SENATE BILL NO. 330—SENATOR HORSFORD
MARCH 16, 2009

Referred to Committee on Health and Education

SUMMARY—Enacts the Initiative for a World-Class Education in Nevada. (BDR 34-171)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

AN ACT relating to education; revising provisions relating to the Superintendent of Public Instruction; making various changes regarding the Department of Education, the State Board of Education and various councils and commissions related to the system of public education in this State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:
Existing law establishes the Department of Education, consisting of the State Board of Education, the State Board for Career and Technical Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and creates the Commission on Educational Excellence, the Commission on Educational Technology, the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools, the Commission on Professional Standards in Education and the Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs. (NRS 385.010, 385.3784, 388.790, 389.510, 391.011, 391.516)
This bill repeals provisions creating the Commission on Educational Excellence, the Commission on Educational Technology, the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools, the Commission on Professional Standards in Education and the Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs. This bill also transfers certain duties and responsibilities formerly assigned to those bodies to the State Board of Education and the Department of Education.
Section 8 of this bill revises the membership of the State Board of Education to eliminate the 10 districts from which members are elected and provides for the election of one member from each of the congressional districts (currently three) and the appointment of one member each by the Governor, the Majority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly and the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada. (NRS 385.021) Section 8 also prescribes the requirements for the members.
Section 9 of this bill requires the State Board of Education to establish clear and well-defined goals for the education of pupils in this State, the improvement of the system of public education in this State and to meet other specific objectives relating to education. (NRS 385.075)

Under existing law, the Superintendent is appointed by the State Board. (NRS 385.150) This bill changes the name of the Superintendent of Public Instruction to the State Superintendent for Education. Section 11 of this bill requires the Governor to nominate and the Senate to confirm each appointment as State Superintendent. If the position is vacant at a time when the Legislature is not in session, the Legislative Commission has the authority to confirm such a nominee. (NRS 385.150)

Section 2 of this bill creates within the Department four divisions: (1) the Division of Assessment and Accountability; (2) the Division of Curriculum and Instruction; (3) the Division of Operations, Fiscal Services and Technology; and (4) the Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development. Section 15 of this bill revises the Deputy Superintendent of Instructional, Research and Evaluative Services to be the Deputy Superintendent of the Division of Curriculum and Instruction. (NRS 385.290) Section 16 of this bill revises the Deputy Superintendent for Administrative and Fiscal Services to be the Deputy Superintendent of the Division of Operations, Fiscal Services and Technology. (NRS 385.300) Sections 3 and 4 of this bill require the State Superintendent for Education to oversee the business of the other two newly created Divisions.

Section 5 of this bill requires the Department to adopt a model to measure and track the achievement and progress of pupils in this State and prescribes the requirements for that system.

Existing law authorizes a pupil who fails the high school proficiency examination to obtain a standard high school diploma if he: (1) fails the examination in its entirety not less than three times but passes the reading and mathematics portions of the examination; (2) has a 2.75 grade point average; (3) satisfies alternative criteria established by the State Board; and (4) otherwise satisfies the requirements to graduate high school. (NRS 389.805) Section 43 of this bill allows a pupil to obtain a standard high school diploma if he: (1) passes any two subject areas on the high school proficiency examination; (2) has a 2.0 grade point average; (3) satisfies alternative criteria established by the State Board; and (4) otherwise satisfies the requirements to graduate from high school.

Section 47 of this bill requires the Department to establish a program of performance pay for voluntary participation by educational personnel and other school personnel and prescribes the requirements for determining eligibility for receipt of the enhanced compensation. Existing law prescribe certain requirements concerning the salaries of teachers. (NRS 391.160) Section 58 of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district to adjust the schedule of salaries to ensure that the starting salary of each licensed teacher who is initially hired on or after July 1, 2010, is at least $40,000 annually.

Section 70 of this bill creates the Commission to Oversee Educational Reform to monitor and report on the progress and effectiveness of the changes and reformations required by this bill.

WHEREAS, The Nevada Constitution requires the Legislature to provide for a system of public education in this State; and

WHEREAS, The pupils in this State are entitled to receive a world-class education which will ensure year-to-year progress and
which will adequately prepare those pupils to enter postsecondary education and the workforce; and

WHEREAS, By enacting the Initiative for a World-Class Education in Nevada, the Legislature will ensure that each pupil receives an education that prepares him for higher education, a career and a lifetime of future success; and

WHEREAS, The Initiative for a World-Class Education in Nevada provides for systematic change to the educational structure of this State to facilitate progress toward attaining statewide goals and meeting measurable objectives to ensure the future success of the pupils enrolled in public schools in this State; and

WHEREAS, The future of this State is of the utmost importance to the members of the 75th Session of the Nevada Legislature, and educating pupils is vital to securing that future; now, therefore,

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 385 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 2. There is hereby created within the Department the:
  1. Division of Assessment and Accountability;
  2. Division of Curriculum and Instruction;
  3. Division of Operations, Fiscal Services and Technology; and
  4. Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development.

Sec. 3. 1. The State Superintendent for Education shall direct the business of the Division of Assessment and Accountability.
  2. The Division of Assessment and Accountability may perform any duty required by the State Superintendent for Education and shall do such work as the State Superintendent may direct under the laws of the State.

Sec. 4. 1. The State Superintendent for Education shall direct the business of the Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development.
  2. The Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development may perform any duty required by the State Superintendent for Education and shall do such work as the State Superintendent may direct under the laws of the State.

Sec. 5. 1. The Department shall adopt a model to measure and track from year to year the achievement and progress made by
each pupil, each group of pupils identified in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.361, each public school, including, without limitation, each charter school, each school district and the State as a whole.

2. The Department shall identify the measures of progress for inclusion in the model which must include, without limitation, the results of pupils on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550 and the results of pupils on the high school proficiency examination administered pursuant to NRS 389.015. The model must include other measures of progress identified by the Department, including, without limitation, graduation and attendance rates.

3. The model must be designed in a manner which allows the Department to:
   (a) Identify each program for which a grant of money is made from the Account for Programs for Innovation and the Prevention of Remediation or otherwise provided through the State and which is being used by a public school; and
   (b) Determine, through results of evaluations, the programs which are used by public schools and which are making improvements in the achievement and progress of pupils and the programs which are used by public schools and which are not making the same level of improvements.

4. The Department may contract with a qualified and independent consultant to assist the Department in the development and maintenance of the model.

Sec. 6. NRS 385.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.010 1. A Department of Education is hereby created.

2. The Department consists of the State Board of Education, the State Board for Career and Technical Education and the State Superintendent for Education.

3. The State Superintendent for Education, who is the chief educational officer for the State, is the executive head of the Department.

Sec. 7. NRS 385.014 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.014 When required, the Attorney General shall give his opinion in writing and without fee to the State Board and the State Superintendent for Public Instruction and the Commission on Professional Standards in Education on matters relating to the powers and duties of the Department.

Sec. 8. NRS 385.021 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.021 1. The State Board consists of 10 members:
   (a) One member elected by the registered voters within each congressional district described in NRS 385.0225 to 385.0265, 304.060 to 304.120, inclusive;
(b) One member appointed by the Governor;
(c) One member appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate, who must not be a Legislator;
(d) One member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, who must not be a Legislator; and
(e) One nonvoting member appointed by the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada.

2. Each member of the State Board:
   (a) Elected pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 must be a resident of the district from which that member is elected.
   (b) Appointed pursuant to paragraph (b), (c) or (d) of subsection 1 must have experience in prekindergarten, elementary, secondary or postsecondary education, be a resident of this State and:
      (1) Have experience in public policy or public administration; or
      (2) Be active in the business community or industry of this State.
   (c) Appointed pursuant to paragraph (e) of subsection 1 must have experience in postsecondary education and be a resident of this State.

3. After the initial terms, each member serves a term of 4 years.

4. If a vacancy occurs on the State Board [ ] during the term of a member who was:
   (a) Elected pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1, the Governor shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the next general election, at which election a member must be chosen for the balance of the unexpired term. The appointee must be a resident of the district where the vacancy occurs.
   (b) Appointed pursuant to paragraph (b), (c), (d) or (e) of subsection 1, the vacancy must be filled in the manner of the original appointment.
5. No member of the State Board may be elected to the office of the State Board to serve more than three terms of office.

Sec. 9. NRS 385.075 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. Establish policies to govern the administration of all functions of the State relating to the supervision, management and control of public schools not conferred by law on some other agency.

2. Establish clearly defined goals and benchmarks for improving the achievement of pupils in this State, including, without limitation, goals for:
   (a) Improving proficiency results in core academic subject areas;
   (b) Increasing the number of pupils enrolled in middle schools and junior high schools in this State who enter high school with the skills necessary to succeed in high school;
   (c) Improving the percentage of pupils who enroll in grade 9 in this State and who complete high school and obtain a standard diploma upon completion;
   (d) Improving the performance of pupils in this State on standardized college entrance examinations;
   (e) Increasing the percentage of pupils enrolled in high schools in this State who enter postsecondary educational institutions; and
   (f) Reengaging disengaged youth who have dropped out of high school or who are at risk of dropping out of high school, including, without limitation, a mechanism for tracking and maintaining communication with those youth who have dropped out or who are at risk of doing so.

3. Establish a mechanism to measure the progress made toward meeting statewide educational goals, including, without limitation:
   (a) Establishing measurable outcomes for the achievement of school districts;
   (b) Developing a system to track progress toward those measurable objectives, including data on the results of pupils on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550 and the high school proficiency examination; and
   (c) Improving the capacity and maintenance of the automated system of accountability information for Nevada established pursuant to NRS 386.650.

4. Collaborate with the Department and the Nevada System of Higher Education to:
   (a) Align the academic standards and curriculum developed for pupils enrolled in elementary and secondary education with
the academic standards and curriculum developed for students enrolled in postsecondary educational institutions in this State; and

(b) Provide professional development and training through the Nevada System of Higher Education to assist the Department in ensuring that educational personnel are properly trained and that educational personnel are exposed to various classroom methodologies.

Sec. 10. NRS 385.110 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.110 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 3, the State Board shall prescribe and cause to be enforced the courses of study for the public schools of this State. The courses of study prescribed and enforced by the State Board must comply with the standards of content and performance established by the [Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools] State Board pursuant to NRS 389.520.

2. For those courses of study prescribed by the State Board:

(a) High schools may have modified courses of study, subject to the approval of the State Board; and

(b) Any high school offering courses normally accredited as being beyond the level of the 12th grade shall, before offering such courses, have them approved by the State Board.

3. A charter school is not required to offer the courses of study prescribed by the State Board except for those courses of study which are required for promotion to the next grade or graduation from high school.

Sec. 11. NRS 385.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.150 1. The [State Board] Governor shall nominate and, upon confirmation in accordance with subsection 3, appoint the State Superintendent [of Public Instruction] for Education for a term of [3] 2 years [1] commencing on July 1 of odd-numbered years. The [State Board] Governor may remove the Superintendent [of Public Instruction] from office for inefficiency, neglect of duty, malfeasance in office or for other just cause. The State Board may provide to the Governor a list of not less than three names of persons that the State Board determines are qualified for appointment as State Superintendent for Education. The Governor shall, to the extent practicable, nominate the State Superintendent for Education from the list of names provided by the State Board.

2. A vacancy must be filled by the [State Board] Governor nominating and, upon confirmation in accordance with subsection 3, appointed for the remainder of the unexpired term.

3. On or before February 1 of each odd-numbered year, the Governor shall provide to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, for transmission to the Senate, the name of the person
nominated as the State Superintendent for Education. The Senate shall, within the first 45 days of the next regularly scheduled session of the Legislature, consider the nominee and confirm or deny the nomination. If the Senate denies a nomination, the Governor may nominate another person as the State Superintendent for Education and immediately transmit the name to the Senate. The Senate shall, within 30 days after receiving each subsequent nomination, consider the nominee and confirm or deny the nomination. If the position of State Superintendent for Education is not filled during the regular session of the Legislature or becomes vacant while the Legislature is not in session, the Legislative Commission shall, within 30 days after receiving a nomination from the Governor, consider the nominee and confirm or deny the nomination. The Governor may not nominate as State Superintendent for Education a person who has been previously denied by either the Senate or the Legislative Commission.

4. The State Superintendent [of Public Instruction] for Education is in the unclassified service of the State.

Sec. 12. NRS 385.170 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.170 The State Superintendent [of Public Instruction] for Education shall not pursue any other business or occupation or hold any other office of profit [without the approval of the State Board of Education.]

Sec. 13. NRS 385.175 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.175 The State Superintendent [of Public Instruction] for Education shall:

1. Execute, direct or supervise all administrative, technical and procedural activities of the Department in accordance with policies prescribed by the State Board.
2. Employ personnel for the positions approved by the State Board and necessary for the efficient operation of the Department.
3. Organize the Department in a manner consistent with section 2 of this act, which will assure efficient operation and service.
4. Maintain liaison and coordinate activities with other state agencies performing educational functions.
5. Perform such other duties as are prescribed by law.

Sec. 14. NRS 385.190 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.190 1. The State Superintendent [of Public Instruction] for Education, in consultation with the Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development or a staff member designated by [his] the State Superintendent, shall:

(a) Convene teachers’ conferences in the various sections of the State in such places and at such times as he deems advisable.
(b) Engage such conference lecturers and leaders as he deems advisable.
(c) Preside over and regulate the programs of all teachers’ conferences.

2. No teachers’ conference may continue more than 5 days.

3. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, in consultation with the Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development or his designated staff member designated by the State Superintendent, shall convene, in such places and at such times as he may designate, conferences of school administrators.

4. The expenses of holding teachers’ and administrators’ conferences must be paid from the State Distributive School Account in the State General Fund, but the amount must not exceed $8,400 in any one biennium. The State Controller shall draw his warrants for such expenses upon the order of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Sec. 15. NRS 385.290 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.290 1. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction may appoint a Deputy Superintendent of Instructional, Research and Evaluative Services who:
   (a) Holds a master’s degree in school administration or a related subject from an accredited college or university.
   (b) Has a minimum of 3 years of administrative experience which includes:
       (1) Supervision and evaluation of staff;
       (2) Development and administration of budgets; and
       (3) Development of curriculum.

2. The Deputy Superintendent of Instructional, Research and Evaluative Services may perform any duty required of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction during the absence of the State Superintendent and shall do such work as the State Superintendent may direct under the laws of the State.

Sec. 16. NRS 385.300 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.300 1. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction may appoint a Deputy Superintendent for Administrative and of the Division of Operations, Fiscal Services and Technology who:
   (a) Be a graduate of a 4-year accredited college or university.
   (b) Have familiarity with the field of education, as evidenced by:
(1) Sufficient college credits in education to qualify for a license to teach in a high school in this state; or
(2) Participation in recognized educational research and study.
(c) Have familiarity with the general field of public administration and budgeting, as evidenced by:
(1) Sufficient college credits to qualify for a minor in public administration, government management or business management;
or
(2) Experience in the preparation of governmental budgets or in governmental accounting or research.
3. No person may be appointed to the position of Deputy Superintendent of the Division of Operations, Fiscal Services and Technology unless he has the qualifications outlined in subsection 2.
Sec. 17. NRS 385.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:
385.310 The Deputy Superintendent of the Division of Operations, Fiscal Services and Technology, under the direction of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, shall:
1. Determine the apportionment of all state school money to schools of the State as prescribed by law.
2. Develop for public schools of the State a uniform system of budgeting and accounting. The system must provide for the separate reporting of expenditures for each:
   (a) School district; and
   (b) School within a school district.
Upon approval of the State Board, the system is mandatory for all public schools in this State and must be enforced as provided in subsection 2 of NRS 385.315.
3. Carry on a continuing study of school finance in the State, particularly the method by which schools are financed on the state level, and make such recommendations to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education for submission to the State Board as he deems advisable.
4. Recommend to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education for submission to the State Board such changes in budgetary and financial procedures as his studies may show to be advisable.
5. Perform such other statistical and financial duties pertaining to the administration and finances of the schools of the State as may be required by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education.
6. Prepare for the State Superintendent of Public Instruction the biennial budgets of the Department for consideration by the State Board and submission to the Governor.

Sec. 18. NRS 385.315 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.315 In addition to his other duties, the Deputy Superintendent of the Division of Operations, Fiscal Services, and Technology, under the direction of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, shall:

1. Investigate any claim against any school fund or separate account established under NRS 354.603 whenever a written protest against the drawing of a warrant, check or order in payment of the claim is filed with the county auditor. If, upon investigation, the Deputy Superintendent finds that any such claim is unearned, illegal or unreasonably excessive, he shall notify the county auditor and the clerk of the board of trustees who drew the order for the claim, stating the reasons in writing why the order is unearned, illegal or excessive. If so notified, the county auditor shall not draw his warrant in payment of the claim nor shall the board of trustees draw a check or order in payment of the claim from a separate account established under NRS 354.603. If the Deputy Superintendent finds that any protested claim is legal and actually due the claimant, he shall authorize the county auditor or the board of trustees to draw his warrant or its check or order on an account established under NRS 354.603 for the claim, and the county auditor or the board of trustees shall immediately draw his warrant or its check or order in payment of the claim.

2. Inspect and, if he determines necessary, audit the record books and accounts of boards of trustees, and enforce the uniform method of keeping the financial records and accounts of school districts.

3. Inspect and, if he determines necessary, audit the school fund accounts of the county auditors of the several counties, and report the condition of the funds of any school district to the board of trustees thereof.

4. Inspect and, if he determines necessary, audit the separate accounts established by boards of trustees under NRS 354.603, and report the condition of the accounts to the respective boards of county commissioners and county treasurers.

Sec. 19. NRS 385.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.320 The Deputy Superintendent of Instructional, Research and Evaluative Services and the Deputy Superintendent for Administrative and Fiscal Services: each Division:

1. Is in the unclassified service of the State.
2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 284.143, shall each devote his entire time and attention to the business of his office and shall not pursue any other business or occupation or hold any other office of profit.

Sec. 20. NRS 385.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.330 1. Professional staff and other personnel appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education shall perform such duties as are assigned by the State Superintendent.

2. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education, under the policies of the State Board, shall locate the offices of professional staff and other personnel:

(a) Where the needs of the education program can best be served; and

(b) To reflect the geographic diversity of this State.

Sec. 21. NRS 385.34691 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.34691 1. The State Board shall prepare a plan to improve the achievement of pupils enrolled in the public schools in this State. The plan:

(a) Must be prepared in consultation with:

(1) Employees of the Department;

(2) At least one employee of a school district in a county whose population is 100,000 or more, appointed by the Nevada Association of School Boards;

(3) At least one employee of a school district in a county whose population is less than 100,000, appointed by the Nevada Association of School Boards; and

(4) At least one representative of a regional training program for the professional development of teachers and administrators created pursuant to NRS 391.512, appointed by the State Board;

(5) A representative from the Nevada Youth Legislative Issues Forum created by NRS 385.515, appointed by the Chairman of the Forum.

(b) May be prepared in consultation with:

(1) Representatives of the colleges of education in the Nevada System of Higher Education;

(2) Representatives of regional educational laboratories;

(3) Representatives of outside consultant groups;

(4) Representatives of the regional training programs for the professional development of teachers and administrators created by NRS 391.512;

(5) The Bureau; and
(5) Other persons who the State Board determines are appropriate.

2. A plan to improve the achievement of pupils enrolled in public schools in this State must include:

(a) A review and analysis of the data upon which the report required pursuant to NRS 385.3469 is based and a review and analysis of any data that is more recent than the data upon which the report is based.

(b) The identification of any problems or factors common among the school districts or charter schools in this State, as revealed by the review and analysis.

(c) Strategies based upon scientifically based research, as defined in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(37), that will strengthen the core academic subjects, as set forth in NRS 389.018.

(d) Strategies to improve the academic achievement of pupils enrolled in public schools in this State, including, without limitation, strategies to:

   (1) Instruct pupils who are not achieving to their fullest potential, including, without limitation:

      (I) The curriculum appropriate to improve achievement;

      (II) The manner by which the instruction will improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 and 389.550; and

      (III) An identification of the instruction and curriculum that is specifically designed to improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils in each group identified in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.361;

   (2) Increase the rate of attendance of pupils, improve the percentage of pupils who graduate with a high school diploma and reduce the number of pupils who drop out of school;

   (3) Integrate technology into the instructional and administrative programs of the school districts;

   (4) Manage effectively the discipline of pupils; and

   (5) Enhance the professional development offered for the teachers and administrators employed at public schools in this State to include the activities set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(34) and to address the specific needs of the pupils enrolled in public schools in this State, as deemed appropriate by the State Board.

(e) Strategies designed to provide to the pupils enrolled in middle school, junior high school and high school, the teachers and counselors who provide instruction to those pupils, and the parents and guardians of those pupils information concerning:

   (1) The availability of programs of career and technical education in public schools in this State;
The requirements for admission to an institution of higher postsecondary education and the opportunities for financial aid;

(3) The availability of Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarships pursuant to NRS 396.911 to 396.938, inclusive; and

(4) The need for a pupil to make informed decisions about his curriculum in middle school, junior high school and high school in preparation for success after graduation.

(f) An identification of the employees of the Department who are responsible for ensuring that each provision of the plan is carried out effectively, including, without limitation, a description of the duties of those employees relating to the achievement of pupils and the support of the success of pupils in the classroom.

(g) A timeline for carrying out the plan, including benchmarks that indicate the rate of improvement which must be attained annually and, for each provision of the plan, a timeline for carrying out that provision, including, without limitation, a timeline for monitoring whether the provision is carried out effectively.

(h) For each provision of the plan, measurable criteria for determining whether the provision has contributed toward improving the academic achievement of pupils, increasing the rate of attendance of pupils, improving the rate of pupils who graduate with a high school diploma and reducing the number of pupils who drop out of school.

(i) Strategies to improve the allocation of resources from this State, by program and by school district, in a manner that will improve the academic achievement of pupils. If this State has a financial analysis program that is designed to track educational expenditures and revenues to individual schools, the State Board shall use that statewide program in complying with this paragraph. If a statewide program is not available, the State Board shall use the Department’s own financial analysis program in complying with this paragraph.

(j) Based upon the reallocation of resources set forth in paragraph (i), the resources available to the State Board and the Department to carry out the plan, including, without limitation, a budget for the overall cost of carrying out the plan.

(k) A summary of the effectiveness of appropriations made by the Legislature to improve the academic achievement of pupils and programs approved by the Legislature to improve the academic achievement of pupils.

(l) Strategies to increase the percentage of classes that are taught by highly qualified teachers in low-poverty schools.

3. The State Board shall:
(a) Review the plan prepared pursuant to this section annually to evaluate the effectiveness of the plan; [and]

(b) **Examine the timeline for implementing the plan and the timeline for implementing each provision of the plan to determine whether the annual benchmarks have been attained;**

(c) Based upon the evaluation of the plan, make revisions, as necessary, to ensure that:

1. The benchmarks set forth in the plan are being attained in a timely manner; and

2. The plan is designed to improve the academic achievement of pupils enrolled in public schools in this State.

4. On or before December 15 of each year, the State Board shall submit the plan or the revised plan, as applicable, to the:

(a) Governor;

(b) Committee;

(c) Bureau;

(d) Board of Regents of the University of Nevada;

(e) [Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools created by NRS 389.510;]

(f) Board of trustees of each school district; and

(g) Governing body of each charter school.

Sec. 22. NRS 385.3782 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.3782 **As used in NRS 385.3782 to 385.379, inclusive, unless the context otherwise requires, “Account” means the Account for Programs for Innovation and the Prevention of Remediation created by NRS 385.379.**

Sec. 23. NRS 385.3785 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.3785 1. The [Commission] State Board shall:

(a) Establish a program of educational excellence designed exclusively for pupils enrolled in kindergarten through grade 6 in public schools in this State based upon:

1. The plan to improve the achievement of pupils prepared by the State Board pursuant to NRS 385.34691;

2. The plan to improve the achievement of pupils prepared by the board of trustees of each school district pursuant to NRS 385.348;

3. The plan to improve the achievement of pupils prepared by the principal of each school pursuant to NRS 385.357, which may include a program of innovation; and

4. Any other information that the [Commission] State Board considers relevant to the development of the program of educational excellence.

(b) Identify programs, practices and strategies that have proven effective in improving the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils.
(c) Develop a concise application and simple procedures for the submission of applications by public schools and consortiums of public schools, including, without limitation, charter schools, for participation in a program of educational excellence and for grants of money from the Account. Grants of money must be made for programs designed for the achievement of pupils that are linked to the plan to improve the achievement of pupils or for innovative programs, or both. The [Commission] State Board shall not award a grant of money from the Account for a program to provide full-day kindergarten. All public schools and consortiums of public schools, including, without limitation, charter schools, are eligible to submit such an application, regardless of whether the schools have made adequate yearly progress or failed to make adequate yearly progress. A public school or a consortium of public schools selected for participation may be approved by the [Commission] State Board for participation for a period not to exceed 2 years, but may reapply.

(d) Prescribe a long-range timeline for the review, approval and evaluation of applications received from public schools and consortiums of public schools that desire to participate in the program.

(e) Establish guidelines for the review, evaluation and approval of applications for grants of money from the Account, including, without limitation, consideration of the list of priorities of public schools provided by the Department pursuant to subsection 5. To ensure consistency in the review, evaluation and approval of applications, if the guidelines authorize the review and evaluation of applications by less than the entire membership of the [Commission] State Board or by an advisory committee appointed pursuant to subsection 9, money must not be allocated from the Account for a grant until the entire membership of the [Commission] State Board has reviewed and approved the application for the grant.

(f) Prescribe accountability measures to be carried out by a public school that participates in the program if that public school does not meet the annual measurable objectives established by the State Board pursuant to NRS 385.361, including, without limitation:

(1) The specific levels of achievement expected of schools that participate; and

(2) Conditions for schools that do not meet the grant criteria but desire to continue participation in the program and receive money from the Account, including, without limitation, a review of the leadership at the school and recommendations regarding changes to the appropriate body.
(g) Determine the amount of money that is available from the Account for those public schools and consortiums of public schools that are selected to participate in the program.

(h) Allocate money to public schools and consortiums of public schools from the Account. Allocations must be distributed not later than August 15 of each year.

(i) Establish criteria for public schools and consortiums of public schools that participate in the program and receive an allocation of money from the Account to evaluate the effectiveness of the allocation in improving the achievement of pupils, including, without limitation, a detailed analysis of:

1. The achievement of pupils enrolled at each school that received money from the allocation based upon measurable criteria identified in the plan to improve the achievement of pupils for the school prepared pursuant to NRS 385.357;
2. If applicable, the effectiveness of the program of innovation on the achievement of pupils and the overall effectiveness for pupils and staff;
3. The implementation of the applicable plans for improvement, including, without limitation, an analysis of whether the school is meeting the measurable objectives identified in the plan; and
4. The attainment of measurable progress on the annual list of adequate yearly progress of school districts and schools.

2. To the extent money is available, the [Commission] State Board shall make allocations of money to public schools and consortiums of public schools for effective programs for grades 7 through 12 that are designed to improve the achievement of pupils and effective programs of innovation for pupils. In making such allocations, the [Commission] State Board shall comply with the requirements of subsection 1.

3. The [Commission] State Board shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that grants of money provided pursuant to this section reflect the economic and geographic diversity of this State.

4. If a public school or consortium that receives money pursuant to subsection 1 or 2:

(a) Does not meet the criteria for effectiveness as prescribed in paragraph (i) of subsection 1;
(b) Does not, as a result of the program for which the grant of money was awarded, show improvement in the achievement of pupils, as determined in an evaluation conducted pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385.379; or
(c) Does not implement the program for which the money was received, as determined in an evaluation conducted pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385.379,
over a 2-year period, the [Commission] State Board may consider not awarding future allocations of money to that public school or consortium of public schools.

5. On or before July 1 of each year, the Department shall provide a list of priorities of public schools that indicates:
   (a) The adequate yearly progress status of schools in the immediately preceding year;
   (b) The public schools that are considered Title I eligible by the Department based upon the poverty level of the pupils enrolled in a school in comparison to the poverty level of the pupils in the school district as a whole;
   (c) The status of the public schools in achieving the goals and measurable outcomes prescribed by the State Board pursuant to NRS 385.075,

for consideration by the [Commission] State Board in its development of procedures for the applications.

6. A public school, including, without limitation, a charter school, or a consortium of public schools may request assistance from the school district in which the school is located in preparing an application for a grant of money pursuant to this section. A school district shall assist each public school or consortium of public schools that requests assistance pursuant to this subsection to ensure that the application of the school:
   (a) Is based directly upon the plan to improve the achievement of pupils prepared for the school pursuant to NRS 385.357;
   (b) Is developed in accordance with the criteria established by the [Commission] State Board; and
   (c) Is complete and complies with all technical requirements for the submission of an application.

A school district may make recommendations to the individual schools and consortiums of public schools. Such schools and consortiums of public schools are not required to follow the recommendations of a school district.

7. In carrying out the requirements of this section, the [Commission] State Board shall review and consider the programs of remedial study adopted by the Department pursuant to NRS 385.389, the list of approved providers of supplemental services maintained by the Department pursuant to NRS 385.384 and the recommendations submitted by the Committee pursuant to NRS 218.5354 concerning programs, practices and strategies that have proven effective in improving the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils.

8. If a consortium of public schools is formed for the purpose of submitting an application pursuant to this section, the public
schools within the consortium do not need to be located within the same school district.

9. The State Board may appoint an advisory committee composed of six members who are qualified and who represent the ethnic and geographic diversity of the State to carry out the provisions of this section. The advisory committee serves at the pleasure of the State Board and without compensation unless an appropriation or other money for that purpose is provided by the Legislature.

Sec. 24. NRS 385.3787 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.3787 1. A public school or consortium of public schools that receives an allocation of money from the Account shall:
(a) Account for the money separately;
(b) Use the money to supplement and not replace the money that would otherwise be expended by the school district or public school for the achievement of pupils in kindergarten through grade 6 or pupils in grades 7 through 12, as applicable; and
(c) Submit an evaluation of the effectiveness of the allocation in improving the achievement of pupils in kindergarten through grade 6 or pupils in grades 7 through 12, as applicable, in accordance with the criteria for evaluation established by the State Board pursuant to NRS 385.3785.

2. A public school or consortium of public schools that receives an allocation of money from the Account shall not:
(a) Use the money to settle or arbitrate disputes or negotiate settlements between an organization that represents licensed employees of the school district or public school and the school district or public school, as applicable.
(b) Use the money to adjust the schedules of salaries and benefits of the employees of the school district or public school, as applicable.

Sec. 25. NRS 385.3789 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.3789 1. The State Board shall prepare an annual report that describes the distribution of money to the public schools and consortiums of public schools and the programs for which money was allocated from the Account, including, without limitation, the total amount of money allocated:
(a) To each consortium of public schools, with a designation of which public schools are included in each consortium;
(b) To each public school;
(c) To schools included on the list of priorities of schools provided by the Department pursuant to NRS 385.3785;
(d) For programs that provide services directly to pupils for remediation and innovation, including, without limitation, instruction, instructional materials and support materials;
(e) For programs that provide instructional support and have an indirect effect on pupils, including, without limitation, the provision of professional development for educational personnel and the employment of administrators; and

(f) For each program, including, without limitation:
   (1) A description of the program, including, without limitation, whether the program is available commercially;
   (2) Whether the [Commission] State Board considers the program to be innovative;
   (3) Whether the program includes the provision of professional development other than professional development that is related to carrying out a program that provides services directly to pupils;
   (4) The costs to implement the program; and
   (5) The full-time personnel necessary to implement the program, if any.

(g) For evaluations of the programs for which money was allocated from the Account pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385.379.

The report must be submitted on or before September 1 of each year to the entities identified in subsection 3.

2. The [Commission] State Board shall:
   (a) Prepare an annual report that describes:
       (1) The activities of the [Commission] State Board relating to the provisions of NRS 385.378 to 385.379, inclusive;
       (2) An analysis of the progress of and strategies proposed by the public schools in carrying out the plans to improve the achievement of pupils; and
       (3) An analysis of the progress of and strategies proposed by the public schools and consortiums of public schools that received an allocation of money from the Account in improving the achievement of pupils.
   (b) Submit the report on or before January 31 of each year to the entities identified in subsection 3.

3. The [Commission] State Board shall submit the reports required by this section to the:
   (a) [State Board; (b) Governor; (c) Committee; (d) Bureau; (e) Interim Finance Committee; and (f) Board of trustees of each school district.

4. The Legislative Auditor shall audit biennially the programs for which public schools and consortiums of public schools receive an allocation of money. The audit may include a representative
sample of programs, based upon geographic location and type of program. The Legislative Auditor shall report the results of each biennial audit to the entities prescribed in subsection 3.

Sec. 26. NRS 385.379 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.379 1. The Account for Programs for Innovation and the Prevention of Remediation is hereby created in the State General Fund, to be administered by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, for Education. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction may accept gifts and grants of money from any source for deposit in the Account. Any money from gifts and grants may be expended in accordance with the terms and conditions of the gift or grant, or in accordance with subsection 2 or 3. The interest and income earned on the sum of:

(a) The money in the Account; and

(b) Unexpended appropriations made to the Account from the State General Fund, must be credited to the Account. Any money remaining in the Account at the end of a fiscal year does not revert to the State General Fund, and the balance in the Account must be carried forward to the next fiscal year.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the money in the Account may only be used for the allocation of money to public schools and consortiums of public schools whose applications are approved by the Commission:

3. Upon the request of the Commission:

(a) Not more than $50,000 in the Account may be used each biennium to pay:

(1) The expenses incurred by members of the Commission to travel to the public schools and consortiums of public schools that received allocations of money from the Account; and

(2) The costs incurred by the Commission State Board to hold meetings or conferences for representatives of public schools and consortiums of schools that received allocations of money from the Account to discuss or display, or both, programs, practices and strategies that have proven effective in improving the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils.

(b) Not more than $450,000 in the Account may be used each biennium to pay for an evaluation of the programs for which money was allocated from the Account. If the Commission State Board uses money in the Account for such an evaluation, the Commission State Board shall ensure that:

(1) A request for proposals is issued and a qualified, independent consultant is selected to conduct the evaluation;
(2) Upon selection of the consultant, the [Commission] State Board receives approval of the consultant and the plan for the evaluation from the Committee;

(3) The evaluation is designed to determine the effectiveness of the programs for which money was allocated from the Account in improving the achievement of pupils;

(4) The evaluation includes an identification of the programs for which money was allocated from the Account that did not improve the achievement of pupils as described in the approved application for the grant;

(5) The evaluation includes an identification of the public schools and consortiums of public schools that did not implement the programs for which money was allocated from the Account as described in the approved application for the grant; and

(6) The evaluation includes a compilation and review of each evaluation required to be submitted by public schools and consortiums of public schools pursuant to NRS 385.3787.

Sec. 27. NRS 385.389 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.389 1. The Department shall adopt programs of remedial study for each subject tested on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015, including, without limitation, programs that are designed for pupils who are limited English proficient. The programs adopted for pupils who are limited English proficient must be designed to:

(a) Improve the academic achievement of those pupils; or

(b) Assist those pupils with attaining proficiency in the English language.

In adopting these programs of remedial study, the Department shall consider the recommendations submitted by the Committee pursuant to NRS 218.5354 and programs of remedial study that have proven to be successful in improving the academic achievement of pupils.

2. If a school fails to make adequate yearly progress or if less than 60 percent of the pupils enrolled in a school who took the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 received an average score on those examinations that is at least equal to the 26th percentile of the national reference group of pupils to which the examinations were compared, the school shall adopt a program of remedial study that has been adopted by the Department pursuant to subsection 1 or a program, practice or strategy recommended by the [Commission on Educational Excellence] State Board pursuant to NRS 385.3785, or any combination thereof, as applicable.

3. A school district that includes a school described in subsection 2 shall ensure that each of the pupils enrolled in the school who failed to demonstrate at least adequate achievement on...
the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 completes, in accordance with the requirements set forth in subsection 4 of NRS 389.015, remedial study that is determined to be appropriate for the pupil.

Sec. 28. NRS 385.620 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.620 The Advisory Council shall:

1. Review the policy of parental involvement adopted by the State Board and the policy of parental involvement adopted by the board of trustees of each school district pursuant to NRS 392.457;
2. Review the information relating to communication with and participation of parents that is included in the annual report of accountability for each school district pursuant to paragraph (j) of subsection 2 of NRS 385.347;
3. Review any effective practices carried out in individual school districts to increase parental involvement and determine the feasibility of carrying out those practices on a statewide basis;
4. Review any effective practices carried out in other states to increase parental involvement and determine the feasibility of carrying out those practices in this State;
5. Identify methods to communicate effectively and provide outreach to parents and legal guardians of pupils who have limited time to become involved in the education of their children for various reasons, including, without limitation, work schedules, single-parent homes and other family obligations;
6. Identify the manner in which the level of parental involvement affects the performance, attendance and discipline of pupils;
7. Identify methods to communicate effectively with and provide outreach to parents and legal guardians of pupils who are limited English proficient;
8. Determine the necessity for the appointment of a statewide parental involvement coordinator or a parental involvement coordinator in each school district, or both;
9. On or before July 1 of each year, submit a report to the State Board and the Legislative Committee on Education describing the activities of the Advisory Council and any recommendations for legislation; and
10. On or before February 1 of each odd-numbered year, submit a report to the State Board and to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the next regular session of the Legislature describing the activities of the Advisory Council and any recommendations for legislation.

Sec. 29. NRS 387.303 is hereby amended to read as follows:

387.303 1. Not later than November 10 of each year, the board of trustees of each school district shall submit to the State
Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education and the Department of Taxation a report which includes the following information:

(a) For each fund within the school district, including, without limitation, the school district’s general fund and any special revenue fund which receives state money, the total number and salaries of licensed and nonlicensed persons whose salaries are paid from the fund and who are employed by the school district in full-time positions or in part-time positions added together to represent full-time positions. Information must be provided for the current school year based upon the school district’s final budget, including any amendments and augmentations thereto, and for the preceding school year. An employee must be categorized as filling an instructional, administrative, instructional support or other position.

(b) The count of pupils computed pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 387.1233.

(c) The school district’s actual expenditures in the fiscal year immediately preceding the report.

(d) The school district’s proposed expenditures for the current fiscal year.

(e) The schedule of salaries for licensed employees in the current school year and a statement of whether the negotiations regarding salaries for the current school year have been completed. If the negotiations have not been completed at the time the schedule of salaries is submitted, the board of trustees shall submit a supplemental report to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education upon completion of negotiations or the determination of an arbitrator concerning the negotiations that includes the schedule of salaries agreed to or required by the arbitrator.

(f) The number of employees who received an increase in salary pursuant to subsection 2, 3, 4 or 5 of NRS 391.160 for the current and preceding fiscal years. If the board of trustees is required to pay an increase in salary retroactively pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 391.160, the board of trustees shall submit a supplemental report to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education not later than February 15 of the year in which the retroactive payment was made that includes the number of teachers to whom an increase in salary was paid retroactively.

(g) The number of employees eligible for health insurance within the school district for the current and preceding fiscal years and the amount paid for health insurance for each such employee during those years.
(h) The rates for fringe benefits, excluding health insurance, paid by the school district for its licensed employees in the preceding and current fiscal years.

(i) The amount paid for extra duties, supervision of extracurricular activities and supplemental pay and the number of employees receiving that pay in the preceding and current fiscal years.

(j) The expenditures from the account created pursuant to subsection [2] of NRS 179.1187. The report must indicate the total amount received by the district in the preceding fiscal year, and the specific amount spent on books and computer hardware and software for each grade level in the district.

2. On or before November 25 of each year, the State Superintendent for Education shall submit to the Department of Administration and the Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, in a format approved by the Director of the Department of Administration, a compilation of the reports made by each school district pursuant to subsection 1.

3. In preparing the agency biennial budget request for the State Distributive School Account for submission to the Department of Administration, the State Superintendent for Education:

   (a) Shall compile the information from the most recent compilation of reports submitted pursuant to subsection 2;

   (b) May increase the line items of expenditures or revenues based on merit salary increases and cost of living adjustments or inflation, as deemed credible and reliable based upon published indexes and research relevant to the specific line item of expenditure or revenue;

   (c) May adjust expenditures and revenues pursuant to paragraph (b) for any year remaining before the biennium for which the budget is being prepared and for the 2 years of the biennium covered by the biennial budget request to project the cost of expenditures or the receipt of revenues for the specific line items;

   (d) May consider the cost of enhancements to existing programs or the projected cost of proposed new educational programs, regardless of whether those enhancements or new programs are included in the per pupil basic support guarantee for inclusion in the biennial budget request to the Department of Administration; and

   (e) Shall obtain approval from the State Board for any inflationary increase, enhancement to an existing program or addition of a new program included in the agency biennial budget request.

4. The State Superintendent for Education shall, in the compilation required by subsection 2,
reconcile the revenues of the school districts with the apportionment
received by those districts from the State Distributive School
Account for the preceding year.

5. The request prepared pursuant to subsection 3 must:
   (a) Be presented by the State Superintendent [of Public
       Instruction] for Education to such standing committees of the
   Legislature as requested by the standing committees for the
   purposes of developing educational programs and providing
   appropriations for those programs; and
   (b) Provide for a direct comparison of appropriations to the
   proposed budget of the Governor submitted pursuant to subsection 4
   of NRS 353.230.

Sec. 30. NRS 388.787 is hereby amended to read as follows:
388.787 As used in NRS 388.787 to 388.805, inclusive, unless
the context otherwise requires, “Committee” means the Legislative
Committee on Education created pursuant to NRS 218.5352.

Sec. 31. NRS 388.795 is hereby amended to read as follows:
388.795 1. The [Commission] State Board shall establish a
plan for the use of educational technology in the public schools of
this State. In preparing the plan, the [Commission] State Board shall
consider:
   (a) Plans that have been adopted by the Department and the
   school districts in this State;
   (b) Plans that have been adopted in other states;
   (c) The information reported pursuant to paragraph (t) of
       subsection 2 of NRS 385.347;
   (d) The results of the assessment of needs conducted pursuant to
       subsection [6;];
   (e) Any other information that the [Commission] State Board or
       the Committee deems relevant to the preparation of the plan.
   2. The plan established by the [Commission] State Board must
include recommendations for methods to:
   (a) Incorporate educational technology into the public schools of
   this State;
   (b) Increase the number of pupils in the public schools of this
   State who have access to educational technology;
   (c) Increase the availability of educational technology to assist
   licensed teachers and other educational personnel in complying with
   the requirements of continuing education, including, without
   limitation, the receipt of credit for college courses completed
   through the use of educational technology;
   (d) Facilitate the exchange of ideas to improve the achievement
   of pupils who are enrolled in the public schools of this State; and
   (e) Address the needs of teachers in incorporating the use of
   educational technology in the classroom, including, without
limitation, the completion of training that is sufficient to enable the teachers to instruct pupils in the use of educational technology.

3. The Department shall provide:
   — (a) Administrative support;
   — (b) Equipment; and
   — (c) Office space,
   as is necessary for the Commission to carry out the provisions of this section.

4. The following entities shall cooperate with the Commission in carrying out the provisions of this section:
   (a) The State Board.
   (b) The board of trustees of each school district.
   (c) The superintendent of schools of each school district.
   (d) The Department of Education, including specifically the Division of Operations, Fiscal Services and Technology.

4. The Commission shall:
   (a) Develop technical standards for educational technology and
   any electrical or structural appurtenances necessary thereto, including, without limitation, uniform specifications for computer hardware and wiring, to ensure that such technology is compatible, uniform and can be interconnected throughout the public schools of this State.
   (b) Allocate money to the school districts from the Trust Fund for Educational Technology created pursuant to NRS 388.800 and any money appropriated by the Legislature for educational technology, subject to any priorities for such allocation established by the Legislature.
   (c) Establish criteria for the board of trustees of a school district that receives an allocation of money from the Commission to:
      (1) Repair, replace and maintain computer systems.
      (2) Upgrade and improve computer hardware and software and other educational technology.
      (3) Provide training, installation and technical support related to the use of educational technology within the district.
      (d) Submit to the Governor, the Committee and the Department its plan for the use of educational technology in the public schools of this State and any recommendations for legislation.
      (e) Review the plan annually and make revisions as it deems necessary or as directed by the Committee or the Department.
      (f) In addition to the recommendations set forth in the plan pursuant to subsection 2, make further recommendations to the
Committee and the Department as the [Commission] State Board deems necessary.

5. During the spring semester of each even-numbered school year, the [Commission] State Board shall conduct an assessment of the needs of each school district relating to educational technology. In conducting the assessment, the [Commission] State Board shall consider:
   (a) The recommendations set forth in the plan pursuant to subsection 2;
   (b) The plan for educational technology of each school district, if applicable;
   (c) Evaluations of educational technology conducted for the State or for a school district, if applicable; and
   (d) Any other information deemed relevant by the [Commission] State Board.

The [Commission] State Board shall submit a final written report of the assessment to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education on or before April 1 of each even-numbered year.

6. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education shall prepare a written compilation of the results of the assessment conducted by the [Commission] State Board and transmit the written compilation on or before June 1 of each even-numbered year to the Legislative Committee on Education and to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the next regular session of the Legislature.

7. The [Commission] State Board may appoint an advisory committee composed of six members [of the Commission or other qualified persons] who are qualified and who represent the ethnic and geographic diversity of this State to provide recommendations to the [Commission] State Board regarding standards for the establishment, coordination and use of a telecommunications network in the public schools throughout the various school districts in this State. The advisory committee serves at the pleasure of the [Commission] State Board and without compensation unless an appropriation or other money for that purpose is provided by the Legislature.

8. As used in this section, “public school” includes the Caliente Youth Center, the Nevada Youth Training Center and any other state facility for the detention of children that is operated pursuant to title 5 of NRS.

Sec. 32. NRS 388.800 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. The Trust Fund for Educational Technology is hereby created in the State General Fund. The Trust Fund must be administered by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education. The Superintendent may accept gifts and grants of
money from any source for deposit in the Trust Fund. Any such money may be expended in accordance with the terms and conditions of the gift or grant, or in accordance with subsection 3.

2. The interest and income earned on the money in the Trust Fund must be credited to the Trust Fund.

3. The money in the Trust Fund may be used only for the distribution of money to school districts to be used in kindergarten through 12th grade to obtain and maintain hardware and software for computer systems, equipment for transfer of data by modem through connection to telephone lines, and other educational technology as may be approved by the State Board for use in classrooms.

Sec. 33. NRS 388.805 is hereby amended to read as follows:

388.805 The Department shall, in consultation with the Commission, adopt regulations that establish a program whereby school districts may apply to the State Board for money from the Trust Fund for Educational Technology.

Sec. 34. NRS 389.012 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.012 1. The State Board shall:

(a) In accordance with guidelines established by the National Assessment Governing Board and National Center for Education Statistics and in accordance with 20 U.S.C. §§ 6301 et seq. and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto, adopt regulations requiring the schools of this State that are selected by the National Assessment Governing Board or the National Center for Education Statistics to participate in the examinations of the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

(b) Report the results of those examinations to the:

(1) Governor;

(2) Board of trustees of each school district of this State;

(3) Legislative Committee on Education created pursuant to NRS 218.5352; and

(4) Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation created pursuant to NRS 218.5356.

(c) Include in the report required pursuant to paragraph (b) an analysis and comparison of the results of pupils in this State on the examinations required by this section with:

(1) The results of pupils throughout this country who participated in the examinations of the National Assessment of Educational Progress; and

(2) The results of pupils on the achievement and proficiency examinations administered pursuant to this chapter.

2. If the report required by subsection 1 indicates that the percentage of pupils enrolled in the public schools in this State who
are proficient on the National Assessment of Educational Progress differs by more than 10 percent of the pupils who are proficient on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550 and the high school proficiency examination administered pursuant to NRS 389.015, the Department shall prepare a written report describing the discrepancy. The report must include, without limitation, a comparison and evaluation of:

(a) The standards of content and performance for English and mathematics established pursuant to NRS 389.520 with the standards for English and mathematics that are tested on the National Assessment.

(b) The standards for proficiency established for the National Assessment with the standards for proficiency established for the examinations that are administered pursuant to NRS 389.550 and the high school proficiency examination administered pursuant to NRS 389.015.

3. The report prepared by the Department pursuant to subsection 2 must be submitted to the:

(a) Governor;

(b) Legislative Committee on Education;

(c) Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation; and

(d) [Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools.] State Board.

4. The [Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools] State Board shall review and evaluate the report provided to the [Council] State Board pursuant to subsection 3 to identify any discrepancies in the standards of content and performance established by the [Council] State Board that require revision and a timeline for carrying out the revision, if necessary. The [Council] State Board shall submit a written report of its review and evaluation to the Legislative Committee on Education and Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation.

Sec. 35. NRS 389.015 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.015 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall administer examinations in all public schools of the school district. The governing body of a charter school shall administer the same examinations in the charter school. The examinations administered by the board of trustees and governing body must determine the achievement and proficiency of pupils in:

(a) Reading;

(b) Mathematics; and

(c) Science.

2. The examinations required by subsection 1 must be:
(a) Administered before the completion of grades 4, 7, 10 and 11.

(b) Administered in each school district and each charter school at the same time during the spring semester. The time for the administration of the examinations must be prescribed by the State Board.

(c) Administered in each school in accordance with uniform procedures adopted by the State Board. The Department shall monitor the compliance of school districts and individual schools with the uniform procedures.

(d) Administered in each school in accordance with the plan adopted pursuant to NRS 389.616 by the Department and with the plan adopted pursuant to NRS 389.620 by the board of trustees of the school district in which the examinations are administered. The Department shall monitor the compliance of school districts and individual schools with:

(1) The plan adopted by the Department; and
(2) The plan adopted by the board of trustees of the applicable school district, to the extent that the plan adopted by the board of trustees of the school district is consistent with the plan adopted by the Department.

(e) Scored by a single private entity that has contracted with the State Board to score the examinations. The private entity that scores the examinations shall report the results of the examinations in the form and by the date required by the Department.

3. Not more than 14 working days after the results of the examinations are reported to the Department by a private entity that scored the examinations, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction shall certify that the results of the examinations have been transmitted to each school district and each charter school. Not more than 10 working days after a school district receives the results of the examinations, the superintendent of schools of each school district shall certify that the results of the examinations have been transmitted to each school within the school district. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, not more than 15 working days after each school receives the results of the examinations, the principal of each school and the governing body of each charter school shall certify that the results for each pupil have been provided to the parent or legal guardian of the pupil:

(a) During a conference between the teacher of the pupil or administrator of the school and the parent or legal guardian of the pupil; or
(b) By mailing the results of the examinations to the last known address of the parent or legal guardian of the pupil.
If a pupil fails the high school proficiency examination, the school shall notify the pupil and the parents or legal guardian of the pupil of each subject area that the pupil failed as soon as practicable but not later than 15 working days after the school receives the results of the examination.

4. If a pupil fails to demonstrate at least adequate achievement on the examination administered before the completion of grade 4, 7 or 10, he may be promoted to the next higher grade, but the results of his examination must be evaluated to determine what remedial study is appropriate. If such a pupil is enrolled at a school that has failed to make adequate yearly progress or in which less than 60 percent of the pupils enrolled in grade 4, 7 or 10 in the school who took the examinations administered pursuant to this section received an average score on those examinations that is at least equal to the 26th percentile of the national reference group of pupils to which the examinations were compared, the pupil must, in accordance with the requirements set forth in this subsection, complete remedial study that is determined to be appropriate for the pupil.

5. If a pupil fails to pass the high school proficiency examination, he must not be graduated unless he:

(a) Is able, through remedial study, to pass the proficiency examination; or

(b) Passes at least two of the subject areas [of mathematics and reading] tested on the proficiency examination, has at least a 2.75 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale and satisfies the alternative criteria prescribed by the State Board pursuant to NRS 389.805, but he may be given a certificate of attendance, in place of a diploma, if he has reached the age of 18 years.

6. The State Board shall prescribe standard examinations of achievement and proficiency to be administered pursuant to subsection 1. The high school proficiency examination must include the subjects of reading, mathematics and science and, except for the writing portion prescribed pursuant to NRS 389.550, must be developed, printed and scored by a nationally recognized testing company in accordance with the process established by the testing company. The examinations on reading, mathematics and science prescribed for grades 4, 7 and 10 must be selected from examinations created by private entities and administered to a national reference group, and must allow for a comparison of the achievement and proficiency of pupils in grades 4, 7 and 10 in this State to that of a national reference group of pupils in grades 4, 7 and 10. The questions contained in the examinations and the approved answers used for grading them are confidential, and disclosure is unlawful except:
(a) To the extent necessary for administering and evaluating the examinations.

(b) That a disclosure may be made to a:

(1) State officer who is a member of the Executive or Legislative Branch to the extent that it is necessary for the performance of his duties;

(2) Superintendent of schools of a school district to the extent that it is necessary for the performance of his duties;

(3) Director of curriculum of a school district to the extent that it is necessary for the performance of his duties; and

(4) Director of testing of a school district to the extent that it is necessary for the performance of his duties.

(c) That specific questions and answers may be disclosed if the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for Education determines that the content of the questions and answers is not being used in a current examination and making the content available to the public poses no threat to the security of the current examination process.

(d) As required pursuant to NRS 239.0115.

Sec. 36. NRS 389.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.019 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 389.180, boards of trustees of school districts in this State shall enforce in schools:

1. The standards of content and performance established by the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools State Board and the courses of study related to those standards; and

2. The courses of study prescribed and adopted by the State Board.

Sec. 37. NRS 389.520 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.520 1. The Council State Board shall:

(a) Establish standards of content and performance, including, without limitation, a prescription of the resulting level of achievement, for the grade levels set forth in subsection 2, based upon the content of each course, that is expected of pupils for the following courses of study:

(1) English, including reading, composition and writing;

(2) Mathematics;

(3) Science;

(4) Social studies, which includes only the subjects of history, geography, economics and government;

(5) The arts;

(6) Computer education and technology;

(7) Health; and

(8) Physical education.

(b) Establish a schedule for the periodic review and, if necessary, revision of the standards of content and performance. The
review must include, without limitation, the review required pursuant to NRS 389.570 of the results of pupils on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550.

(c) Assign priorities to the standards of content and performance relative to importance and degree of emphasis and revise the standards, if necessary, based upon the priorities.

2. The [Council] State Board [shall establish and adopt standards of content and performance for each grade level in kindergarten and grades 1 to 8, inclusive, for English and mathematics. The [Council] State Board [shall establish and adopt standards of content and performance for the grade levels selected by the [Council] State Board] for the other courses of study prescribed in subsection 1.

3. [The Council shall forward to the State Board the standards of content and performance established by the Council for each course of study. The State Board shall:

   — (a) Adopt the standards for each course of study, as submitted by the Council; or
   — (b) If the State Board objects to the standards for a course of study or a particular grade level for a course of study, return those standards to the Council with a written explanation setting forth the reason for the objection.

   4. If the State Board returns the standards of content and performance for a course of study or a grade level, the Council shall:

   — (a) Consider the objection provided by the State Board and determine whether to revise the standards based upon the objection; and
   — (b) Return the standards or the revised standards, as applicable, to the State Board.

   The State Board shall adopt the standards of content and performance or the revised standards, as applicable.

   5. The Council shall work in cooperation with the [Council] State Board [to] shall prescribe the examinations required by NRS 389.550.

Sec. 38. NRS 389.530 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.530 The Department shall provide:

   — (a) Administrative support;
   — (b) Equipment; and
   — (c) Office space,
as is necessary for the Council to carry out its duties.

2. The Council may request assistance from any agency of this state if the assistance is necessary for the Council to carry out its duties.] The State Board may appoint an advisory committee composed of six members who are qualified and who represent the
ethnic and geographic diversity of this State to carry out the
provisions of NRS 389.520 to 389.570, inclusive. The advisory
committee serves at the pleasure of the State Board and without
compensation unless an appropriation or other money for that
purpose is provided by the Legislature.

Sec. 39. NRS 389.540 is hereby amended to read as follows:
389.540 The board of trustees of each school district shall
conduct a periodic review of the courses of study offered in the
public schools of the school district to determine whether the
courses of study comply with the standards of content and
performance established by the [Council] State Board pursuant to
NRS 389.520 and if revision of the courses of study is necessary to
ensure compliance.

Sec. 40. NRS 389.550 is hereby amended to read as follows:
389.550 1. The State Board shall [in consultation with the
Council] prescribe examinations that comply with 20 U.S.C. §
6311(b)(3) and that measure the achievement and proficiency of
pupils:
(a) For grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 in the standards of content
established by the [Council] State Board for the subjects of English
and mathematics.
(b) For grades 5 and 8, in the standards of content established by
the [Council] State Board for the subject of science.
The examinations prescribed pursuant to this subsection must be
written, developed, printed and scored by a nationally recognized
testing company.
2. In addition to the examinations prescribed pursuant to
subsection 1, the State Board shall [in consultation with the
Council] prescribe a writing examination for grades 5 and 8 and for
the high school proficiency examination.
3. The board of trustees of each school district and the
governing body of each charter school shall administer the
examinations prescribed by the State Board. The examinations must
be:
(a) Administered to pupils in each school district and each
charter school at the same time during the spring semester, as
prescribed by the State Board.
(b) Administered in each school in accordance with uniform
procedures adopted by the State Board. The Department shall
monitor the school districts and individual schools to ensure
compliance with the uniform procedures.
(c) Administered in each school in accordance with the plan
adopted pursuant to NRS 389.616 by the Department and with the
plan adopted pursuant to NRS 389.620 by the board of trustees of
the school district in which the examinations are administered. The
Department shall monitor the compliance of school districts and individual schools with:

(1) The plan adopted by the Department; and

(2) The plan adopted by the board of trustees of the applicable school district, to the extent that the plan adopted by the board of trustees of the school district is consistent with the plan adopted by the Department.

Sec. 41. NRS 389.560 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.560 1. The State Board shall adopt regulations that require the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school to submit to the [State Superintendent of Public Instruction,] for Education, the Department and the [Council,] State Board, in the form and manner prescribed by the Superintendent, the results of the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550. The State Board shall not include in the regulations any provision that would violate the confidentiality of the test scores of an individual pupil.

2. The results of the examinations must be reported for each school, including, without limitation, each charter school, school district and this State, as follows:
   (a) The percentage of pupils who have demonstrated proficiency, as defined by the Department, and took the examinations under regular testing conditions; and
   (b) The percentage of pupils who have demonstrated proficiency, as defined by the Department, and took the examinations with modifications or accommodations, if such reporting does not violate the confidentiality of the test scores of any individual pupil.

3. Not later than 10 days after the Department receives the results of the examinations, the Department shall transmit a copy of the results to the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation in a manner that does not violate the confidentiality of the test scores of any individual pupil.

4. On or before July 1 of each year, each school district and each charter school shall report to the Department the following information for each examination administered in the public schools in the school district or charter school:
   (a) The examination administered;
   (b) The grade level or levels of pupils to whom the examination was administered;
   (c) The costs incurred by the school district or charter school in administering each examination; and
   (d) The purpose, if any, for which the results of the examination are used by the school district or charter school.
On or before September 1 of each year, the Department shall transmit to the Budget Division of the Department of Administration and the Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau the information submitted to the Department pursuant to this subsection.

5. The superintendent of schools of each school district and the governing body of each charter school shall certify that the number of pupils who took the examinations is equal to the number of pupils who are enrolled in each school in the school district or in the charter school who are required to take the examinations.

6. In addition to the information required by subsection 4, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction shall:

(a) Report the number of pupils who were not exempt from taking the examinations but were absent from school on the day that the examinations were administered; and

(b) Reconcile the number of pupils who were required to take the examinations with the number of pupils who were exempt from taking the examinations or absent from school on the day that the examinations were administered.

Sec. 42. NRS 389.570 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.570 1. The State Board shall review the results of pupils on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550, including, without limitation, for each school in a school district and each charter school that is located within a school district, a review of the results for the current school year and a comparison of the progress, if any, made by the pupils enrolled in the school from preceding school years.

2. After the completion of the review pursuant to subsection 1, the State Board shall evaluate:

(a) Whether the standards of content and performance established by the State Board require revision; and

(b) The success of pupils, as measured by the results of the examinations, in achieving the standards of performance established by the State Board.

3. The State Board shall report the results of the evaluation conducted pursuant to subsection 2 to the Legislative Committee on Education.

Sec. 43. NRS 389.805 is hereby amended to read as follows:

389.805 1. A pupil must receive a standard high school diploma if he:

(a) Passes all subject areas of the high school proficiency examination administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 and otherwise satisfies the requirements for graduation from high school; or
(b) Has failed to pass the high school proficiency examination administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 in its entirety [not less than three times before beginning grade 12 and the pupil:] and:

1. Passes at least two of the subject areas [of mathematics and reading] on the proficiency examination;

2. Has an overall grade point average of not less than [2.75]

3. Satisfies the alternative criteria prescribed by the State Board pursuant to subsection 3; and

4. Otherwise satisfies the requirements for graduation from high school.

2. A pupil with a disability who does not satisfy the requirements for receipt of a standard high school diploma may receive a diploma designated as an adjusted diploma if he satisfies the requirements set forth in his individualized education program. As used in this subsection, “individualized education program” has the meaning ascribed to it in 20 U.S.C. § 1414(d)(1)(A).

3. The State Board shall adopt regulations that prescribe the alternative criteria for a pupil to receive a standard high school diploma pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1, including, without limitation:

   a. An essay;
   b. A senior project; or
   c. A portfolio of work, or any combination thereof, that demonstrate proficiency in the subject areas on the high school proficiency examination which the pupil failed to pass.

Sec. 44. NRS 390.140 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. The State Board shall make the final selection of all textbooks to be used in the public schools in this State, except for charter schools. If a textbook proposed for selection is in a subject area for which standards of content have been established by the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools pursuant to NRS 389.520, the State Board shall not select the textbook unless the State Board determines that the textbook adequately supports the standards for that subject area.

2. A textbook must not be selected by the State Board pursuant to subsection 1 for use in the public schools in classes in literature, history or social sciences unless it accurately portrays the cultural and racial diversity of our society, including lessons on the contributions made to our society by men and women from various racial and ethnic backgrounds.
Sec. 45. Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 46 and 47 of this act.

Sec. 46. The State Board may appoint an advisory committee composed of six members who are qualified and who represent the ethnic and geographic diversity of this State to advise the State Board in carrying out the provisions of this chapter. The advisory committee serves at the pleasure of the State Board and without compensation unless an appropriation or other money for that purpose is provided by the Legislature.

Sec. 47. 1. Within the limits of available money, the Department shall establish a program of performance pay for voluntary participation by licensed educational personnel and other school personnel of public schools that demonstrate improvement and exceptional performance.

2. The program must prescribe a formula for determining the classroom performance of each teacher who voluntarily participates in the program, which must give equal consideration to:

(a) The achievement and progress made by the pupils enrolled in the teacher’s classroom, as measured by the model adopted pursuant to section 5 of this act; and

(b) The professional accomplishments of the teacher, as evidenced by:

(1) Evaluations of the teacher conducted in accordance with the policies adopted pursuant to NRS 391.3125;

(2) The participation of the teacher in professional development and other training;

(3) The results of peer reviews and parent satisfaction surveys concerning the school, if enough completed surveys are available to assess performance; and

(4) Any other measure of the professional accomplishments of the teacher deemed appropriate by the Department.

3. The program must prescribe a formula for determining the performance of each public school for purposes of awarding enhanced performance pay to other school personnel who voluntarily participate in the program and who are not teachers. The formula must give equal consideration to:

(a) The achievement and progress of pupils enrolled in the public school which is tracked from year to year to determine whether the school has made progress in the achievement of pupils, as measured by the model adopted pursuant to section 5 of this act; and

(b) The professional accomplishments of the school personnel, as evidenced by:
(1) The participation of the school personnel in development and training in their area of employment;
(2) The results of parent satisfaction surveys concerning the school, if enough completed surveys are available to assess the performance of the school; and
(3) Any other measure of the accomplishments of school personnel deemed appropriate by the Department.

4. The Department shall provide enhanced compensation to licensed educational personnel and other school personnel who voluntarily participate in the program and, as calculated pursuant to this section, are in the top quartile of progress in pupil achievement and professional accomplishment.

Sec. 48. NRS 391.008 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.008 1. ["Paraprofessional"] As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, “paraprofessional” means a person who is employed by and assigned by a school district or charter school to:
(a) Provide one-on-one tutoring for a pupil;
(b) Assist with the management of a classroom, including, without limitation, organizing instructional materials;
(c) Provide assistance in a computer laboratory;
(d) Conduct parental involvement activities in conjunction with one or more duties set forth in this subsection;
(e) Provide support in a library or media center;
(f) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, provide services as a translator; or
(g) Provide instructional services to pupils under the direct supervision of a licensed teacher.

2. The term “paraprofessional” does not include a person who:
(a) Is proficient in the English language and a language other than English and who provides services as a translator primarily to enhance the participation of children in programs that are financially supported pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6301 et seq.
(b) Solely conducts parental involvement activities.

Sec. 49. NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.019 1. [Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the Commission:
(a) Shall adopt regulations:
(1) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other educational personnel, including, without limitation, the qualifications for a license to teach middle school or junior high school education, and the procedures for the issuance and renewal of those licenses;
(2) Identifying fields of specialization in teaching which require the specialized training of teachers.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.125, requiring teachers to obtain from the Department an endorsement in a field of specialization to be eligible to teach in that field of specialization.

(4) Setting forth the educational requirements a teacher must satisfy to qualify for an endorsement in each field of specialization.

(5) Setting forth the qualifications and requirements for obtaining a license or endorsement to teach American Sign Language, including, without limitation, being registered with the Office of Disability Services of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of interpreting in an educational setting.

(6) Requiring teachers and other educational personnel to be registered with the Office of Disability Services pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of interpreting in an educational setting if they:

   (I) Provide instruction or other educational services; and
   (II) Concurrently engage in the practice of interpreting, as defined in NRS 656A.060.

(7) Providing for the issuance and renewal of a special qualifications license to an applicant who holds a master’s degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited degree-granting postsecondary educational institution in a field for which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom and who has:

   (I) At least 2 years of experience teaching at an accredited degree-granting postsecondary educational institution in a field for which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom and at least 3 years of experience working in that field; or
   (II) At least 5 years of experience working in a field for which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom.

(8) Requiring an applicant for a special qualifications license to:

   (I) Pass each examination required by NRS 391.021 for the specific subject or subjects in which the applicant will provide instruction; or
   (II) Hold a valid license issued by a professional licensing board of any state that is directly related to the subject area of the master’s degree or doctoral degree held by the applicant.

(9) Setting forth the subject areas that may be taught by a person who holds a special qualifications license, based upon the subject area of the master’s degree or doctoral degree held by that person.

(10) Providing for the issuance and renewal of a special qualifications license to an applicant who:
(I) Holds a graduate degree from an accredited college or university in the field for which he will be providing instruction;

(II) Is not licensed to teach public school in another state;

(III) Has at least 5 years of experience teaching with satisfactory evaluations at a school that is accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education; and

(IV) Submits proof of participation in a program of student teaching or mentoring or agrees to participate in a program of mentoring for the first year of his employment as a teacher with a school district or charter school.

An applicant for licensure pursuant to this subparagraph is exempt from each examination required by NRS 391.021 if the applicant successfully passed the examination in another state.

(11) If the State Board approves the Passport to Teaching certification from the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence as an alternative route to licensure, providing for the issuance and renewal of a special qualifications license to an applicant who:

(I) Holds a Passport to Teaching certification from the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence;

(II) Passes each examination required by NRS 391.021 for the specific subject or subjects in which the applicant will provide instruction; and

(III) Agrees to participate in a program of mentoring prescribed by the State Board for the first year of his employment as a teacher with a school district or charter school.

May adopt such other regulations as it deems necessary for its own government or to carry out its duties.

2. Any regulation which increases the amount of education, training or experience required for licensing:

(a) Must, in addition to the requirements for publication in chapter 233B of NRS, be publicized before its adoption in a manner reasonably calculated to inform those persons affected by the change.

(b) Must not become effective until at least 1 year after the date it is adopted by the State Board.

(c) Is not applicable to a license in effect on the date the regulation becomes effective.

3. A person who is licensed pursuant to subparagraph (7), (10) or (11) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1:

(a) Shall comply with all applicable statutes and regulations.

(b) Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, is entitled to all benefits, rights and privileges conferred by statutes and regulations on licensed teachers.
(c) Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, if he is employed as a teacher by the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school, is entitled to all benefits, rights and privileges conferred by statutes and regulations on the licensed employees of a school district or charter school, as applicable.

Sec. 50. NRS 391.019 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.019 1. [Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027, the Commission:]

(a) Shall adopt regulations:

(1) Prescribing the qualifications for licensing teachers and other educational personnel, including, without limitation, the qualifications for a license to teach middle school or junior high school education, and the procedures for the issuance and renewal of those licenses,

(2) Identifying fields of specialization in teaching which require the specialized training of teachers.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.125, requiring teachers to obtain from the Department an endorsement in a field of specialization to be eligible to teach in that field of specialization.

(4) Setting forth the educational requirements a teacher must satisfy to qualify for an endorsement in each field of specialization.

(5) Setting forth the qualifications and requirements for obtaining a license or endorsement to teach American Sign Language, including, without limitation, being registered with the Office of Disability Services of the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of interpreting in an educational setting.

(6) Requiring teachers and other educational personnel to be registered with the Office of Disability Services pursuant to NRS 656A.100 to engage in the practice of interpreting in an educational setting if they:

(I) Provide instruction or other educational services; and

(II) Concurrently engage in the practice of interpreting, as defined in NRS 656A.060.

(7) Providing for the issuance and renewal of a special qualifications license to an applicant who holds a master’s degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited degree-granting postsecondary educational institution in a field for which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom and who has:

(I) At least 2 years of experience teaching at an accredited degree-granting postsecondary educational institution in a field for which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom and at least 3 years of experience working in that field; or
(II) At least 5 years of experience working in a field for which the applicant will provide instruction in a classroom.

(8) Requiring an applicant for a special qualifications license to:

(I) Pass each examination required by NRS 391.021 for the specific subject or subjects in which the applicant will provide instruction; or

(II) Hold a valid license issued by a professional licensing board of any state that is directly related to the subject area of the master’s degree or doctoral degree held by the applicant.

(9) Setting forth the subject areas that may be taught by a person who holds a special qualifications license, based upon the subject area of the master’s degree or doctoral degree held by that person.

(10) Providing for the issuance and renewal of a special qualifications license to an applicant who:

(I) Holds a graduate degree from an accredited college or university in the field for which he will be providing instruction;

(II) Is not licensed to teach public school in another state;

(III) Has at least 5 years of experience teaching with satisfactory evaluations at a school that is accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education; and

(IV) Submits proof of participation in a program of student teaching or mentoring or agrees to participate in a program of mentoring for the first year of his employment as a teacher with a school district or charter school.

An applicant for licensure pursuant to this subparagraph is exempt from each examination required by NRS 391.021 if the applicant successfully passed the examination in another state.

(b) May adopt such other regulations as it deems necessary for its own government or to carry out its duties.

2. Any regulation which increases the amount of education, training or experience required for licensing:

(a) Must, in addition to the requirements for publication in chapter 233B of NRS, be publicized before its adoption in a manner reasonably calculated to inform those persons affected by the change.

(b) Must not become effective until at least 1 year after the date it is adopted by the Commission. State Board.

(c) Is not applicable to a license in effect on the date the regulation becomes effective.

3. A person who is licensed pursuant to subparagraph (7) or (10) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1:

(a) Shall comply with all applicable statutes and regulations.
(b) Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, is entitled to all benefits, rights and privileges conferred by statutes and regulations on licensed teachers.

c) Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, if he is employed as a teacher by the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of a charter school, is entitled to all benefits, rights and privileges conferred by statutes and regulations on the licensed employees of a school district or charter school, as applicable.

Sec. 51. NRS 391.021 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.021 Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (10) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.019 and NRS 391.027, the [Commission], the State Board shall adopt regulations governing examinations for the initial licensing of teachers and other educational personnel. The examinations must test the ability of the applicant to teach and his knowledge of each specific subject he proposes to teach. Each examination must include the following subjects:

1. The laws of Nevada relating to schools;
2. The Constitution of the State of Nevada; and

The provisions of this section do not prohibit the [Commission] State Board from adopting regulations pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 391.032 that provide an exemption from the examinations for teachers and other educational personnel who have previous experience in teaching or performing other educational functions in another state.

Sec. 52. NRS 391.023 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.023 The [Commission] State Board may adopt regulations which provide relief from the strict application of the terms of its regulations relating to the licensure of teachers and other educational personnel for the resolution of medical or administrative conflicts. The conflicts must be resolved within 6 months after the date the relief is granted.

Sec. 53. NRS 391.031 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.031 There are the following kinds of licenses for teachers and other educational personnel in this State:

1. A license to teach elementary education, which authorizes the holder to teach in any elementary school in the State.
2. A license to teach middle school or junior high school education, which authorizes the holder to teach in his major or minor field of preparation or in both fields in grades 7, 8 and 9 at any middle school or junior high school. He may teach only in these fields unless an exception is approved pursuant to regulations adopted by the [Commission] State Board.
3. A license to teach secondary education, which authorizes the
holder to teach in his major or minor field of preparation or in both
fields in any secondary school. He may teach only in these fields
unless an exception is approved pursuant to regulations adopted by
the State Board.
4. A special license, which authorizes the holder to teach or
perform other educational functions in a school or program as
designated in the license.
5. A special license designated as a special qualifications
license, which authorizes the holder to teach only in the grades and
subject areas designated in the license. A special qualifications
license is valid for 3 years and may be renewed in accordance with
the applicable regulations of the State Board adopted
pursuant to subparagraph (7), (10) or (11) of paragraph (a) of
subsection 1 of NRS 391.019.

Sec. 54. NRS 391.031 is hereby amended to read as follows:
391.031 There are the following kinds of licenses for teachers
and other educational personnel in this State:
1. A license to teach elementary education, which authorizes
the holder to teach in any elementary school in the State.
2. A license to teach middle school or junior high school
education, which authorizes the holder to teach in his major or
minor field of preparation or in both fields in grades 7, 8 and 9 at
any middle school or junior high school. He may teach only in these
fields unless an exception is approved pursuant to regulations
adopted by the State Board.
3. A license to teach secondary education, which authorizes the
holder to teach in his major or minor field of preparation or in both
fields in any secondary school. He may teach only in these fields
unless an exception is approved pursuant to regulations adopted by
the State Board.
4. A special license, which authorizes the holder to teach or
perform other educational functions in a school or program as
designated in the license.
5. A special license designated as a special qualifications
license, which authorizes the holder to teach only in the grades and
subject areas designated in the license. A special qualifications
license is valid for 3 years and may be renewed in accordance with
the applicable regulations of the State Board adopted
pursuant to subparagraph (7) or (10) of paragraph (a) of subsection 1
of NRS 391.019.

Sec. 55. NRS 391.032 is hereby amended to read as follows:
391.032 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.027,
The State Board shall:
(a) Consider and may adopt regulations which provide for the issuance of conditional licenses to teachers and other educational personnel before completion of all courses of study or other requirements for a license in this State.

(b) Adopt regulations which provide for the reciprocal licensure of educational personnel from other states.

2. The regulations adopted pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 may provide an exemption from the examinations required for initial licensure for teachers and other educational personnel who have previous experience in teaching or performing other educational functions in another state. If the State Board adopts regulations providing such an exemption, the State Board shall identify the examinations to which the exemption applies.

3. A person who is issued a conditional license must complete all courses of study and other requirements for a license in this State which is not conditional within 3 years after the date on which a conditional license is issued.

Sec. 56. NRS 391.033 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.033 1. All licenses for teachers and other educational personnel are granted by the State Superintendent for Education pursuant to regulations adopted by the State Board and as otherwise provided by law.

2. An application for the issuance of a license must include the social security number of the applicant.

3. Every applicant for a license must submit with his application a complete set of his fingerprints and written permission authorizing the Superintendent to forward the fingerprints to the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History for its report on the criminal history of the applicant and for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for its report on the criminal history of the applicant.

4. The Superintendent may issue a provisional license pending receipt of the reports of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History if he determines that the applicant is otherwise qualified.

5. A license must be issued to an applicant if:

(a) The Superintendent determines that the applicant is qualified;

(b) The reports on the criminal history of the applicant from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History:

(1) Do not indicate that the applicant has been convicted of a felony or any offense involving moral turpitude; or
(2) Indicate that the applicant has been convicted of a felony or an offense involving moral turpitude but the Superintendent determines that the conviction is unrelated to the position within the county school district or charter school for which the applicant applied; and
(c) The applicant submits the statement required pursuant to NRS 391.034.

Sec. 57. NRS 391.038 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.038 1. The State Board, in consultation with educational institutions in this State which offer courses of study and training for the education of teachers, the board of trustees of each school district in this State and other educational personnel, shall review and evaluate a course of study and training offered by an educational institution which is designed to provide the education required for:
   (a) The licensure of teachers or other educational personnel;
   (b) The renewal of licenses of teachers or other educational personnel; or
   (c) An endorsement in a field of specialization.

2. If the course of study and training meets the requirements established by the State Board, it must be approved by the State Board. The State Board shall not approve a course of study or training unless the course of study and training provides instruction, to the extent deemed necessary by the State Board, in the standards of content and performance prescribed by the [Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools] State Board pursuant to NRS 389.520.

3. The State Board may review and evaluate such courses of study and training itself or may recognize a course of study and training approved by a national agency for accreditation acceptable to the Board.

4. The State Board, in consultation with educational institutions in this State which offer courses of study and training for the education of teachers and other educational personnel, and the Nevada Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and the Nevada Association of Teacher Educators, shall adopt regulations governing the approval by the State Board of courses of study and training which are accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, and those which are not so accredited.
5. If the State Board denies or withdraws its approval of a course of study or training, the educational institution is entitled to a hearing and judicial review of the decision of the State Board.

Sec. 58. NRS 391.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.160  1. The salaries of teachers and other employees must be determined by the character of the service required. A school district shall not discriminate between male and female employees in the matter of salary.

2. The board of trustees of each school district shall adjust the schedule of salaries of the school district to ensure that the starting salary of each licensed teacher who is initially hired by the school district on or after July 1, 2010, is at least $40,000 annually. For the purposes of this subsection, a person is not “initially hired” if he has been employed as a licensed teacher by another school district or charter school in this State without an interruption in employment before the date of hire by his current employer.

3. Each year when determining the salary of a teacher who holds certification issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, a school district shall add 5 percent to the salary that the teacher would otherwise receive in 1 year for his classification on the schedule of salaries for the school district if:

   (a) On or before January 31 of the school year, the teacher has submitted evidence satisfactory to the school district of his current certification; and
   (b) The teacher is assigned by the school district to provide classroom instruction during that school year.

No increase in salary may be given pursuant to this subsection during a particular school year to a teacher who submits evidence of certification after January 31 of that school year. For the first school year that a teacher submits evidence of his current certification, the board of trustees of the school district to whom the evidence was submitted shall pay the increase in salary required by this subsection retroactively to the beginning of that school year. Once a teacher has submitted evidence of such certification to the school district, the school district shall retain the evidence in its records, as applicable, for future school years. An increase in salary given in accordance with this subsection is in addition to any other increase to which the teacher may otherwise be entitled.

4. Each year when determining the salary of a person who is employed by a school district as a speech pathologist, the school district shall add 5 percent to the salary that the employee would otherwise receive in 1 year for his classification on the schedule of salaries for the school district if:
(a) On or before September 15 of the school year, the employee has submitted evidence satisfactory to the school district of his:

(1) Licensure as a speech pathologist by the Board of Examiners for Audiology and Speech Pathology; and

(2) Certification as being clinically competent in speech-language pathology by:
   (I) The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association;
   or
   (II) A successor organization to the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association that is recognized and determined to be acceptable by the Board of Examiners for Audiology and Speech Pathology; and

(b) The employee is assigned by the school district to serve as a speech pathologist during the school year.

No increase in salary may be given pursuant to this subsection during a particular school year to an employee who submits evidence of licensure and certification after September 15 of that school year. Once an employee has submitted evidence of such licensure and certification to the school district, the school district shall retain the evidence in its records, as applicable, for future school years. An increase in salary given in accordance with this subsection is in addition to any other increase to which the employee may otherwise be entitled.

[4.] 5. Each year when determining the salary of a person who is employed by a school district as a professional school library media specialist, the school district shall add 5 percent to the salary that the employee would otherwise receive in 1 year for his classification on the schedule of salaries of the school district if:

(a) On or before September 15 of the school year, the employee has submitted evidence satisfactory to the school district of his current certification as a professional school library media specialist issued by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards; and

(b) The employee is assigned by the school district to serve as a professional school library media specialist during that school year.

No increase in salary may be given pursuant to this subsection during a particular school year to an employee who submits evidence of certification after September 15 of that school year. Once an employee has submitted evidence of such certification to the school district, the school district shall retain the evidence in its records, as applicable, for future school years. An increase in salary given in accordance with this subsection is in addition to any other increase to which the employee may otherwise be entitled.

[5.] 6. In determining the salary of a licensed teacher who is employed by a school district after the teacher has been employed
by another school district in this State, the present employer shall,
except as otherwise provided in subsection [8-9]:
(a) Give the teacher the same credit for previous teaching
service as he was receiving from his former employer at the end of
his former employment;
(b) Give the teacher credit for his final year of service with his
former employer, if credit for that service is not included in credit
given pursuant to paragraph (a); and
(c) Place the teacher on the schedule of salaries of the school
district in a classification that is commensurate with the level of
education acquired by the teacher, as set forth in the applicable
negotiated agreement with the present employer.

[6-7]. A school district may give the credit required by
subsection [5] for previous teaching service earned in another state
if the [Commission] State Board has approved the standards for
licensing teachers of that state. The [Commission] State Board shall
adopt regulations that establish the criteria by which the
[Commission] State Board will consider the standards for licensing
teachers of other states for the purposes of this subsection. The
criteria may include, without limitation, whether the [Commission]
State Board has authorized reciprocal licensure of educational
personnel from the state under consideration.

[7-8]. In determining the salary of a licensed administrator,
other than the superintendent of schools, who is employed by a
school district after the administrator has been employed by another
school district in this State, the present employer shall, except as
otherwise provided in subsection [8-9]:
(a) Give the administrator the same credit for previous
administrative service as he was receiving from his former
employer, at the end of his former employment;
(b) Give the administrator credit for his final year of service
with his former employer, if credit for that service is not otherwise
included in the credit given pursuant to paragraph (a); and
(c) Place the administrator on the schedule of salaries of the
school district in a classification that is comparable to the
classification the administrator had attained on the schedule of
salaries of his former employer.

[8-9]. This section does not:
(a) Require a school district to allow a teacher or administrator
more credit for previous teaching or administrative service than the
maximum credit for teaching or administrative experience provided
for in the schedule of salaries established by it for its licensed
personnel.
(b) Permit a school district to deny a teacher or administrator
credit for his previous teaching or administrative service on the
ground that the service differs in kind from the teaching or administrative experience for which credit is otherwise given by the school district.

[9-] 10. As used in this section:
(a) “Previous administrative service” means the total of:
(1) Any period of administrative service for which an administrator received credit from his former employer at the beginning of his former employment; and
(2) His period of administrative service in his former employment.
(b) “Previous teaching service” means the total of:
(1) Any period of teaching service for which a teacher received credit from his former employer at the beginning of his former employment; and
(2) His period of teaching service in his former employment.

Sec. 59. NRS 391.504 is hereby amended to read as follows:
391.504 “Regional As used in NRS 391.504 to 391.556, inclusive, unless the context otherwise requires, “regional training program” means a regional training program for the professional development of teachers and administrators created pursuant to NRS 391.512.

Sec. 60. NRS 391.520 is hereby amended to read as follows:
391.520 1. The Statewide Council shall meet not less than four times per year.
— 2. The Statewide Council shall:
— (a) Adopt State Board, in consultation with the Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development of the Department, shall adopt uniform standards for use by the governing body of each regional training program in the review and approval by the governing body of the training to be provided by the regional training program pursuant to NRS 391.540 and 391.544. The standards must ensure that the training provided by the regional training programs includes activities set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(34), as appropriate for the type of training offered, is of high quality and is effective in addressing the training programs specified in subsection 1 of NRS 391.544.
— (b) The Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development shall:
(a) Coordinate the dissemination of information to school districts, administrators and teachers concerning the training, programs and services provided by the regional training programs.
— (b) Disseminate information to the regional training programs concerning innovative and effective methods to provide professional development.
Conduct long-range planning concerning the professional development needs of teachers and administrators employed in this state.

Adopt uniform procedures for use by the governing body of each regional training program to report the evaluation conducted pursuant to NRS 391.552.

3. The [Statewide Council Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development] may:
   (a) Accept gifts and grants from any source for use by the [Statewide Council Division] in carrying out its duties pursuant to this section and accept gifts and grants from any source on behalf of one or more regional training programs to assist with the training provided pursuant to NRS 391.544; and
   (b) Comply with applicable federal laws and regulations governing the provision of federal grants to assist the [Statewide Council Division] in carrying out its duties pursuant to this section and comply with applicable federal laws and regulations governing the provision of federal grants to assist with the training provided pursuant to NRS 391.544, including, without limitation, providing money from the budget of the [Statewide Council Division] to match the money received from a federal grant.

4. The State Board may appoint an advisory committee composed of six members who are qualified and who represent the regional training programs and educational personnel to advise the State Board and the Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development in carrying out the provisions of NRS 391.504 to 391.556, inclusive. The advisory committee serves at the pleasure of the State Board and without compensation unless an appropriation or other money for that purpose is provided by the Legislature.

Sec. 61. NRS 391.532 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.532  1. The governing body of each regional training program shall:
   (a) Employ or otherwise contract with a coordinator of the program, who serves at the pleasure of the governing body.
   (b) Set the salary or other compensation of the coordinator.

2. The coordinator of each regional training program shall:
   (a) Serve on the Statewide Council;
   (b) Assist in the evaluation of the regional training program as directed by the governing body; and
   (c) Perform such other duties as directed by the governing body.

Sec. 62. NRS 391.544 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.544  1. Based upon the assessment of needs for training within the region and priorities of training adopted by the governing body of each regional training program:
   (a) The State Board may appoint an advisory committee composed of six members who are qualified and who represent the regional training programs and educational personnel to advise the State Board and the Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development in carrying out the provisions of NRS 391.504 to 391.556, inclusive.
   (b) The State Board may appoint an advisory committee composed of six members who are qualified and who represent the regional training programs and educational personnel to advise the State Board and the Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development in carrying out the provisions of NRS 391.504 to 391.556, inclusive. The advisory committee serves at the pleasure of the State Board and without compensation unless an appropriation or other money for that purpose is provided by the Legislature.
body pursuant to NRS 391.540, each regional training program must provide:

(a) Training for teachers in the standards established by the [Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools] State Board pursuant to NRS 389.520.

(b) Through the Nevada Early Literacy Intervention Program established for the regional training program, training for teachers who teach kindergarten and grades 1, 2 or 3 on methods to teach fundamental reading skills, including, without limitation:

(1) Phonemic awareness;
(2) Phonics;
(3) Vocabulary;
(4) Fluency;
(5) Comprehension; and
(6) Motivation.

(c) At least one of the following types of training:

(1) Training for teachers and school administrators in the assessment and measurement of pupil achievement and the effective methods to analyze the test results and scores of pupils to improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils.

(2) Training for teachers in specific content areas to enable the teachers to provide a higher level of instruction in their respective fields of teaching. Such training must include instruction in effective methods to teach in a content area provided by teachers who are considered masters in that content area.

(3) In addition to the training provided pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1, training for teachers in the methods to teach basic skills to pupils, such as providing instruction in reading with the use of phonics and providing instruction in basic skills of mathematics computation.

2. The training required pursuant to subsection 1 must:

(a) Include the activities set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(34), as deemed appropriate by the governing body for the type of training offered.

(b) Include appropriate procedures to ensure follow-up training for teachers and administrators who have received training through the program.

(c) Incorporate training that addresses the educational needs of:

(1) Pupils with disabilities who participate in programs of special education; and

(2) Pupils who are limited English proficient.

3. The governing body of each regional training program shall prepare and maintain a list that identifies programs for the professional development of teachers and administrators that successfully incorporate:
(a) The standards of content and performance established by the [State Board pursuant to NRS 389.520;]
(b) Fundamental reading skills; and
(c) Other training listed in subsection 1.

The governing body shall provide a copy of the list on an annual basis to school districts for dissemination to teachers and administrators.

4. A regional training program may include model classrooms that demonstrate the use of educational technology for teaching and learning.

5. A regional training program may contract with the board of trustees of a school district that is served by the regional training program as set forth in NRS 391.512 to provide professional development to the teachers and administrators employed by the school district that is in addition to the training required by this section. Any training provided pursuant to this subsection must include the activities set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(34), as deemed appropriate by the governing body for the type of training offered.

6. To the extent money is available from legislative appropriation or otherwise, a regional training program may provide training to paraprofessionals.

Sec. 63. NRS 391.552 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.552 The governing body of each regional training program shall:

1. Establish a method for the evaluation of the success of the regional training program, including, without limitation, the Nevada Early Literacy Intervention Program. The method must be consistent with the uniform procedures adopted by the [Statewide Council] Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development of the Department pursuant to NRS 391.520.

2. On or before September 1 of each year, submit an annual report to the State Board, [the Commission,] the Legislative Committee on Education and the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation that includes:

(a) The priorities for training adopted by the governing body pursuant to NRS 391.540.

(b) The type of training offered through the program in the immediately preceding year.

(c) The number of teachers and administrators who received training through the program in the immediately preceding year.

(d) The number of paraprofessionals, if any, who received training through the program in the immediately preceding year.
(e) An evaluation of the success of the program, including, without limitation, the Nevada Early Literacy Intervention Program, in accordance with the method established pursuant to subsection 1.

(f) A description of the gifts and grants, if any, received by the governing body in the immediately preceding year and the gifts and grants, if any, received by the [Statewide Council] Division of Innovation, Research and Professional Development during the immediately preceding year on behalf of the regional training program. The description must include the manner in which the gifts and grants were expended.

(g) The 5-year plan for the program prepared pursuant to NRS 391.540 and any revisions to the plan made by the governing body in the immediately preceding year.

Sec. 64. NRS 391.556 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.556 The board of trustees of each school district shall submit an annual report to the State Board, [the Commission,] the Legislative Committee on Education and the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation that includes for the immediately preceding year:

1. The number of teachers and administrators employed by the school district who received training through the program; and

2. An evaluation of whether that training included the standards of content and performance established by the [Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools] State Board pursuant to NRS 389.520.

Sec. 65. NRS 396.5195 is hereby amended to read as follows:

396.5195 The Board of Regents shall, in cooperation with the State Board, [and the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools] ensure that students enrolled in a program developed by the System for the education of teachers are provided instruction regarding the standards of content and performance required of pupils enrolled in high schools in this State.

Sec. 66. NRS 400.035 is hereby amended to read as follows:

400.035 1. The Council shall meet at least once each calendar quarter and as frequently as necessary to afford the general public, representatives of governmental agencies and representatives of organizations an opportunity to present information and recommendations relating to the coordination between elementary, secondary and postsecondary education, including, without limitation, the Nevada Youth Legislative Issues Forum created by NRS 385.515, [and the Advisory Council on Parental Involvement established by NRS 385.610.]

2. The Council shall comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS.
3. For each day or portion of a day during which the members of the Council attend a meeting of the Council or are otherwise engaged in the business of the Council:
   (a) The members who are Legislators are entitled to receive the compensation provided for a majority of the members of the Legislature during the first 60 days of the preceding regular session plus the per diem allowance provided for state officers and employees generally and the travel expenses provided pursuant to NRS 218.2207, payable from the Legislative Fund.
   (b) The members who are appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Minority Leader of the Senate and the Minority Leader of the Assembly who are not Legislators are entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally, payable from the Legislative Fund.
   (c) The members who are appointed by the Governor are entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally, payable as other claims against the State are paid.

4. The Office of the Governor shall provide:
   (a) Administrative support;
   (b) Equipment; and
   (c) Office space,
   as is necessary for the Council to carry out its duties.

5. The Board of Regents of the University of Nevada and the Department shall provide technical assistance to the Council upon the request of the Chairman.

Sec. 67. NRS 218.5354 is hereby amended to read as follows:
218.5354 1. The Committee may:
   (a) Evaluate, review and comment upon issues related to education within this State, including, but not limited to:
   (1) Programs to enhance accountability in education;
   (2) Legislative measures regarding education;
   (3) The progress made by this State, the school districts and the public schools in this State in satisfying the goals and objectives of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6301 et seq.; the defined goals and benchmarks and the measurable outcomes established by the State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 385.361; the defined goals and benchmarks and the measurable outcomes established by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 9 of this act;
   (4) Methods of financing public education;
   (5) The condition of public education in the elementary and secondary schools;
   (6) The program to reduce the ratio of pupils per class per licensed teacher prescribed in NRS 388.700, 388.710 and 388.720;
(7) The development of any programs to automate the receipt, storage and retrieval of the educational records of pupils; and

(8) Any other matters that, in the determination of the Committee, affect the education of pupils within this State.

(b) Conduct investigations and hold hearings in connection with its duties pursuant to this section.

(c) Request that the Legislative Counsel Bureau assist in the research, investigations, hearings and reviews of the Committee.

(d) Make recommendations to the Legislature concerning the manner in which public education may be improved.

2. The Committee shall:

(a) In addition to any standards prescribed by the Department of Education, prescribe standards for the review and evaluation of the reports of the State Board of Education, school districts and public schools pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.359.

(b) For the purposes set forth in NRS 385.389, recommend to the Department of Education programs of remedial study for each subject tested on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015. In recommending these programs of remedial study, the Committee shall consider programs of remedial study that have proven to be successful in improving the academic achievement of pupils.

(c) Recommend to the Department of Education providers of supplemental educational services for inclusion on the list of approved providers prepared by the Department pursuant to NRS 385.384. In recommending providers, the Committee shall consider providers with a demonstrated record of effectiveness in improving the academic achievement of pupils.

(d) For the purposes set forth in NRS 385.3785, recommend to the [Commission on Educational Excellence created by NRS 385.3784] State Board of Education programs, practices and strategies that have proven effective in improving the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils.

Sec. 68. NRS 233B.039 is hereby amended to read as follows:

233B.039 1. The following agencies are entirely exempted from the requirements of this chapter:

(a) The Governor.

(b) The Department of Corrections.

(c) The Nevada System of Higher Education.

(d) The Office of the Military.

(e) The State Gaming Control Board.

(f) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 368A.140, the Nevada Gaming Commission.
(g) The Division of Welfare and Supportive Services of the Department of Health and Human Services.
(h) The Division of Health Care Financing and Policy of the Department of Health and Human Services.
(i) The State Board of Examiners acting pursuant to chapter 217 of NRS.
(j) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 533.365, the Office of the State Engineer.
(k) The Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry acting to enforce the provisions of NRS 618.375.
(l) The Administrator of the Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry in establishing and adjusting the schedule of fees and charges for accident benefits pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 616C.260.
(m) The Board to Review Claims in adopting resolutions to carry out its duties pursuant to NRS 590.830.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5 and NRS 391.323, the Department of Education and the Board of the Public Employees’ Benefits Program [and the Commission on Professional Standards in Education] are subject to the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of adopting regulations but not with respect to any contested case.

3. The special provisions of:
   (a) Chapter 612 of NRS for the distribution of regulations by and the judicial review of decisions of the Employment Security Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation;
   (b) Chapters 616A to 617, inclusive, of NRS for the determination of contested claims;
   (c) Chapter 703 of NRS for the judicial review of decisions of the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada;
   (d) Chapter 91 of NRS for the judicial review of decisions of the Administrator of the Securities Division of the Office of the Secretary of State; and
   (e) NRS 90.800 for the use of summary orders in contested cases,
prevail over the general provisions of this chapter.

4. The provisions of NRS 233B.122, 233B.124, 233B.125 and 233B.126 do not apply to the Department of Health and Human Services in the adjudication of contested cases involving the issuance of letters of approval for health facilities and agencies.

5. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to:
   (a) Any order for immediate action, including, but not limited to, quarantine and the treatment or cleansing of infected or infested
animals, objects or premises, made under the authority of the State Board of Agriculture, the State Board of Health, or any other agency of this State in the discharge of a responsibility for the preservation of human or animal health or for insect or pest control;
(b) An extraordinary regulation of the State Board of Pharmacy adopted pursuant to NRS 453.2184; or
(c) A regulation adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 392.644 or 394.1694.

6. The State Board of Parole Commissioners is subject to the provisions of this chapter for the purpose of adopting regulations but not with respect to any contested case.


Sec. 70.  1. There is hereby created a Commission to Oversee Educational Reform, consisting of 6 members as follows:
(a) Two members appointed by the Governor to terms which commence on July 1, 2009, and expire on June 30, 2011.
(b) Two members appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate to terms which commence on July 1, 2009, and expire on June 30, 2011.
(c) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly to terms which commence on July 1, 2009, and expire on June 30, 2011.

2. At its first meeting, the members of the Commission to Oversee Educational Reform shall elect a Chair from among its members. The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chair or a majority of the Commission.

3. A vacancy on the Commission to Oversee Educational Reform must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

4. The Commission to Oversee Educational Reform shall:
(a) Monitor the State Board of Education and the Department of Education in carrying out the amendatory provisions of this act.
(b) Review the implementation of the amendatory provisions of this act.
(c) On or before July 1, 2010, submit to the Legislative Committee on Education a preliminary report concerning the progress of the changes and reformations of the State Board of Education, the Department of Education and the system of public education in this State generally, including an analysis of the effectiveness of the changes and reformations.
(d) On or before February 1, 2011, submit to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 76th Session of the Nevada Legislature a report concerning the changes and reformations of the State Board of Education, the Department of Education and the system of public education in this State generally, including an analysis of the effectiveness of the changes and reformations. The report may include any recommendations for legislation proposed by the Commission to Oversee Educational Reform.

5. The State Board of Education and the Department of Education shall work cooperatively with the Commission to Oversee Educational Reform.

6. The members of the Commission to Oversee Educational Reform shall serve without compensation.

7. The Legislative Counsel Bureau shall provide administrative support at the request of the Commission to Oversee Educational Reform.

Sec. 71. 1. The terms of all members of the State Board of Education who are incumbent on December 31, 2010, expire on that date.

2. On or before January 1, 2011:
   (a) The Governor shall appoint one member who meets the qualifications set forth in paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 385.021, as amended by section 8 of this act, to a term which commences on January 1, 2011, and expires on December 31, 2013.
   (b) The Majority Leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who meets the qualifications set forth in paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 385.021, as amended by section 8 of this act, to a term which commences on January 1, 2011, and expires on December 31, 2015.
   (c) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint one member who meets the qualifications set forth in paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 385.021, as amended by section 8 of this act, to a term which commences on January 1, 2011, and expires on December 31, 2013.
   (d) The Board of Regents of the University of Nevada may appoint one member who meets the qualifications set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 2 of NRS 385.021, as amended by section 8 of this act, to a term which commences on January 1, 2011, and expires on December 31, 2015.

3. The member who is elected who is a resident of:
   (a) Congressional District 1, as described in NRS 304.100, serves an initial term of 2 years and serves a term of 4 years thereafter.
   (b) Congressional District 2, as described in NRS 304.110, serves a term of 4 years.
(c) Congressional District 3, as described in NRS 304.120, serves a term of 4 years.

Sec. 72. 1. The terms of all members of the Commission on Educational Excellence who are incumbent on June 30, 2009, expire on that date.
2. The terms of all members of the Commission on Educational Technology who are incumbent on June 30, 2009, expire on that date.
3. The terms of all members of the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools who are incumbent on June 30, 2009, expire on that date.
4. The terms of all members of the Commission on Professional Standards in Education who are incumbent on June 30, 2009, expire on that date.
5. The terms of all members of the Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs who are incumbent on June 30, 2009, expire on that date.

Sec. 73. 1. The term of the Superintendent of Public Instruction who was appointed pursuant to NRS 385.150 before the effective date of this act continues to serve for the remainder of that unexpired term. Upon expiration of the term or if a vacancy occurs before the expiration of that term, the Governor shall nominate and the Legislative Commission may confirm a State Superintendent for Education in accordance with NRS 385.150, as amended by section 11 of this act, for a term which expires on June 30, 2010.
2. Commencing on February 1, 2011, the Governor shall nominate, and the Senate may confirm in accordance with NRS 385.150, as amended by section 11 of this act, a State Superintendent for Education for a term which commences on July 1, 2011.

Sec. 74. 1. The Legislative Counsel shall, in preparing the:
(a) Reprint and supplement to the Nevada Revised Statutes with respect to any section which is not amended by this act or is adopted or amended by another act, appropriately change any reference to an officer, agency or other entity whose responsibilities have been transferred pursuant to the provisions of this act to refer to the appropriate officer, agency or entity. If any internal reference is made to a section repealed by this act, the Legislative Counsel shall delete the reference and replace it by reference to the superseding section, if any.
(b) Supplements to the Nevada Administrative Code, appropriately change any reference to an officer, agency or other entity whose responsibilities have been transferred pursuant to the provisions of this act to refer to the appropriate officer, agency or entity.
2. Any references in a bill or resolution passed by the 75th Session of the Nevada Legislature to an officer, agency or other entity whose name is changed or whose responsibilities have been transferred pursuant to the provisions of this act to another officer, agency or other entity shall be deemed to refer to the officer, agency or other entity to which the responsibility is transferred.

Sec. 75. 1. Any policies adopted by the Commission on Educational Excellence pursuant to NRS 385.3781 to 385.379, inclusive, before July 1, 2009:
(a) Remain in effect and may be enforced as if adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of this act; and
(b) May be amended or repealed by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of this act.
2. Any regulations or policies adopted by the Department of Education, in consultation with the Commission on Educational Technology, pursuant to NRS 388.780 to 388.805, inclusive, before July 1, 2009:
(a) Remain in effect and may be enforced as if adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of this act; and
(b) May be amended or repealed by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of this act.
3. Any regulations or policies adopted by the Commission on Professional Standards in Education pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS before July 1, 2009:
(a) Remain in effect and may be enforced as if adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of this act; and
(b) May be amended or repealed by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of this act.
4. Any policies adopted by the Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs pursuant to NRS 391.500 to 391.556, inclusive, before July 1, 2009:
(a) Remain in effect and may be enforced as if adopted by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of this act; and
(b) May be amended or repealed by the State Board of Education in accordance with the provisions of this act.

Sec. 76. On or before July 1, 2009, the State Board of Education shall appoint members to the:
1. Advisory committee authorized pursuant to NRS 385.3785, as amended by section 23 of this act. Persons appointed by the State Board may be persons who served on the Commission on Educational Excellence as it existed before the effective date of this act.
act. The term of each member appointed pursuant to this subsection expires on June 30, 2011, unless the State Board decides to reappoint the member.

2. Advisory committee authorized pursuant to NRS 388.795, as amended by section 31 of this act. Persons appointed by the State Board may be persons who served on the Commission on Educational Technology as it existed before the effective date of this act. The term of each member appointed pursuant to this subsection expires on June 30, 2011, unless the State Board decides to reappoint the member.

3. Advisory committee authorized pursuant to NRS 389.530, as amended by section 38 of this act. Persons appointed by the State Board may be persons who served on the Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools as it existed before the effective date of this act. The term of each member appointed pursuant to this subsection expires on June 30, 2011, unless the State Board decides to reappoint the member.

4. Advisory committee authorized pursuant to section 46 of this act. Persons appointed by the State Board may be persons who served on the Commission on Professional Standards in Education as it existed before the effective date of this act. The term of each member appointed pursuant to this subsection expires on June 30, 2011, unless the State Board decides to reappoint the member.

5. Advisory committee authorized pursuant to NRS 391.520, as amended by section 60 of this act. Persons appointed by the State Board may be persons who served on the Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs as it existed before the effective date of this act. The term of each member appointed pursuant to this subsection expires on June 30, 2011, unless the State Board decides to reappoint the member.

Sec. 77. Any contract entered into by the Commission on Educational Excellence, Commission on Educational Technology, Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools, Commission on Professional Standards in Education or Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs before July 1, 2009, remains in effect and may be administered and enforced by the State Board of Education.

Sec. 78. 1. The Department of Personnel shall, upon the request of an employee of the Department of Education or the State Board of Education whose employment is terminated as a result of this act, place the employee on an appropriate reemployment list maintained by the Department of Personnel and allow a preference for each of those employees on that list. The Department of Personnel shall maintain each such employee on the reemployment list until October 1, 2011, or until the employee is reemployed by
the Executive Branch of State Government, whichever occurs earlier.

2. The provisions of this section apply regardless of whether the employee was in the classified, unclassified or nonclassified service of the State of Nevada.

Sec. 79. 1. This section and sections 70, 72 and 76 of this act become effective on passage and approval for purposes of:
   (a) Expiring terms pursuant to section 72 of this act; and
   (b) Making appointments pursuant to sections 70 and 76 of this act, and on July 1, 2009, for all other purposes.

2. Sections 8 and 71 of this act become effective upon passage and approval for purposes of electing members from each of the congressional districts in the 2010 general election and expiring the terms of the incumbent members of the State Board of Education pursuant to section 71 of this act, and on January 1, 2011, for all other purposes.

3. Sections 1 to 7, inclusive, 9 to 49, inclusive, 51, 52, 53, 55 to 69, inclusive, 73, 74, 75, 77 and 78 of this act become effective on July 1, 2009.

4. Sections 50 and 54 of this act become effective on July 1, 2011.

5. Section 56 of this act expires by limitation on the date on which the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 666 requiring each state to establish procedures under which the state has authority to withhold or suspend, or to restrict the use of professional, occupational and recreational licenses of persons who:
   (a) Have failed to comply with a subpoena or warrant relating to a proceeding to determine the paternity of a child or to establish or enforce an obligation for the support of a child; or
   (b) Are in arrears in the payment for the support of one or more children, are repealed by the Congress of the United States.

LEADLINES OF REPEALED SECTIONS

385.017 Definitions.
385.0175 Maps of districts: Duties of Director of Legislative Counsel Bureau.
385.018 Maps of districts: Duties of Secretary of State.
385.019 Attachment of omitted area to appropriate district.
385.0225 District 1.
385.023  District 2.
385.0235 District 3.
385.024  District 4.
385.0245 District 5.
385.025  District 6.
385.0255 District 7.
385.0257 District 8.
385.026  District 9.
385.0265 District 10.
385.3781 Definitions.
385.3783 “Commission” defined.
385.3784 Commission: Creation; membership; terms; meetings; compensation of members; duty of Department to provide administrative support; involvement of the Legislative Counsel Bureau in activities of Commission.
388.780 Definitions.
388.785 “Commission” defined.
388.790 Commission on Educational Technology: Creation; membership; terms; removal and vacancy; quarterly meetings required; compensation.
389.500 “Council” defined.
389.510 Council to Establish Academic Standards: Creation; membership; terms; compensation.
391.002 Definitions.
391.005 “Commission” defined.
391.011 Creation; membership.
391.013 Limitation on terms of certain members.
391.015 Officers.
391.017 Meetings; quorum; travel expenses and subsistence allowances.
391.027 Approval or disapproval of Commission’s regulations by State Board of Education.
391.029 Provision of personnel; location of offices.
391.500 Definitions.
391.508 “Statewide Council” defined.
391.516 Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs: Creation; membership; terms; compensation; administrative support authorized.