

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULATION HEARING

**APRIL 22, 2026
3:00 PM**

Office	Address	City	Meeting Room
Department of Education	2080 E. Flamingo Rd.	Las Vegas	Room 114
Department of Education	700 E. Fifth St.	Carson	Board Room
Department of Education	Virtual	Virtual	YouTube Livestream

DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

President Dr. Katherine Dockweiler
Vice President Tim Hughes
Member Annette Dawson Owens
Member Angela Orr
Member Susan Neal
Member Amy Carvalho
Member Evana Lan
Member Dr. Tricia Braxton
Member Tate Else

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT EXCUSED

Member Tamara Hudson
Member Danielle Ford

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

Meeting called to order at 3:09 P.M. by President Dockweiler. Quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

President Dockweiler opened the first public comment period, noting that separate public comment opportunities would be provided for each hearing. There were no comments during the general public comment period.

3. 3:01 P.M. REGULATION HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO NAC 388 REGARDING SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS AFFECTING THE EDUCATION OF STUDENTS (For possible action)

President Dockweiler opened the hearing at 3:11 P.M. Director LaNesha Battle presented LCB File No. R015-25, which intends to fulfill the legislative mandate of SB 267 (2019). The regulation mandates that local school district boards of trustees and charter school governing bodies annually review, identify, and report on specific social and environmental factors affecting pupils, integrating these considerations into their School Improvement Plans (SIP) and District Improvement Plans (DIP).

Vice President Hughes asked a clarifying question regarding whether the regulation involves data for individual students or evaluating general school populations. Director Battle clarified that the intent is localized data analysis for the general school population within the improvement plans, rather than tracking or singling out specific pupils.

No public comments in Las Vegas, Carson City, or online.

Member Hughes moved to approve regulation R015-25. President Dockweiler seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. The hearing closed at 3:18 P.M.

4. 3:02 P.M. REGULATION HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO NAC 388 REGARDING FRAMEWORKS FOR A MODEL PLAN TO RESPOND TO CRISIS, SUICIDE, OR EMERGENCY (For possible action)

President Dockweiler opened the hearing at 3:18 P.M. Director LaNesha Battle presented LCB File No. R082-25, designed to fulfill NRS 388.253 requirements. This regulation requires the Nevada Department of Education to identify nationally accepted best practices, models, or frameworks for managing crises, suicides, or other emergencies across public, charter, and private schools, or to develop an appropriate framework in consultation with a prescribed list of stakeholders.

No public comments in Las Vegas, Carson City, or online.

Member Dawson Owens moved to adopt regulation R082-25. President Dockweiler seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. The hearing closed at 3:25 P.M.

5. 3:03 P.M. REGULATION HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO NAC 388G REGARDING LARGE SCHOOL DISTRICTS (For possible action)

President Dockweiler opened the hearing at 3:25 P.M. Amelia Thibault presented LCB File No. R019-26, which contains conforming cleanup amendments reflecting changes made to NRS 388G by SB 460 during the 2025 legislative session. The text removes outdated statutory references that are no longer applicable.

Member Braxton reported that the NRS 388G Subcommittee thoroughly reviewed the cleanup text and confidently recommended its passage.

Vice President Hughes requested clarification on whether recent legislative updates adjusted previous Board actions.

Ms. Thibault clarified that only a 2022 provision defining staff working under the direct supervision of a principal was repealed, keeping other frameworks intact.

No public comments in Las Vegas, Carson City, or online.

President Dockweiler moved to approve regulation R019-26. Member Dawson Owens seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. The hearing closed at 3:30 P.M.

6. 3:04 P.M. REGULATION HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO NAC 388 REGARDING PROFICIENCY LEVELS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY ASSESSMENTS (For possible action)

President Dockweiler opened the hearing at 3:30 P.M. Sarah Russell and Nicci Miller presented LCB File No. R017-26. Pursuant to NRS 385.080, NRS 388.405, and federal law, the Nevada Department of Education is responsible for the identification and assessment of English learners through standardized assessments.

The regulation allows flexibility for the Nevada Department of Education to adopt proficiency levels and descriptors in direct alignment with changes made by the selected standardized assessment publisher, WIDA.

Vice President Hughes asked whether the Department can only make changes when the publisher makes changes or if it could diverge from the vendor if it disagrees with cut-score adjustments.

Ms. Russell clarified that the state must remain in lockstep with the publisher.

No public comments in Las Vegas, Carson City, or online.

Member Neal moved to adopt regulation R017-26. Member Orr seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. The hearing closed at 3:36 P.M.

7. 3:05 P.M. REGULATION HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO NAC 389 REGARDING THE UNIFORM GRADING SCALE (For possible action)

President Dockweiler opened the hearing at 3:36 P.M. Andrew Snyder presented proposed changes to NAC 389.6625. Per NRS 389.007, the State Board of Education shall adopt regulations that prescribe the uniform grading scale. The regulation specifies that dual credit, International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced Placement (AP), and honors courses must be included on the uniform grading scale.

NRS 389.007 also requires IB and dual credit courses to be weighted the same as Advanced Placement courses, at 0.05, when they are for academic subjects or subjects with an AP offering.

The proposal adds dual credit to the text and removes outdated 2014-2015 school year references.

Member Orr asked whether there had been any discussion that many dual credit classes span one semester while AP courses may be two semesters. She asked whether someone could take double the number of courses in a year and if that weighting would impact their GPA in a different way.

Mr. Snyder referred to Chief Deputy Attorney General Christena Georgas-Burns, who requested additional time for research.

Member Orr noted she was surprised the question hadn't previously arisen in conversations with districts.

Vice President Hughes said he heard in the description of the regulation that it was for core academic subjects, but when he read language, it referenced completion of a dual credit course. He asked for clarification. Vice President Hughes noted he doesn't think the state would want to weight all dual credit courses equivalently (e.g., distinguishing complex mathematics from introductory painting courses).

Mr. Snyder clarified that core academic subject areas would have a weight of 0.05. Anything related to the AP would also get same weighted score.

Vice President Hughes asked for additional clarity to be added to the text.

No public comments in Las Vegas, Carson City, or online.

President Dockweiler proposed tabling the item to allow staff to incorporate the feedback provided and then bringing back the item to the Board.

Member Braxton moved to table the regulation. President Dockweiler seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. The hearing closed at 3:44 P.M.

8. 3:06 P.M. REGULATION HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO NAC 387 AND 388 REGARDING SYSTEMS OF OPEN ENROLLMENT AND TRANSPORTATION (For possible action)

President Dockweiler opened the hearing at 3:44 P.M. Amelia Thibault presented a combined regulation regarding open enrollment (AB 533) and transportation funding (SB 460) for continuity. The regulation governs the distribution of \$7 million in funding to support student transportation to a school of choice via three pathways: direct family fuel reimbursement, community transportation organizations, or adjusting district bus routes.

Public Comment: Viridiana Vidal provided online public comment in support of open enrollment transportation funding.

Member Orr said the plan has been through many iterations and the school districts may not be fully on board with the final product. She inquired about the process for revisiting a regulation.

Ms. Thibault stated the Nevada Department of Education will conduct progress monitoring and solicit feedback from districts in the fall, with a plan to systematically revisit and adjust the regulation beginning in spring 2027.

Member Orr also requested data on the 20,000 projected students who would utilize the program. Ms. Thibault explained that the Nevada Department of Education does not yet have that data.

Deputy Superintendent Christy McGill noted that there were more responses to the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) than available funds and reviewers are being assembled. She notes the hope is to get funds out before the beginning of next school year. Deputy McGill noted the Nevada Department of Education will continue to progress monitor.

Superintendent Wakefield added that version four of this text represented an immense collaborative achievement. He noted the Nevada Department of Education is committed to continuous improvement and that the transportation funding is brand new for the state.

Member Dawson Owens asked a clarifying question about whether transportation funding is for students moving to a higher-rated school or specifically a 4- or 5-star school.

Ms. Thibault noted that it depends on how many students require transportation and cost effectiveness. She said that demand for funding is about three times what is available and there is a condensed implementation timeline.

Superintendent Wakefield noted that what Dawson Owens referenced could be how families choose to use the

open enrollment system, while the funding is specific to transportation.

Deputy Superintendent Christy McGill said students can move from a 2- to 3-star school under open enrollment. She noted that if a school receives more open enrollment applications than its capacity, the district is legally required to give priority to students zoned for a 1-or-2-star school.

Vice President Hughes asked whether school districts are required to provide transportation to support open enrollment. Ms. Thibault said it is not a requirement.

Vice President Hughes cautioned that some assumptions have been made in describing what is a better fit for students. He noted he has been to 4- and 5-star schools that did not have the best instructional approaches or ways to support students who are behind grade level.

Vice President Hughes also asked how competency-based programs are considered in the regulation.

Ms. Thibault said that in a system of open enrollment, there may be more students who are in competency based or innovative programs. She noted capacity calculations can consider the mode of delivery.

Member Braxton expressed concerns regarding how school enrollment shifts might accelerate building consolidations or impact capital project schedules.

Superintendent Wakefield noted that the laws and the regulation are centered on student opportunity but may have an impact on operational or facility choices that districts make.

Vice President Hughes noted that transparent capacity tracking could help districts reduce class-size reduction waiver requests.

President Dockweiler commended the Nevada Department of Education for its commitment to continuous improvement and notes she looks forward to learning from the data.

President Dockweiler moved to approve regulation R076-25. Member Dawson Owens seconded the motion.

The motion passed with one abstention from Member Braxton, who cited a need for additional information.

The hearing closed at 4:22 P.M.

9. 3:07 P.M. REGULATION HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO NAC 387 AND 389 REGARDING PROGRAMS OF PERSONALIZED COMPETENCY BASED LEARNING (For possible action)

President Dockweiler opened the hearing at 4:22 P.M. Amelia Thibault presented LCB File No. R077-25, noting its origins within the 2023-2024 Calendar Credit Instructional Time Collaborative. The regulation provides flexibility around seat time parameters.

Member Orr requested the Nevada definition of competency-based education and asked how the Nevada Department of Education verifies instructional rigor.

Ms. Thibault directed the Board to Section 7. Superintendent Wakefield noted that the definition is included in NRS 389.200.

Member Orr expressed concern that a self-paced system, for example, may hold back struggling readers from Tier 1 grade-level instruction.

Vice President Hughes said a focus on content standards has not been as prominent in the competency-based learning conversation.

Ms. Thibault provided an example of a high school that used flexible, six-week calendar extensions into the summer that allowed most of the affected students to master standards and continue to the next course the following school year.

Superintendent Wakefield reiterated that no plan alters state academic content standards or annual accountability testing.

In response to Member Orr’s inquiries about Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) convergence, Ms. Thibault highlighted Section 7(2), which explicitly links assessment steps to tiered interventions for students at risk of not graduating on time.

No public comments in Las Vegas, Carson City, or online.

Member Neal moved to approve regulation R077-25. President Dockweiler seconded the motion.

The motion passed with one abstention from Member Orr.

The hearing closed at 4:51 P.M.

10. 3:08 P.M. REGULATION HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO NAC 387, 388, 389, AND 390 FOR CLARITY AND CONSISTENCY ACROSS EDUCATION PROGRAMS (For possible action)

President Dockweiler opened the hearing at 4:51 P.M. Amelia Thibault presented LCB File No. R079-25, which stemmed from the 2023-24 Calendar Credit Instructional Time Collaborative. The text introduces comprehensive multi-section cleanups to establish one consistent process.

No public comments in Las Vegas, Carson City, or online.

Member Dawson Owens moved to approve regulation R079-25. Member Braxton seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. The hearing closed at 4:56 P.M.

11. 3:09 P.M. REGULATION HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO NAC 391 REGARDING EDUCATOR PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLANS (For possible action)

President Dockweiler opened the hearing at 4:56 P.M. Assistant Director Kathy Hoyt presented LCB File No. R104-25, which implements Senate Bill 460 (Sections 38.3 and 38.7). The statute requires a formal Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) for post-probationary teachers and administrators whose Nevada Educator Performance Framework (NEPF) annual evaluations designate overall performance as ineffective or developing for two consecutive school years.

Public Comments:

Dr. Erik Skramstad (Clark County School District) voiced significant concerns regarding the regulation. He expressed that the PIP is duplicative and overlaps with the Educator Assistance Plans (EAP) currently embedded mid-cycle within NEPF protocols. Dr. Skramstad noted that there is currently a three-year period of less effective performance before a teacher is dismissed and the revision would lengthen that to four to five years. He said the school district’s recommendation is to align the proposal with current timelines for moving an effector out of the role.

Marissa McClish (Washoe County School District HR) noted the benefits of structural coaching and progress monitoring in a performance evaluation system. She highlighted the Washoe County School District's Peer Assistance and Review (PAR) program, which achieved a 50 percent exit success rate this year through early mentoring. She noted that a prolonged "developing forever" status is unacceptable for Nevada students.

Katie Louise Weir (Washoe County School District HR) noted concerns about the extended dismissal timelines, warning that a four-to-five-year window impacts multiple years of students before staffing changes can occur. She stated that PAR data demonstrates that staff typically improve in one or two semesters and extending the process further generally does not change the outcome but does extend the impact on students.

John Stern (Principal at George Westergard Elementary School) submitted written comment opposing the expanded underperformance timeframe.

Dr. Joel Peixoto submitted written comment opposing the changes, stating SB460 shifts the balance too far, duplicates existing systems, and reduces accountability and flexibility.

Board discussion addressed the two-year timeframe recommendation. Ms. Hoyt noted that the concerns raised during the public comment period are valid, but address structures put in place through SB 460 where two-year PIP timeframe comes from.

Vice President Hughes asked Chief Deputy Attorney General Christena Georgas-Burns about the legal consequences of a "no" Board vote.

Ms. Georgas-Burns stated that if the Board votes "no," then it would need to revisit and prioritize the regulation on an expedited basis to ensure it can comply with the statute as quickly as possible.

Member Orr noted that keeping an ineffective teacher for even three years is inappropriate for the education of children. She said she will be voting "no," and that hamstringing districts from putting the best people in front of children is deplorable.

Member Dawson Owens said that a four-to-five-year process is too long. She said there are good components and intent behind the changes more broadly and contemplated how to move forward in a positive way with supports that can be helpful and not cumbersome.

Deputy Superintendent Christy McGill and Ms. Hoyt reminded the Board that the underlying text remains state law and there's a need for clear guidance for districts.

Deputy Superintendent Christy McGill said the Department has a duty to follow the law. She noted that if it does not align with good instructional practice, an option could be looking at cleanup during the next Legislative session where all could work together.

Member Braxton noted she would like more information, has additional questions, and would be interested to know the impetus for the legislation.

Vice President Hughes noted that the Board has some authority in conjunction with TLC, and wonders if other adjustments could be made so the total process make more sense.

Superintendent Wakefield requested specific directive feedback to guide Nevada Department of Education revisions.

Vice President Hughes suggested there could be ways to shave off some time to have the most efficient and expedient version of the process.

Member Braxton moved to table the regulation. Member Dawson Owens seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously. The hearing was tabled at 5:41 P.M.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

President Dockweiler opened the final period of public comment for any matter within the Board's jurisdiction. No public comments in Las Vegas, Carson City, or online.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 P.M.