure that the Excel spreadsheet of reporting requirements is inclusive of all reports that NDE collects and disseminates. Ensuring that the state has a full picture of the reporting requirements allows us to make the most informed recommendations to NDE and the Commission around strategies to reduce the reporting burdens on districts and NDE.