

{AB denotes Assembly Bill, · SB denotes Senate Bill)

Assembly Bills

AB 39-This bill eliminates the requirement for the Department of Education to provide written notice, by first class mail, to licensed educational personnel regarding the expiration date of their license and requires school districts to notify each licensed employee identified of the pending licensure expiration. The notice must be provided not later than six months before the expiration date of the license and the method of notification is to be determined by the school district. {7/1/11)

AB 113 -The bill requires the Department of Education to revise the schedule for the criterion-referenced tests in grades 3 through 8 to establish testing dates at least 30 days later in the spring semester for purposes of determining adequate yearly progress of schools. The current date of testing on the 120th day of school will be moved to the 150th day of school. (7/1/11)

AB 117-This bill authorizes the board of trustees of a school district or the governing board of a charter school to request, during the 2011-2013 biennium, a waiver from the required number of school days in a school year for economic hardship reasons only. {7/1/11)

AB 138 -This bill requires the Department of Education and school districts to include the number of pupils receiving the adult diploma and the number of incidents resulting in suspension or expulsion of pupils for bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment or intimidation as part of the annual report of accountability. The bill also ensures that each ninth grade pupil and his or her parent or legal guardian are provided, to the extent practicable, with information concerning certain courses and programs available to the pupil, as well as the requirements for graduation, for admission to the Nevada System of Higher Education and for receipt of a Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarship. The bill authorizes the board of trustees to adopt a policy that allows a pupil to report, anonymously if the pupil chooses, any unlawful activities being conducted on school property or at a school-sponsored event. The bill revises the minimum age by which a pupil may be excused from full time school attendance to enter employment or an apprenticeship program from 14 to 15 years old. (7/1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

AB 171 -This bill revises the membership of a committee to form a charter school; the process for review of an application to form a charter school; and the membership of the governing body of a charter school. The bill authorizes the Department of Education to request certain information from a charter school and reimburse the school for it. The bill clarifies certain qualifications for an exemption to the annual audit requirement. The bill removes the provision which provides that a school district employee who is granted a leave of absence to work as a teacher in a charter school

may return to his or her former teaching position and instead authorizes the employee to return to a comparable teaching position. The bill requires that upon request of the charter school or the school district and with the permission of the licensed employee who is seeking employment, the employment record of the employee be transmitted to the requesting entity. The bill authorizes the school district to conduct an investigation of any misconduct of the licensed employee who was granted a leave of absence for employment with a charter school and who requests to return to employment with the school district and specifies that the licensed employee is not entitled to return to the school district until the investigation is complete. The bill also requires a charter school, to the extent practicable, to notify the school district in which the child resides if the child who was homeschooled enrolls in the school and provides that the child may be counted for the purposes of the calculation of basic support whether or not the charter school provides the notice. (7/1/11)

AB 211 -The bill adds "gender identity or expression" to the list of categories upon which discrimination is prohibited and defines it to mean the gender-related identity, appearance, expression or behavior of a person, regardless of the person's assigned sex at birth. (10/1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

AB 222 -The bill requires the information related to the results of pupil achievement to account for at least 50 percent, but not be used as the sole criterion, in evaluating the performance of an individual teacher, paraprofessional or other employee. The bill creates a Teachers and Leaders Council consisting of 15 members who will serve an initial term of three years. The Council will make recommendations to the State Board on establishing a statewide performance evaluation system for teachers and administrators employed by school districts by June 1, 2012; and recommend to the State Board a plan for the development and implementation of the evaluation system by the Department and school districts. The State Board will adopt regulations establishing a statewide performance evaluation system by June 1, 2013 and school districts will implement a performance evaluation policy for teachers and administrators that complies with the system adopted by the State Board not later than the 2013-2014 school year. The statewide performance evaluation system must require that an employee's overall performance is determined to be "highly effective," "effective," "minimally effective," or "ineffective." (7/1/11)

- The District shall implement a performance evaluation policy for teachers and administrators that complies with the system adopted through regulations by the State Board not later than the 2013-2014 school year.

AB 224-The bill creates the Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement within the Department of Education and outlines an extensive list of responsibilities and expected outcomes. The bill authorizes the board of trustees of a school district to establish an advisory council on parental involvement and family engagement to work in conjunction with the State Parent Advisory Council; revises the required annual report

of accountability information for the public schools to include information on the involvement of parents and the engagement of families in the education of their children; requires the Commission on Professional Standards to adopt regulations prescribing course work on parental involvement and family engagement on or before December 31, 2011; and adds the Director of the Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement to the membership of the Statewide Council for the Coordination of Regional Training Programs. The bill requires the Statewide Council, to establish a statewide training program for teachers and administrators concerning effective parental involvement and family engagement. (7/1/11)

AB 225 -The bill stipulates that a postprobationary employee who receives an unsatisfactory evaluation for two consecutive school years shall be deemed to be a probationary employee and must serve an additional probationary period in accordance with the provisions of NRS 391.3197. The bill authorizes a teacher or administrator who is deemed to be a probationary employee pursuant to the provisions of the bill and who receives notice that he or she will be dismissed before the completion of the current school year to request an expedited hearing. (7/1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

AB 227 -The bill requires the board of trustees of a school district, upon request by a nonprofit organization and subject to availability and other conditions, to grant the use of an athletic field that does not contain lights at an elementary or middle school within the district if the nonprofit organization serves adults and children with disabilities or provides programs for youth sports. The bill stipulates that the provisions of the bill do not apply if a school district has entered into an agreement with a local government to provide the use of the athletic fields or playgrounds of the school district to a community organization which provides programs for youth sports. (7/1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

AB 229 -The bill requires school districts to report the number and percentages of administrators, teachers and other staff for each elementary, middle, and high school and for each school district in the State. The bill requires the board of trustees of each school district to establish a program of performance pay and enhanced compensation for the recruitment and retention of licensed teachers and administrators which must be negotiated pursuant to chapter 288 of NRS and implement the program commencing with the 2014-2015 school year. Effective July 1, 2013, the bill revises the policies for evaluations to require the designation of an individual teacher or administrator as "highly effective," "effective," "minimally effective," or "ineffective" and provide that the policies must require that pupil achievement account for at least 50 percent of the evaluations. The bill removes probationary teachers and administrators from the provisions governing admonition, demotion, suspension, dismissal and nonreemployment and revises the grounds for which a teacher may be suspended, dismissed or not reemployed or for which an administrator may be demoted, suspended, dismissed or not reemployed to include gross misconduct. The bill also

provides that a post-probationary teacher who receives an evaluation of "minimally effective" or "ineffective" must be evaluated three times in the immediately succeeding school year and revises the probationary period from two 1-year periods to three 1-year periods, without a waiver of any of the probationary years. The bill provides that a board of trustees of a school district that determines a reduction in the existing workforce of licensed educational personnel is necessary must not base the decision to lay *off* a teacher or an administrator solely on the seniority of the teacher or administrator and may consider certain other factors. (7/1/11)

- The District will adopt and implement a performance evaluation system that includes the required designations and revise related District policies.

AB 230 -The bill requires the State Board to evaluate each approved provider that offers a course of study or training designed to qualify a person to be a teacher or administrator or to perform other educational functions pursuant to an alternative route to licensure. The bill outlines specific information that must be included in the evaluation of these programs. The bill also requires the Commission to adopt regulations that regarding the qualifications for licensing teachers and administrators pursuant to an alternative route to licensure and outlines specific requirements to be included. (7/1/11)

AB 233 -The bill provides that a pupil may be granted credit in lieu of course attendance if the pupil demonstrates proficiency on an examination developed by the principal and the pupil's teacher who provides instruction in the course or passes an examination that the principal determines is as rigorous or more rigorous than the examination prescribed by the State Board. (7/1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

AB 257 -The bill revises the requirements by which a public body must provide for public comment and discussion of public comments during all meetings of the public body held under the Open Meeting Law provisions of the state. (7/1/11)

AB 290 -The bill authorizes the principal of a high school or the principal's designee to postpone the administration of the high school proficiency examination in the subject area of mathematics or science, or both, for a pupil enrolled in grade 10 for not more than 1 year based on certain requirements. (7 /1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

AB 316 -The bill requires the Aging and Disability Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services, in cooperation and guidance with the Department of Education, representatives of the school districts in this State and the Nevada Autism Task Force, to prescribe a statewide standard for measuring outcomes and assessing and evaluating persons with autism spectrum disorders through the age of 21 years for the purposes of receiving services through certain public programs in this State. The bill requires the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter

school to conduct an initial evaluation of each pupil with autism spectrum disorder and to conduct a reevaluation once every 3 years thereafter in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq., and the regulations prescribed by the State Board of Education. (7/1/11)

AB 318-The bill requires that whenever a due process hearing is held pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act regarding the identification, evaluation, reevaluation, classification, educational placement or disciplinary action of or provision of a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to a pupil with a disability, and a school district is a party, the school district has the burden of proof and the burden of production. (7/1/11)

AB 376 -The bill changes the amount of the reserves required to 10 percent of the outstanding principal or 25 percent for a school district located in a county whose population is 100,000 or more and 50 percent for a school district located in a county whose population is less than 100,000 of the amount of principal and interest payments due on all outstanding bonds of the school district in the next fiscal year, whichever is less. (6/17/11)

AB 393 -The bill requires the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to adopt a policy which requires a licensed employee of the school district or charter school to report to the school district or charter school if the employee is arrested for or convicted of a crime. The policy must include, without limitation, an identification of: the crimes for which an arrest or conviction must be reported; the person to whom the report must be made; and the time period after the arrest or conviction in which the report must be made. The bill requires an applicant for renewal of an educational license to undergo a subsequent background investigation of his or her criminal history upon renewal of the license and stipulates that provisions of the bill become effective on July 1, 2011 for the purposes of adopting regulations and policies and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks and on January 1, 2012, for all other purposes. (7/1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

AB 395 -The bill creates a separate category of licensure to teach special education and requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education adopt regulations to include provisions for the reciprocal licensure of persons who hold a license to teach special education. (7/1/11)

AB 455 -The bill requires the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association to adopt a policy concerning the prevention and treatment of injuries to the head which may occur during a pupil's participation in interscholastic activities and events, including, without limitation, concussion of the brain. The bill requires the policy to include specific

information regarding removal of a pupil who sustains or is suspected of sustaining an injury to the head while participating in such an activity or event. (7 /1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

AB 493 -The bill provides a temporary waiver for the 2011-2013 biennium to each school district from the minimum expenditure requirements under state law for library books, software for computers, the purchase of equipment relating to instruction and the maintenance and repair of equipment, vehicles, and buildings and facilities. (7/1/11)

AB 498 -The bill permanently eliminates the statutory requirement for the administration of norm-referenced examinations in grades 4, 7 and 10 and revises existing law to delete references to the norm-referenced examinations. (6/17/11)

AB 527 -The bill makes an appropriation of \$100,000 to the Department of Administration to contract with the Clark County Public Education Foundation to implement and operate a principal leadership training program. The bill requires that the Foundation matches or exceeds the \$100,000 from other sources and works in cooperation with the 17 school districts, other public education foundations in this State, and the Regional Professional Development Programs to design and implement the principal leadership training program. (7 /1/11)

AB 551 -The bill requires the board of trustees of each school district to determine whether consolidating or sharing services, functions or personnel with other school districts is feasible to include, without limitation: Purchasing; Accounting; Recruiting; Transportation; Chief financial officer; Human resources director; and Superintendent of schools. The bill authorizes the board of trustees of each school district in this State to develop a cost-effective and efficient method for the sharing of services, functions or personnel and also authorizes a school district to join in the contract of another school district with which it has entered into an agreement for the sharing of services, functions or personnel. School districts must submit a report to the Legislature on or before July 1, 2012 and July 1, 2013. (7/1/11)

- The District will review the consolidation of services for feasibility and report to the Legislature by the required deadline.

AB 579 -The bill provides the state basic support guarantee for school districts for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 (FY12) at \$5,263 and for Fiscal year 2012-2013 (FY13) at \$5,373 per pupil. The bill also establishes funding allocations for special education units, gifted and talented pupils, adult high school diploma programs, special counselor services, early childhood education, class size reduction, full-day kindergarten, and other programs. (7 /1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

Senate Bills

SB 11 -The bill requires the Legislative Commission to appoint a committee to conduct an interim study concerning the development of a new method for funding public schools in this State. The bill requires the committee to submit a report on its findings to the 77th Session of the Nevada Legislature. (7/1/11) SB 14 -The bill requires the State Board to develop and provide to school districts a model curriculum for English language arts and mathematics for kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, which are the two subject areas currently covered by the Common Core Standards. (7 /1/11)

SB 35 -The bill revises the manner in which the achievement results of pupils on the state required criterion-referenced examinations and the high school proficiency examination are reported for charter schools by requiring the governing body of each charter school to submit the results and other required information through the sponsor of the charter school to the Department of Education. The bill removes certain requirements of the state automated system of accountability information pertaining to paraprofessionals. (7 /1/11)

SB 38 -The bill authorizes the Superintendent to deduct from a quarterly apportionment if a school district, charter school or university school for profoundly gifted pupils fails to repay certain amounts due the Department of Education or pays a claim determined to be unearned, illegal or unreasonably excessive or withhold the quarterly apportionment if the entity fails to submit a report or other information that is required to be submitted to the Superintendent, State Board of Education or Department pursuant to a statute. If the required report or information is subsequently provided, the amount withheld must be immediately paid. (7/1/11)

SB 96 -The bill encourages a student who receives a Millennium Scholarship to volunteer at least 20 hours of community service during each year. (7 /1/11)

SB 98 -The bill sets forth that the following persons are prohibited from being a member of an employee organization: (1) supervisory employees who have additional authority on behalf of the employer to make budgetary decisions and decisions relating to collective bargaining; (2) doctors and physicians who are employed by a local government employer; and (3) attorneys who are employed by a local government employer and assigned to a civil division, department or agency, except for the duration of a collective bargaining agreement to which the attorney is a party as of July 1, 2011. The bill adds to the list of mandatory bargaining topics the reopening of collective bargaining agreements in instances of fiscal emergency. (7/1/11)

SB 196 -Existing law established the Program of Empowerment Schools. The law imposed a cap on the number of empowerment schools that may be established

statewide at 100 schools and provided for the prospective expiration of the Program on June 30, 2011. The bill removes the cap and the prospective expiration date. {7/1/11}

SB 197 -The bill removes the provisions creating the 10-member elected State Board of Education and provides for the creation of a new board consisting of seven voting members and four non-voting members whose terms will commence on January 8, 2013. The bill revises the duties of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and specifies that the Superintendent is to be appointed by the Governor from a list of three candidates submitted by the State Board and serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction, in conjunction with the State Board, to prepare an annual report of the state of public education in this State and delineates specific information that must be included. The bill makes various changes to the organization and funding structure of the Regional Professional Development Program. (7 /1/11)

SB 211 -The bill requires the Legislative Committee on Education to conduct a study to determine the extent to which: the curriculum and instruction for kindergarten through grade 12 in the public schools in this State is transitioned to the Common Core State Standards; teachers and other licensed educational personnel are afforded sufficient professional development opportunities and resources to aid in the transition process to the Common Core State Standards; and a plan and a timeline have been established for transitioning Nevada's assessment system for the public schools to align with the Common Core State Standards. The bill requires the Legislative Committee on Education to submit their findings to the 77th Session of the Nevada Legislature. {7/1/11}

SB 212 -The bill creates the State Public Charter School Authority and stipulates that the Authority's purpose is to: authorize charter schools of high-quality throughout this State; provide oversight to the charter schools that it sponsors; and serve as a model of the best practices in sponsoring charter schools and foster a climate in this State in which all charter schools, regardless of sponsor, can flourish. The bill designates the State Public Charter School Authority as a local educational agency (LEA) for the purpose of directing the proportionate share of any money available from federal and state categorical grant programs to charter schools and prescribes the membership of the Authority as seven members. The bill transfers the sponsorship of all charter schools sponsored by the State Board of Education to the State Public Charter School Authority and the duty to prepare an annual report of accountability information of each charter school in this State from the board of trustees of a school district to the sponsor of that charter school. The bill provides for the appointment of the Director of the State Public Charter School Authority and for the transfer of certain personnel positions from the Department of Education to the State Public Charter School Authority on or before January 1, 2012. The bill allows for a proposed sponsor of a charter school to request that the Department of Education review an application before review by the proposed sponsor to determine whether the application is complete. The bill codifies into statute

the provisions of existing administrative regulations of the Department of Education that set forth certain restrictions on contracts and proposed contracts between a charter school or proposed charter school and a contractor or an educational management organization. The bill specifies the yearly sponsorship fee for the sponsor of a charter school as an amount of money not to exceed two percent of the total amount of state funds apportioned to the charter school during the school year pursuant to NRS

387.124. (7/1/11)

SB 220 -The bill provides statutory authority for an account established in the Millennium Scholarship Fund to accept donations and authorizes the use of the money to provide a Kenny C. Guinn Memorial Millennium Scholarship to one college senior each year who is majoring in elementary or secondary education and meets certain criteria. (7 /1/11)

SB 229 -The bill requires the State Board of Education to revise the previously adopted policy to encourage parental and family involvement to support the education of their children to include: (1) promotion of an atmosphere for parents and families to visit the school that their children attend and feel welcome, valued and connected to the staff of the school, other parents and families and to the education of their children; (2) promotion of regular, two-way, meaningful communication between parents, families and schools relating to learning by pupils; (3) collaboration among parents, families and schools to support learning by pupils and healthy development of pupils at home and school; (4) empowerment of parents and families to advocate for their children and the children of other parents and families to ensure that all pupils are treated fairly and have access to learning opportunities that support pupil achievement; (5) promotion of an equal partnership between parents, families and schools in making decisions that affect children, parents and families; and (6) collaboration of parents, families and schools with the community. (7/1/11)

SB 276 -The bill requires the Department of Education to establish a program of training on the prevention of bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment and intimidation for members of the State Board and to recommend a program of training for members of the boards of trustees of school districts and school district personnel. The bill requires the principal of each public school to: establish a school safety team; conduct investigations of reported incidents of bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment and intimidation; collaborate with the board of school trustees and the school safety team to prevent, identify and address reported incidents of bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment and intimidation; and report the number of incidents that occurred at the school or involved a student enrolled in the school. The bill requires a staff member who witnesses an incident to report it to the principal and provides disciplinary measures for intentional failure to report it. The bill requires the Governor to annually proclaim the first week in October to be "Week of Respect." (7/1/11)

- The District will adopt and/or modify policies and procedures as required.

SB 315 -The bill requires the Commission on Professional Standards to adopt regulations prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and administrators pursuant to an alternative route to licensure and sets forth certain requirements that must be specified in those regulations. (7/1/11)

SB 317 -The bill revises the duties of each crisis plan development committee established by a school district, charter school or private school to require that such a plan also address responding to a school emergency. (7/1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

SB 318-The bill provides that new school buses which are purchased on and after July 1, 2014, must meet certain enumerated standards relating to: (1) the flammability of occupant seating; and (2) the flammability of plastic components contained within the engine compartment. (7/1/11)

SB 365 -The bill changes the mandatory requirement to a permissive option for boards of trustees to adopt a policy for a program to engage administrators employed at the district level in annual classroom instruction, observation and other activities. The bill repeals the state statutory requirement for a school district to prepare an annual plan for improvement. (It is noted that a plan is still required under federal law for school districts that receive Title I funding). The bill requires the board of trustees of each school district which includes at least one high school with an enrollment of 1,200 pupils or more and/or at least one middle school with an enrollment of 500 pupils or more to adopt a pilot program of small learning communities for implementation in at least 50 percent of those high schools and/or middle schools. Pilot programs to be implemented beginning with the 2013-2014 school year. (7/1/11)

- The District will review and revise policy as needed.

SB 370 -The bill requires the board of trustees of each school district to adopt a policy for each elementary school in the district to develop an academic plan for each foster child enrolled in the elementary school whom the school district is informed is enrolled in the school. The bill requires the academic plan to be used as a guide to plan, monitor and manage the pupil's educational development and make determinations of any assistance that may be necessary to the academic success of the pupil. (7/1/11)

- The District will adopt a policy as required.