ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 264—ASSEMBLYMEN GIUNCHIGLIANI, WILLIAMS, ANDERSON, ATKINSON, ARBERRY, BUCKLEY, CHOWNING, CLABORN, COLLINS, CONKLIN, GOLDWATER, HORNE, KOIVISTO, LESLIE, MANENDO, MCCLAIN, MORTENSON, OCEGUERA, PARKS, PERKINS AND PIERCE

## MARCH 10, 2003

Referred to Concurrent Committees on Education and Ways and Means

SUMMARY—Makes various changes governing education. (BDR 34-62)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Yes.

Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included in Executive Budget.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§§ 18, 19, 23, 33, 34, 41, 70) (NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in **bolded italics** is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; providing in skeleton form for the abolishment of certain county school districts; providing in skeleton form that the public schools within the abolished county school districts are under the direction and control of certain other school districts; authorizing boards of trustees of school districts to establish programs for the care of children on school property and programs to provide health care for certain persons; revising provisions governing the calculation of basic support for pupils who are enrolled in kindergarten for a full school day; requiring boards of trustees of school districts to establish magnet schools; increasing the number of days of school during a school year; requiring public schools to administer a reading comprehension examination to pupils who are enrolled at or above the 4th grade; requiring school districts to establish programs to administer achievement and proficiency examinations on the weekends in certain schools; revising provisions



governing textbooks; requiring licensed teachers to work a certain number of hours per school day; authorizing the employment of a person as a school principal who does not hold a license as an administrator under certain circumstances; authorizing the parents and guardians of certain pupils to choose which public schools the pupils will attend; requiring boards of trustees of school districts to purchase retirement credit for certain teachers; prescribing the minimum number of credits required for promotion to high school; providing that certain children who are at-risk must be admitted to kindergarten for a full school day; requiring homeschooled children to take certain achievement and proficiency examinations; revising provisions governing the plan required of each public school for the progressive discipline and on-site review of disciplinary decisions regarding pupils; specifying the terms of certain members on a committee to review the temporary alternative placement of pupils; authorizing the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to administer a program of loans for students who are enrolled in teaching programs; making appropriations; requiring boards of trustees of school districts to pay a minimum starting salary for teachers and prohibiting the payment of signing bonuses; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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

**Section 1.** Chapter 386 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

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Sec. 2. 1. The board of trustees of a school district may authorize a local government located within the school district or the private sector, or both, to establish a program for the care of children on the property of a school within the school district.

2. A board of trustees that authorizes such a program shall:

- (a) Adopt written rules providing for the administration of the program; and
- (b) Make the rules available, upon request, for public inspection.
- 3. The provisions of NRS 393.071 to 393.0719, inclusive, do not apply to the use of school property by a board of trustees for the operation of a program for the care of children pursuant to this section.



- Sec. 3. 1. The board of trustees of a school district may, in consultation with the local governments located within the school district or representatives from the private sector, or both:
- (a) Establish a program to provide, at various schools in the district, health care and other social services for pupils, family members of pupils and other persons who reside in the district.
- (b) To facilitate the establishment of such a program, enter into an interlocal agreement with the board of county commissioners of the county in which the school district is located concerning the provision of health care and other social services.
- 2. The board of trustees of a school district that establishes a program to provide health care and other social services shall:
- (a) Hold at least three public meetings concerning the administration of the program;
- (b) Adopt written rules providing for the administration of the program; and
- (c) Make the rules available, upon request, for public inspection.
- 3. A program to provide health care and other social services pursuant to this section must:
- (a) Provide for the imposition of reasonable fees for the provision of services and a schedule of alternative fees for those persons who demonstrate that they require financial assistance; and
- (b) Include at least one mobile unit that provides health services to persons who reside in rural areas.
- 4. The provisions of NRS 393.071 to 393.0719, inclusive, do not apply to the use of school property by a board of trustees for the operation of a program to provide health care and other social services pursuant to this section.
- 5. As used in this section, "social services" includes, without limitation:
  - (a) Public assistance as that term is defined in NRS 422.050;
  - (b) Medicaid; and

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- 35 (c) Services to aging persons as described in chapter 427A of NRS.
  - **Sec. 4.** NRS 386.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:
  - 386.010 1. [County] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, county school districts, the boundaries of which are conterminous with the boundaries of the counties of the State, are hereby created. The Carson City School District shall be considered as a county school district.
    - 2. The public schools within:
- 44 (a) Lincoln County are under the direction and control of the 45 Clark County School District;



(b) Esmeralda County are under the direction and control of the Nye County School District; and

- (c) Storey County are under the direction and control of the Washoe County School District.
- **3.** Each county school district created by this chapter is hereby declared to be a political subdivision of the State of Nevada whose purpose is to administer the state system of public education.
- [3.] 4. Each school district shall have the power to sue and may be sued.
  - **Sec. 5.** NRS 386.030 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 2. The school district that includes the public schools within both:
- (a) Clark County and Lincoln County shall be deemed the Clark County School District.
- (b) Nye County and Esmeralda County shall be deemed the Nye County School District.
- (c) Washoe County and Storey County shall be deemed the Washoe County School District.
  - **Sec. 6.** NRS 386.110 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 386.110 1. The trustees of a school district shall constitute a board, which is hereby created a body corporate.
- 3. The board of trustees of the school district that includes the public schools within both:
- (a) Clark County and Lincoln County shall be deemed the Board of Trustees of the Clark County School District.
- (b) Nye County and Esmeralda County shall be deemed the Board of Trustees of the Nye County School District.
- (c) Washoe County and Storey County shall be deemed the Board of Trustees of the Washoe County School District.
  - **Sec. 7.** NRS 386.120 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 42 386.120 1. The board of trustees of a county school district 43 consists of five or seven members as follows:
  - (a) [If] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, if 1,000 or more pupils were enrolled during the school year next preceding



any general election, the board of trustees consists of seven members. Except in school districts in which more than 25,000 pupils are enrolled, the members of the board must be elected at large until such time as an alternate manner of election is adopted pursuant to NRS 386.200 or NRS 386.205, 386.215 and 386.225.

- (b) If fewer than 1,000 pupils were enrolled during the school year next preceding any general election, the board of trustees consists of five members. The members of the board must be elected as provided in NRS 386.160 until such time as an alternate manner of election is adopted pursuant to NRS 386.200 or NRS 386.205, 386.215 and 386.225.
- (c) If 1,000 or more, but fewer than 1,500 pupils were enrolled during the school year next preceding any general election, the board of trustees consists of seven members unless the board, on or before December 1 in any year before a general election will be held, adopts a resolution specifying that the board will consist of five members. If the board consists of seven members, the election of members is governed by paragraph (a). If the board consists of five members, the election of members is governed by paragraph (b).
  - 2. The board of trustees of the:

- (a) Clark County School District consists of one additional member as set forth in subsection 2 of NRS 386.165.
- (b) Washoe County School District consists of one additional member as set forth in subsection 4 of NRS 386.165.
- (c) Nye County School District consists of one additional member as set forth in NRS 386.200 or 386.205, as applicable.
- 3. Before the adoption of a resolution pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1, the board of trustees shall post conspicuously, in three different places in the school district, a notice containing in full the text of the resolution with the date upon which the board of trustees of the school district is to meet to act upon the resolution. Posting of the notice must be made not less than 10 days before the date fixed in the resolution for action thereon.
- [3.] 4. If a board of trustees adopts a resolution pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1, it must transmit a copy of the resolution to the Superintendent of Public Instruction on or before December 15 of the year before the general election will be held.
  - **Sec. 8.** NRS 386.165 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 386.165 1. In each county school district in which more than 75,000 pupils are enrolled, the board of trustees shall establish seven election districts for school trustees. The districts must be:
  - (a) As nearly equal in population as practicable; and
  - (b) Composed of contiguous territory.



- 2. In addition to the election districts created pursuant to subsection 1, the voters of Lincoln County shall constitute a single election district for the election of one additional trustee to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Clark County School District.
- 3. In each county school district in which more than 25,000 pupils but not more than 75,000 pupils are enrolled, the board of trustees shall establish seven election districts for school trustees, as follows:
- (a) Five districts which are as nearly equal in population as practicable, each of which includes approximately one-fifth of the population of the county; and
- (b) Two districts which are as nearly equal in population as practicable, each of which includes approximately one-half of the population of the county.

The districts must be composed of contiguous territory.

- [3.] 4. In addition to the election districts created pursuant to subsection 3, the voters of Storey County shall constitute a single election district for the election of one additional trustee to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Washoe County School District.
- 5. Each trustee of a school district to which this section applies must reside in the election district which he represents and be elected by the voters of that election district.
- [4.] 6. In each school district in which more than 25,000 pupils are enrolled, the term of a school trustee is 4 years. Three trustees must be elected at the general election of 1982, and four trustees must be elected at the general election of 1984.
  - **Sec. 9.** NRS 386.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 386.200 1. In addition to the manner of election provided in NRS 386.205, 386.215 and 386.225, the trustees of a county school district may be elected from school trustee election areas in the alternate manner provided in this section.
- 2. Within 30 days before May 1 of any year in which a general election is to be held in the State, 10 percent or more of the registered voters of a county school district in which 25,000 or fewer pupils are enrolled may file a written petition with the board of county commissioners of the county praying for the creation of school trustee election areas within the county school district in the manner provided in this section. The petition must specify with particularity the school trustee election areas proposed to be created, the number of trustees to be elected from each area, and the manner of their nomination and election. If the petition provides for the election of trustees of the Nye County School District, the petition must include an election area comprised solely of the voters of Esmeralda County for the election of one additional trustee to the Board of Trustees of the Nye County School District. The number



of school trustee election areas proposed must not exceed the number of trustees authorized by law for the particular county school district. The description of the proposed school trustee election areas need not be given by metes and bounds or by legal subdivisions, but must be sufficient to enable a person to ascertain what territory is proposed to be included within a particular school trustee election area. The signatures to the petition need not all be appended to one paper, but each signer must add to his name his place of residence, giving the street and number whenever practicable. One of the signers of each paper shall swear or affirm, before a person competent to administer oaths, that each signature to the paper appended is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be.

- 3. Immediately after the receipt of the petition, the board of county commissioners shall fix a date for a public hearing to be held during the month of May, and shall give notice thereof by publication at least once in a newspaper published in the county, or if no such newspaper is published therein then in a newspaper published in the State of Nevada and having a general circulation in the county. The costs of publication of the notice is a proper charge against the county school district fund.
- 4. If, as a result of the public hearing, the board of county commissioners finds that the creation of school trustee election areas within the county school district is desirable, the board of county commissioners shall, by resolution regularly adopted before June 1, divide the county school district into the number of school trustee election areas specified in the petition, designate them by number and define their boundaries. The territory comprising each school trustee election area must be contiguous. The resolution must further set forth the number of trustees to be elected from each school trustee election area and the manner of their nomination and election. If the petition is for the Nye County School District, the resolution must include an election area comprised solely of the voters of Esmeralda County for the election of one additional trustee to the Board of Trustees of the Nye County School District.
- 5. Before June 1 and immediately following the adoption of the resolution creating school trustee election areas within a county school district, the clerk of the board of county commissioners shall transmit a certified copy of the resolution to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 6. Upon the creation of school trustee election areas within a county school district, the terms of office of all trustees then in office expire on the 1st Monday of January thereafter next following a general election. At the general election held following the creation of school trustee election areas within a county school



district, school trustees to represent the odd-numbered school trustee election areas must be elected for terms of 4 years and school trustees to represent the even-numbered school trustee election areas must be elected for terms of 2 years. Thereafter, at each general election, the offices of school trustees must be filled for terms of 4 years in the order in which the terms of office expire.

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- 7. A candidate for the office of trustee of a county school district in which school trustee election areas have been created must be a qualified elector and a resident of the school trustee election area which he seeks to represent.
- 8. [The] Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the board of county commissioners may by resolution change the boundaries of school trustee election areas or the manner of nomination or election of school trustees after:
- (a) Holding a public hearing of which notice must be given as provided in subsection 3; and
- (b) Receiving, at the hearing or by resolution, the consent of the board of trustees of the school district.

In no event may the election area comprised of Esmeralda County be changed pursuant to this subsection.

- 9. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction certifies to the county clerk that the enrollment of pupils during the preceding school year in a county school district was less than 1,000, or was 1,000 or more but less than 1,500 in a district in which the board of trustees has adopted a resolution in accordance with NRS 386.120 specifying that the board will consist of five members, and the board of trustees of the county school district is composed of seven elected members based upon a previous enrollment of 1,000 or more, the board of county commissioners shall alter the school trustee election areas or change the number of trustees to be elected from the areas, or the manner of their nomination and election, as may be necessary to provide for reduction of the membership of the board of trustees of the county school board from seven to five members, and only five school trustees may thereafter be nominated and elected at the forthcoming elections.
- 10. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction certifies to the county clerk that the enrollment of pupils during the preceding school year in a county school district was 1,000 or more, and the board of trustees of the county school district is composed of five elected members, the board of county commissioners shall alter the school trustee election areas or change the number of trustees to be elected from the areas, or the manner of their nomination and election, as may be necessary to provide for increasing the membership of the board of trustees of the county school district



from five to seven members, and two additional school trustees must thereafter be nominated and elected at the forthcoming elections.

- 11. The provisions of subsection 10 do not apply in a school district in which the pupil enrollment during the preceding school year was 1,000 or more but less than 1,500, and in which the board of trustees of the school district has adopted a resolution specifying that the board will consist of five members.
  - **Sec. 10.** NRS 386.205 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 1. In any county school district in which not more 386.205 than 25,000 pupils are enrolled, the board of trustees may adopt a resolution dividing the geographical area of the school district into a number of election districts identical to the number of trustees.
- 2. If the resolution is adopted for the Nye County School District, the resolution must include an election district comprised solely of the voters of Esmeralda County for the election of one additional trustee to the Board of Trustees of the Nye County School District.
  - <del>[2.]</del> 3. The election districts must:
  - (a) Be single-member districts.

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- (b) Be formed with reference to assembly districts as far as is practicable.
  - (c) Have nearly equal populations as far as is practicable.
- [3.] 4. This section does not authorize any change in the number of members of the board of trustees.
- [4.] 5. If a board of trustees adopts a resolution pursuant to this section, the members of the board continue to hold office until the next following general election.
- [5.] 6. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires, "assembly district" means any district created pursuant to the provisions of chapter 218 of NRS for the election of Assemblymen.
  - **Sec. 11.** NRS 386.225 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 386.225 1. Election districts created pursuant to NRS 386.205 may be constructed so that the:
- (a) Voters in each election district elect a trustee to represent them: or
- (b) [Trustees] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 of **NRS** 386.205, trustees are elected by all of the voters in the county school district.
- 40 In either case, each trustee must be a resident of the election district which he represents throughout his term of office.
  - 2. The board of trustees shall adopt a resolution, after a public hearing on the matter, determining whether each trustee will be elected solely by the voters in his election district or, except as



otherwise provided in subsection 2 of NRS 386.205, all of the voters in the county school district.

- **Sec. 12.** NRS 386.550 is hereby amended to read as follows: 386.550 1. A charter school shall:
- (a) Comply with all laws and regulations relating to discrimination and civil rights.
- (b) Remain nonsectarian, including, without limitation, in its educational programs, policies for admission and employment practices.
- (c) Refrain from charging tuition or fees, levying taxes or issuing bonds.
  - (d) Comply with any plan for desegregation ordered by a court that is in effect in the school district in which the charter school is located.
    - (e) Comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS.
  - (f) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, schedule and provide annually at least as many days of instruction as are required of other public schools located in the same school district as the charter school is located. The governing body of a charter school may submit a written request to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for a waiver from providing the days of instruction required by this paragraph. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may grant such a request if the governing body demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Superintendent that:
    - (1) Extenuating circumstances exist to justify the waiver; and
  - (2) The charter school will provide at least as many hours or minutes of instruction as would be provided under a program consisting of [180] 185 days.
  - (g) Cooperate with the board of trustees of the school district in the administration of the achievement and proficiency examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 and the examinations required pursuant to NRS 389.550 to the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school.
  - (h) Comply with applicable statutes and regulations governing the achievement and proficiency of pupils in this state.
  - (i) Provide instruction in the core academic subjects set forth in subsection 1 of NRS 389.018, as applicable for the grade levels of pupils who are enrolled in the charter school, and provide at least the courses of study that are required of pupils by statute or regulation for promotion to the next grade or graduation from a public high school and require the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school to take those courses of study. This paragraph does not preclude a charter school from offering, or requiring the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school to take, other courses of study that are required by statute or regulation.



(j) If the parent or legal guardian of a child submits an application to enroll in kindergarten, first grade or second grade at the charter school, comply with NRS 392.040 regarding the ages for enrollment in those grades.

- (k) Refrain from using public money to purchase real property or buildings without the approval of the sponsor.
- (1) Hold harmless, indemnify and defend the sponsor of the charter school against any claim or liability arising from an act or omission by the governing body of the charter school or an employee or officer of the charter school. An action at law may not be maintained against the sponsor of a charter school for any cause of action for which the charter school has obtained liability insurance.
- (m) Provide written notice to the parents or legal guardians of pupils in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, who are enrolled in the charter school of whether the charter school is accredited by the Commission on Schools of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.
- (n) Adopt a final budget in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Department. A charter school is not required to adopt a final budget pursuant to NRS 354.598 or otherwise comply with the provisions of chapter 354 of NRS.
- (o) If the charter school provides a program of distance education pursuant to NRS 388.820 to 388.874, inclusive, comply with all statutes and regulations that are applicable to a program of distance education for purposes of the operation of the program.
- 2. A charter school shall not provide instruction through a program of distance education to children who are exempt from compulsory attendance authorized by the State Board pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 392.070. As used in this subsection, "distance education" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388.826.
  - **Sec. 13.** NRS 386.550 is hereby amended to read as follows: 386.550 1. A charter school shall:
- (a) Comply with all laws and regulations relating to discrimination and civil rights.
- (b) Remain nonsectarian, including, without limitation, in its educational programs, policies for admission and employment practices.
- (c) Refrain from charging tuition or fees, levying taxes or issuing bonds.
- (d) Comply with any plan for desegregation ordered by a court that is in effect in the school district in which the charter school is located.
  - (e) Comply with the provisions of chapter 241 of NRS.



(f) Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, schedule and provide annually at least as many days of instruction as are required of other public schools located in the same school district as the charter school is located. The governing body of a charter school may submit a written request to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for a waiver from providing the days of instruction required by this paragraph. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may grant such a request if the governing body demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Superintendent that:

- (1) Extenuating circumstances exist to justify the waiver; and
- (2) The charter school will provide at least as many hours or minutes of instruction as would be provided under a program consisting of [185] 190 days.
- (g) Cooperate with the board of trustees of the school district in the administration of the achievement and proficiency examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 and the examinations required pursuant to NRS 389.550 to the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school.
- (h) Comply with applicable statutes and regulations governing the achievement and proficiency of pupils in this state.
- (i) Provide instruction in the core academic subjects set forth in subsection 1 of NRS 389.018, as applicable for the grade levels of pupils who are enrolled in the charter school, and provide at least the courses of study that are required of pupils by statute or regulation for promotion to the next grade or graduation from a public high school and require the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school to take those courses of study. This paragraph does not preclude a charter school from offering, or requiring the pupils who are enrolled in the charter school to take, other courses of study that are required by statute or regulation.
- (j) If the parent or legal guardian of a child submits an application to enroll in kindergarten, first grade or second grade at the charter school, comply with NRS 392.040 regarding the ages for enrollment in those grades.
- (k) Refrain from using public money to purchase real property or buildings without the approval of the sponsor.
- (1) Hold harmless, indemnify and defend the sponsor of the charter school against any claim or liability arising from an act or omission by the governing body of the charter school or an employee or officer of the charter school. An action at law may not be maintained against the sponsor of a charter school for any cause of action for which the charter school has obtained liability insurance.
- (m) Provide written notice to the parents or legal guardians of pupils in grades 9 to 12, inclusive, who are enrolled in the charter



school of whether the charter school is accredited by the Commission on Schools of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.

- (n) Adopt a final budget in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Department. A charter school is not required to adopt a final budget pursuant to NRS 354.598 or otherwise comply with the provisions of chapter 354 of NRS.
- (o) If the charter school provides a program of distance education pursuant to NRS 388.820 to 388.874, inclusive, comply with all statutes and regulations that are applicable to a program of distance education for purposes of the operation of the program.
- 2. A charter school shall not provide instruction through a program of distance education to children who are exempt from compulsory attendance authorized by the State Board pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 392.070. As used in this subsection, "distance education" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 388.826.
- **Sec. 14.** NRS 387.1233 is hereby amended to read as follows: 387.1233 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, basic support of each school district must be computed by:
- (a) Multiplying the basic support guarantee per pupil established for that school district for that school year by the sum of:
- (1) [Six tenths] Except for those pupils enrolled in kindergarten who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2), sixtenths the count of pupils enrolled in the kindergarten department on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year, including, without limitation, the count of pupils who reside in the county and are enrolled in any charter school on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.
- (2) The count of pupils enrolled in *kindergarten for a full school day and the count of pupils enrolled in* grades 1 to 12, inclusive, on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year, including, without limitation, the count of pupils who reside in the county and are enrolled in any charter school on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.
- (3) The count of pupils not included under subparagraph (1) or (2) who are enrolled full-time in a program of distance education provided by that school district or a charter school located within that school district on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.
- (4) The count of pupils who reside in the county and are enrolled:
- (I) In a public school of the school district and are concurrently enrolled part-time in a program of distance education



provided by another school district or a charter school on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year, expressed as a percentage of the total time services are provided to those pupils per school day in proportion to the total time services are provided during a school day to pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2).

- (II) In a charter school and are concurrently enrolled parttime in a program of distance education provided by a school district or another charter school on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year, expressed as a percentage of the total time services are provided to those pupils per school day in proportion to the total time services are provided during a school day to pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2).
- (5) The count of pupils not included under subparagraph (1), (2), (3) or (4), who are receiving special education pursuant to the provisions of NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive, on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year, excluding the count of pupils who have not attained the age of 5 years and who are receiving special education pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 388.490 on that day.
- (6) Six-tenths the count of pupils who have not attained the age of 5 years and who are receiving special education pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 388.490 on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.
- (7) The count of children detained in detention homes, alternative programs and juvenile forestry camps receiving instruction pursuant to the provisions of NRS 388.550, 388.560 and 388.570 on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year.
- (8) The count of pupils who are enrolled in classes for at least one semester pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 386.560, subsection 4 of NRS 386.580 or subsection 3 of NRS 392.070, expressed as a percentage of the total time services are provided to those pupils per school day in proportion to the total time services are provided during a school day to pupils who are counted pursuant to subparagraph (2).
- (b) Multiplying the number of special education program units maintained and operated by the amount per program established for that school year.
  - (c) Adding the amounts computed in paragraphs (a) and (b).
- 2. If the enrollment of pupils in a school district or a charter school that is located within the school district on the last day of the first school month of the school district for the school year is less than the enrollment of pupils in the same school district or charter school on the last day of the first school month of the school district



- for either or both of the immediately preceding 2 school years, the largest number must be used from among the 3 years for purposes of apportioning money from the State Distributive School Account to that school district or charter school pursuant to NRS 387.124.
- 3. Pupils who are excused from attendance at examinations or have completed their work in accordance with the rules of the board of trustees must be credited with attendance during that period.
- 4. Pupils who are incarcerated in a facility or institution operated by the Department of Corrections must not be counted for the purpose of computing basic support pursuant to this section. The average daily attendance for such pupils must be reported to the Department.
- 5. Pupils who are enrolled in courses which are approved by the Department as meeting the requirements for an adult to earn a high school diploma must not be counted for the purpose of computing basic support pursuant to this section.
- **Sec. 15.** Chapter 388 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall establish at least one magnet school at the:
  - (a) Elementary school level;
  - (b) Junior high or middle school level; and
  - (c) High school level.

- 2. The board of trustees of each school district shall ensure that a parent or guardian of a pupil who is enrolled in the school district is allowed to submit an application to attend a magnet school pursuant to section 45 of this act, regardless of the zone of attendance of the pupil.
- 3. As used in this section, "magnet school" means a school that offers courses of study and programs which are designed to serve the special talents and academic abilities of pupils or emphasize a particular area, field or topic of instruction, or both.
  - **Sec. 16.** NRS 388.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 388.040 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the board of trustees of a school district that includes more than one school which offers instruction in the same grade or grades may zone the school district and determine which pupils shall attend each school.
- 2. The establishment of zones pursuant to subsection 1 does not preclude a pupil from attending [a charter school.]:
  - (a) A charter school; or
- (b) A public school outside the zone of attendance that the pupil is otherwise required to attend if the board of trustees of a school district approves an application for the pupil to attend another public school pursuant to section 45 of this act.



**Sec. 17.** NRS 388.060 is hereby amended to read as follows: 388.060 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the board of trustees of each school district shall establish, equip and maintain a kindergarten in each elementary school or each school attendance area in the district. If, on or before June 1 immediately preceding the school year, admittance to kindergarten has been requested for fewer than 15 children, the mandatory provisions of this subsection do not apply to that school, and the board may decide whether to establish a kindergarten for those children. If the board decides not to establish such a kindergarten, it may provide:

- (a) Transportation for each child to enable him to attend kindergarten at another school; or
- (b) Upon agreement with a child's parent or guardian, an authorized program of instruction for kindergarten to be offered in the child's home, which includes, without limitation, assigning licensed educational personnel to assist and consult with the parent or guardian as necessary.
- 2. The board of trustees of a school district in which a kindergarten is to be established under the provisions of this title of NRS shall budget for this purpose by including the costs in the next regular budget for the school district [-], including, without limitation, the provision of kindergarten for a full school day to children who are at risk.
  - **Sec. 18.** NRS 388.090 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 388.090 1. Except as otherwise permitted pursuant to this section, boards of trustees of school districts shall schedule and provide a minimum of [180] 185 days of free school in the districts under their charge.
- 2. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may, upon application by a board of trustees, authorize a reduction of not more than 15 school days in a particular district to establish or maintain a 12-month school program or a program involving alternative scheduling, if the board of trustees demonstrates that the proposed schedule for the program provides for a greater number of minutes of instruction than would be provided under a program consisting of [180] 185 school days. Before authorizing a reduction in the number of required school days pursuant to this subsection, the Superintendent of Public Instruction must find that the proposed schedule will be used to alleviate problems associated with a growth in enrollment or overcrowding, or to establish and maintain a program of alternative schooling, including, without limitation, a program of distance education provided by the board of trustees pursuant to NRS 388.820 to 388.874, inclusive.
- 3. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may, upon application by a board of trustees, authorize the addition of minutes



of instruction to any scheduled day of free school if days of free school are lost because of any interscholastic activity. Not more than 5 days of free school so lost may be rescheduled in this manner.

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- 4. Each school district shall schedule at least 3 contingent days of school in addition to the number of days required by this section which must be used if a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a majority of the facilities within the district.
- 5. If more than 3 days of free school are lost because a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a majority of the facilities within a school district, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, upon application by the school district, may permit the additional days lost to be counted as school days in session. The application must be submitted in the manner prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 6. The State Board shall adopt regulations providing procedures for changing schedules of instruction to be used if a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a particular school within a school district.

**Sec. 19.** NRS 388.090 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 388.090 1. Except as otherwise permitted pursuant to this section, boards of trustees of school districts shall schedule and provide a minimum of [185] 190 days of free school in the districts under their charge.
- 2. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may, upon application by a board of trustees, authorize a reduction of not more than 15 school days in a particular district to establish or maintain a 12-month school program or a program involving alternative scheduling, if the board of trustees demonstrates that the proposed schedule for the program provides for a greater number of minutes of instruction than would be provided under a program consisting of [185] 190 school days. Before authorizing a reduction in the number of required school days pursuant to this subsection, the Superintendent of Public Instruction must find that the proposed schedule will be used to alleviate problems associated with a growth in enrollment or overcrowding, or to establish and maintain a program of alternative schooling, including, without limitation, a program of distance education provided by the board of trustees pursuant to NRS 388.820 to 388.874, inclusive.
- 3. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may, upon application by a board of trustees, authorize the addition of minutes of instruction to any scheduled day of free school if days of free school are lost because of any interscholastic activity. Not more than 5 days of free school so lost may be rescheduled in this manner.



4. Each school district shall schedule at least 3 contingent days of school in addition to the number of days required by this section which must be used if a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a majority of the facilities within the district.

- 5. If more than 3 days of free school are lost because a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a majority of the facilities within a school district, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, upon application by the school district, may permit the additional days lost to be counted as school days in session. The application must be submitted in the manner prescribed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 6. The State Board shall adopt regulations providing procedures for changing schedules of instruction to be used if a natural disaster, inclement weather or an accident necessitates the closing of a particular school within a school district.
  - **Sec. 20.** NRS 388.829 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 388.829 "Program of distance education" means a program comprised of one or more courses of distance education that is designed for pupils who:
- 1. Are participating in a program for pupils who are at risk of dropping out of high school pursuant to NRS 388.537.
- 2. Are participating in a program of independent study pursuant to NRS 389.155.
- 3. Are enrolled in a public school that does not offer fadvanced:
  - (a) Advanced or specialized courses [...]; or
- (b) Elective courses of study that may be applied toward the credit required for graduation.
- 4. Have a physical or mental condition that would otherwise require an excuse from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.050.
- 5. Would otherwise be excused from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.080.
- 6. Are otherwise prohibited from attending public school pursuant to NRS 392.264, 392.4642 to 392.4648, inclusive, 392.466, 392.467 or 392.4675.
- 7. Are otherwise permitted to enroll in a program of distance education provided by the board of trustees of a school district if the board of trustees determines that special circumstances warrant enrollment for the pupil.
- 8. Are otherwise permitted to enroll in a program of distance education provided by the governing body of a charter school if the governing body of the charter school determines that special circumstances warrant enrollment for the pupil.



**Sec. 21.** NRS 388.850 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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- 388.850 1. A pupil may enroll in a program of distance education only if the pupil satisfies the requirements of any other applicable statute and the pupil:
- (a) Is participating in a program for pupils at risk of dropping out of high school pursuant to NRS 388.537;
- (b) Is participating in a program of independent study pursuant to NRS 389.155;
  - (c) Is enrolled in a public school that does not offer [certain]:
- (1) Certain advanced or specialized courses that the pupil desires to attend; or
- (2) An elective course of study that the pupil desires to apply toward the credit required for graduation;
- (d) Has a physical or mental condition that would otherwise require an excuse from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.050;
- (e) Would otherwise be excused from compulsory attendance pursuant to NRS 392.080:
- (f) Is otherwise prohibited from attending public school pursuant to NRS 392.264, 392.4642 to 392.4648, inclusive, 392.466, 392.467 or 392.4675;
- (g) Is otherwise permitted to enroll in a program of distance education provided by the board of trustees of a school district if the board of trustees determines that the circumstances warrant enrollment for the pupil; or
- (h) Is otherwise permitted to enroll in a program of distance education provided by the governing body of a charter school if the governing body of the charter school determines that the circumstances warrant enrollment for the pupil.
- 2. In addition to the eligibility for enrollment set forth in subsection 1, a pupil must satisfy the qualifications and conditions for enrollment in a program of distance education adopted by the State Board pursuant to NRS 388.874.
- 3. A child who is exempt from compulsory attendance and receiving equivalent instruction authorized by the State Board pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 392.070 is not eligible to enroll in or otherwise attend a program of distance education, regardless of whether he is otherwise eligible for enrollment pursuant to subsection 1.
- 4. If a pupil who is prohibited from attending public school pursuant to NRS 392.264 enrolls in a program of distance education, the enrollment and attendance of that pupil must comply with all requirements of NRS 62.405 to 62.485, inclusive, and 392.251 to 392.271, inclusive.



5. If a pupil is eligible for enrollment in a program of distance education pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1, he may enroll in the program of distance education only to take those advanced or specialized courses *or elective courses of study* that are not offered at the public school he otherwise attends.

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- **Sec. 22.** Chapter 389 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 23 and 24 of this act.
- Sec. 23. 1. In addition to the examinations that are required by this chapter, the board of trustees of each school district shall ensure that each public school within the district administers to all pupils who are enrolled in the district in a grade level at or above the 4th grade, a reading comprehension examination to determine the reading level of those pupils. The examination must be administered as a preexamination at the beginning of each school year and as postexamination at the end of each school year. The governing body of each charter school shall administer the preexamination and postexamination to all pupils enrolled in the charter school in a grade level at or above the 4th grade. The examination that is administered pursuant to this subsection must be selected from the list of approved examinations prepared by the Department pursuant to subsection 2.
- 2. On or before August 1 of each year, the Department shall prepare and publish a list of not more than three examinations of reading comprehension. The examinations selected by the Department must be examinations that have proven to be successful in evaluating reading comprehension and determining reading level. The list must contain the name of each examination that is approved for each grade level, the vendor, if any, of the examination and the entity from which the examination may be obtained. On or before August 15 of each year, the Department shall transmit a copy of the list to the board of trustees of each school district for transmission to each public school within the school district, including, without limitation, each charter school in the school district.
- 3. If 50 percent or more of the pupils enrolled in a school receive scores on the reading comprehension examination that place them below the 4th grade level in reading, the school shall, if it receives money from this state made available by legislative appropriation for the purposes of NRS 385.389:
- (a) Expend not less than 25 percent of that money to provide training and education to all educational personnel employed at the school on effective methods to teach reading to pupils; and
- (b) Identify which pupils are reading below the 4th grade level and ensure that those pupils receive appropriate remediation.



- Sec. 24. 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall establish a program for the administration of the achievement and proficiency examinations required by NRS 389.015 and 389.550 on the weekends rather than during the regular school week at the time prescribed by the State Board pursuant to NRS 389.015 or 389.550, as applicable, for pupils who are enrolled in junior high, middle school or high school. The program must:
- (a) Provide for the staffing of the program in accordance with subsection 2; and
- (b) Include a description of the manner by which the school district will ensure the security and confidentiality of the examinations.
- 2. The board of trustees of each school district shall, in consultation with each organization or association that represents licensed educational personnel in the school district, arrange the schedules of the teachers and other licensed educational personnel in the district to ensure that an appropriate number of personnel are present to administer the examinations on the weekends. The scheduling must include provisions for rotational staffing to ensure that the educational personnel assigned to administer the examinations are not required to work each weekend that the examinations are administered during a school year.
  - **Sec. 25.** 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) Writing;
- (c) Mathematics; and
- (d) Science.
- 2. The examinations required by subsection 1 must be:
- (a) Administered before the completion of grades 4, 8, 10 and 11.
- (b) Administered in each school district and each charter school at the same time [.] for the grade level tested. The time for the administration of the examinations must be prescribed by the State Board [.] and must provide for administration on the weekends pursuant to section 24 of this act.
- (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 the Department or a single private entity that has contracted with the State Board to score the examinations. If a private entity scores the examinations, it 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 or the Department completes the scoring of the examinations, the 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 as soon as practicable but not later than 15 working days after the school receives the results of the examination.
- 4. Different standards of proficiency may be adopted for pupils with diagnosed learning disabilities. If a pupil with a disability is unable to take an examination created by a private entity under



testing conditions or with modifications accommodations that are approved by the private entity, the pupil 2 may take the examination with modifications and accommodations that are approved by the State Board pursuant to subsection 8. If a pupil with a disability is unable to take an examination created by the Department under regular testing conditions or with modifications and accommodations that are approved by the Department, the pupil may take the examination with modifications and accommodations that are approved by the State Board pursuant to subsection 8. The results of an examination that is taken under 10 conditions that are not approved by a private entity or the Department, as applicable, must not be reported pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 389.017. If different standards of proficiency are adopted or other modifications or accommodations are made in the administration of the examinations for a pupil who is enrolled in a program of special education pursuant to NRS 388.440 to 16 17 388.520, inclusive, other than a gifted and talented pupil, the 18 different standards adopted or other modifications accommodations must be set forth in the pupil's program of special education developed in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq., and the standards prescribed by the State Board. During the administration of the high school proficiency examination, a pupil with a disability 24 may be given additional time to complete the examination if the additional time is a modification or accommodation that is approved in the pupil's program of special education developed in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq.

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- 5. If a pupil fails to demonstrate at least adequate achievement on the examination administered before the completion of grade 4, 8 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 been designated as demonstrating need for improvement pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 385.367, 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.
- 6. If a pupil fails to pass the proficiency examination administered before the completion of grade 11, he must not be graduated until he is able, through remedial study, to pass the proficiency examination, but he may be given a certificate of attendance, in place of a diploma, if he has reached the age of 17
- The State Board shall prescribe standard examinations of achievement and proficiency to be administered pursuant to



subsection 1. The high school proficiency examination 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, 8 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, 8 and 10 in this state to that of a national reference group of pupils in grades 4, 8 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 Superintendent of Public Instruction 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.
- 8. The State Board shall prescribe, in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 et seq., the modifications and accommodations that may be used in the administration of an examination to a pupil with a disability who is unable to take the examination under regular testing conditions or with modifications and accommodations that are approved by the private entity that created the examination or, if the Department created the examination, by the Department. These regulations may include, without limitation, authorizing a pupil to complete an examination with additional time.
  - **Sec. 26.** NRS 389.017 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 389.017 1. The State Board shall adopt regulations requiring that each board of trustees of a school district and each governing body of a charter school submit to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Department, in the form and manner prescribed by the Superintendent, the results of achievement and proficiency



examinations given in the 4th, 8th, 10th and 11th grades to public school pupils of the district and charter schools. The State Board shall not include in the regulations any provision which would violate the confidentiality of the test scores of any individual pupil.

- 2. The results of examinations must be reported for each school, including, without limitation, each charter school, school district and this state, as follows:
- (a) The average score, as defined by the Department, of pupils who took the examinations under regular testing conditions; and
- (b) The average score, as defined by the Department, of pupils who took the examinations with modifications or accommodations approved by the private entity that created the examination or, if the Department created the examination, the Department, if such reporting does not violate the confidentiality of the test scores of any individual pupil.
- 3. The Department shall adopt regulations prescribing the requirements for reporting the scores of pupils who:
- (a) Took the examinations under conditions that were not approved by the private entity that created the examination or, if the Department created the examination, by the Department;
  - (b) Are enrolled in special schools for children with disabilities;
- (c) Are enrolled in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of high school, including, without limitation, a program of distance education that is provided to pupils who are at risk of dropping out of high school pursuant to NRS 388.820 to 388.874, inclusive; or
  - (d) Are detained in a:
    - (1) Youth training center;
    - (2) Youth center;
    - (3) Juvenile forestry camp;
    - (4) Detention home;
- (5) Youth camp;

- (6) Juvenile correctional institution; or
- (7) Correctional institution.

The scores reported pursuant to this subsection must not be included in the average scores reported pursuant to subsection 2.

- 4. Not later than 10 days after the Department receives the results of the achievement and proficiency examinations, the Department shall transmit a copy of the results of the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 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.
- 5. On or before November 15 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;

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- (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  $\{\cdot,\cdot\}$ ; and
- (e) The average number of school days, including the average number of hours per school day, used to administer the examinations and to prepare for the examinations.
- On or before December 15 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.
- 6. 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 required pursuant to NRS 389.015 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 except for those pupils who are exempt from taking the examinations. A pupil may be exempt from taking the examinations if:
- (a) His primary language is not English and his proficiency in the English language is below the level that the State Board determines is proficient, as measured by an assessment of proficiency in the English language prescribed by the State Board pursuant to subsection 8; or
- (b) He is enrolled in a program of special education pursuant to NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive, and his program of special education specifies that he is exempt from taking the examinations.
- 7. In addition to the information required by subsection 5, the 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.
- 8. The State Board shall prescribe an assessment of proficiency in the English language for pupils whose primary language is not



English to determine which pupils are exempt from the examinations pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 6.

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**Sec. 27.** NRS 389.165 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 389.165 1. A pupil enrolled in high school who successfully completes a community service project which has been approved pursuant to this section must be allowed to apply not [more] less than one credit received for the completion of the project toward the total number of credits required for graduation from high school. [The] All credit received must be applied toward the pupil's elective course credits and not toward a course that is required for graduation from high school. A pupil may not receive credit for the completion of a community service project if the project duplicates a course of study in which the pupil has received instruction.
- 2. With the approval of the State Board, the board of trustees of each school district shall prescribe for the district the:
  - (a) Community service projects for which credit will be granted;
- (b) Amount of credit which will be granted upon completion of each project;
- (c) Rules regarding how a pupil may apply for such credit upon completion of a community service project; and
- (d) Procedures for obtaining the consent of a parent or legal guardian of a pupil before the pupil may participate in a community service project for which credit will be granted.

Sec. 28. 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 measure the achievement and proficiency of pupils in selected grades in the standards of content established by the Council that are in addition to the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015. The State Board shall, based upon the recommendations of the Council, select the grade levels of pupils that are required to take the examinations and the standards that the examinations must measure.
- 2. 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 [,] for the grade level tested, as prescribed by the State Board. The time for the administration of the examinations prescribed by the State Board must provide for administration on the weekends pursuant to section 24 of this act.
- (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. 29. 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 Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Department and the Council, 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 approved by the private entity that created the examination or, if the Department created the examination, the Department, if such reporting does not violate the confidentiality of the test scores of any individual pupil.
- 3. The Department shall adopt regulations prescribing the requirements for reporting the results of pupils who:
- (a) Took the examinations under conditions that were not approved by the private entity that created the examination or, if the Department created the examination, by the Department;
  - (b) Are enrolled in special schools for children with disabilities;
- (c) Are enrolled in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of high school, including, without limitation, a program of distance education that is provided to pupils who are at risk of dropping out of high school pursuant to NRS 388.820 to 388.874, inclusive; or
  - (d) Are detained in a:



- (1) Youth training center;
- (2) Youth center;

- (3) Juvenile forestry camp;
- (4) Detention home;
- (5) Youth camp;
- (6) Juvenile correctional institution; or
- (7) Correctional institution.

The results reported pursuant to this subsection must not be included in the percentage of pupils reported pursuant to subsection 2.

- 4. 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.
- 5. On or before November 15 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 [...]; and
- (e) The average number of school days, including the average number of hours per school day, used to administer the examinations and to prepare for the examinations.
- On or before December 15 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.
- 6. 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, except for those pupils who are exempt from taking the examinations. A pupil may be exempt from taking the examinations if:
- (a) His primary language is not English and his proficiency in the English language is below the level that the State Board determines is proficient, as measured by an assessment of proficiency in the English language prescribed by the State Board pursuant to subsection 8; or



(b) He is enrolled in a program of special education pursuant to NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive, and his program of special education specifies that he is exempt from taking the examinations.

- 7. In addition to the information required by subsection 5, the 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.
- 8. The State Board shall prescribe an assessment of proficiency in the English language for pupils whose primary language is not English to determine which pupils are exempt from the examinations pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 6.

**Sec. 30.** NRS 390.140 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 390.140 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. *The State Board shall:* 
  - (a) Prepare a list identifying each textbook that is selected.
- (b) Review each textbook that is selected to assess the level of reading comprehension required to understand the textbook.
- (c) Based upon the review pursuant to paragraph (b), for each textbook on the list, indicate the level of reading comprehension required to understand the textbook.
- 2. 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.] 3. 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. 31.** NRS 390.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 390.230 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the textbooks adopted by the State Board must be used in the public schools in this state, and no other books may be used as basic textbooks. A public school within a school district must be allowed to select for use at the school textbooks from the list prepared by the State Board pursuant to NRS 390.140. Upon selection, a



public school shall notify the board of trustees of the school district in which the school is located of the books that have been selected and the number of each book that must be purchased for use at the school. A public school shall select textbooks that are appropriate for the level of reading comprehension of the pupils enrolled in the school based upon the results of the examinations administered pursuant to section 23 of this act. If a public school elects not to select the textbooks for use at the school, the board of trustees of the school district shall select the textbooks for the school that are appropriate for the level of reading comprehension of the pupils enrolled in the school based upon the results of the examinations administered pursuant to section 23 of this act.

2. This section does not prohibit:

- (a) The continued use of such textbooks previously approved until they become unserviceable.
- (b) The use of supplemental textbooks purchased by a school district with the approval of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- (c) After approval by the State Board, the temporary use of textbooks for tryout purposes.
- (d) A charter school from using textbooks other than those adopted for use by the State Board.
- 3. Any school officer or teacher who violates the provisions of this chapter  $\Box$  or *who* knowingly fails to follow the regulations of the State Board relating to use of textbooks shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$250.
- 4. All superintendents, principals, teachers and school officers are charged with the execution of this section.
- **Sec. 32.** Chapter 391 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 33 to 37, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 33. 1. Each written contract or notice of reemployment of a teacher must include a provision that requires all licensed teachers to work additional hours with pay each school day so that each teacher, except for a teacher who is employed less than full time, is required to work 8 hours per school day during the school year. If a school district has entered into a collective bargaining agreement pursuant to chapter 288 of NRS that governs the employment of the licensed teachers of the school district, the times and manner in which a teacher must work the additional hours required by this subsection must be prescribed by the collective bargaining agreement.
- 2. A teacher shall use the additional hours of time he is required to work pursuant to subsection 1 to:



(a) Develop educational plans and programs for use in the classroom; and

- (b) Confer with other teachers and licensed educational personnel concerning educational plans and programs.
- Sec. 34. 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall, in consultation with each organization or association that represents licensed educational personnel in the school district, authorize licensed educational personnel to be absent from employment with pay for 1 day of each school year. The day of excused absence must be used to:
- (a) Visit the home of a parent or legal guardian of a pupil to discuss the academic progress of the pupil or other circumstances concerning the pupil;
- (b) Visit the place of employment of a parent or legal guardian of a pupil, with the approval of the employer, to discuss the academic progress of the pupil or other circumstances concerning the pupil;
- (c) Meet with persons who represent private industry to develop any programs offered within the school district regarding occupational education or vocational education; or
- (d) Engage in some combination of the activities listed in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c).
- 2. Each teacher who is absent from employment for 1 day for the purposes set forth in subsection 1 shall submit to the board of trustees of the school district written documentation that the teacher used the time to carry out the requirements of subsection 1.
- Sec. 35. 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall prepare a list that includes the name of each teacher employed by the school district who is assigned by the school district to:
- (a) Teach in an area outside of his licensure or endorsement; or
- (b) Carry out a special assignment or program other than what the teacher was hired to perform.
- The list must indicate, for each name of a teacher included, the type of license and endorsement, if applicable, held by that teacher.
- 2. The board of trustees of each school district shall submit the list prepared pursuant to subsection 1 to the State Board and the Department on or before January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1.
- **Sec. 36.** 1. The board of trustees of a school district may 44 employ a person who is not licensed pursuant to this chapter to 45 serve as a principal or vice principal of a school if the person:



(a) Holds a master's degree in business administration or a master's degree in public administration from an accredited college or university;

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(b) Submits a full set of his fingerprints and written permission authorizing the school district to forward his fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History for their reports on the criminal history of the person; and

(c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, submits a written statement indicating his willingness and intention to complete, during his first year of employment, courses or seminars, or both, prescribed by the board of trustees to ensure that the employee fully understands the academic programs of the school and other instructional programs of the school.

- 2. If a person is hired as a principal or vice principal of a school pursuant to this section, he must, upon completion of his first year of employment and within the time prescribed by the board of trustees, submit written verification to the board of trustees of the school district indicating that he has successfully completed the courses or seminars, or both, prescribed by the board of trustees pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 391.3197 to the contrary, if the employee does not submit the written verification upon completion of his first year of employment and within the time prescribed by the board of trustees, he is no longer eligible for employment pursuant to this section with any board of trustees of a school district.
- 3. If the employee submits the written verification required by subsection 2 to the board of trustees of the school district upon completion of his first year of employment and within the time prescribed by the board of trustees, he:
- (a) May be reemployed by the board of trustees that initially hired him.
- (b) May be employed with any board of trustees of a school district in this state without being required to again take the courses and seminars required by subsection 1.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in this section, if a person is employed as a principal or vice principal of a school pursuant to this section, the person:
- (a) Shall be deemed a licensed employee and a licensed administrator of the school district.
- 42 (b) Is entitled to all benefits, rights and privileges conferred by 43 statutes and regulations on the licensed employees of a school
  - (c) Shall comply with all applicable statutes and regulations.



5. In no event may a person who is employed pursuant to this section provide instruction in a classroom.

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Sec. 37. A person who is employed by the board of trustees of a school district to teach or perform other educational services at a school as a licensed employee may submit a request to the board of trustees of the school district for a transfer or reassignment to another school, regardless of the number of consecutive years, if any, that the person has been employed at the school.

**Sec. 38.** NRS 391.095 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.095 1. A school district may enter into an agreement with a branch of the University and Community College System of Nevada or an accredited postsecondary educational institution which is licensed by the Commission on Postsecondary Education and which offers courses of study and training for the education of teachers which are approved or recognized by the State Board pursuant to NRS 391.038, for the assignment of students for training purposes as student teachers, counselors or trainees in a library, or for experience in a teaching laboratory. Students so assigned within the school district for training purposes may, under the direction and supervision of a licensed teacher  $\square$  who has at least 5 years of teaching experience, instruct and supervise pupils in the school, on the school grounds or on authorized field trips. At no time may a student so assigned be allowed to conduct a classroom in the absence of the teacher who is assigned to that classroom unless the student is otherwise supervised by a licensed teacher who has at least 5 years of teaching experience. The students so assigned are employees of the school district for *the* purposes of NRS 41.038 and 41.039 \, while performing such authorized duties, whether or not the duties are performed entirely in the presence of the licensed teacher.

- 2. A student who is assigned to a particular school may request a transfer from that school to another school within the school district. Before a student makes such a request, the student must inform the professor or instructor who supervises the student's assignment at the University or postsecondary educational institution of the reasons for his request. A school district shall not reprimand or otherwise take adverse action against a student who makes such a request.
  - **3.** As used in this section:
  - (a) "Accredited" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 394.006.
- (b) "Postsecondary educational institution" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 394.099.
  - **Sec. 39.** NRS 391.125 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 391.125 1. If the board of trustees of a school district determines that a shortage of teachers exists within the school



district in a particular subject area, the board of trustees may submit a written request to the Superintendent of Public Instruction to employ persons who are licensed teachers but who do not hold an endorsement to teach in the subject area for which there is a shortage of teachers. The Superintendent of Public Instruction may grant such a request if the Superintendent determines that a shortage of teachers exists in the subject area. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction grants a request pursuant to this subsection, a person who holds a license to teach but not an endorsement in the subject area for which the request was granted may be employed by the school district for not more than [2 school years] I school year to teach in that subject area [.] if the school district first obtains a written agreement from the licensed teacher to teach in that subject area.

2. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction grants a request pursuant to subsection 1, the Superintendent shall submit a written report to the Commission that includes the name of the school district for which the request was granted and the subject area for which the request was granted. Upon receipt of such a report, the Commission shall consider whether to adopt revisions to the requirements for an endorsement in that subject area to address the shortage of teachers.

**Sec. 40.** 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. 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 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.

- 3. 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 6:
- (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.
- 4. A school district [may] shall give the credit required by subsection 3 for previous teaching service earned in another state if the Commission has approved the standards for licensing teachers of that state. The Commission shall adopt regulations that establish the criteria by which the Commission 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 has authorized reciprocal licensure of educational personnel from the state under consideration.
- 5. In determining the salary of a licensed administrator, including, without limitation, a principal or vice principal employed pursuant to section 36 of this act, 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 6:
- (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.
  - 6. 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.
  - 7. 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 [;], including, without limitation, service as an employee pursuant to section 36 of this act; 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. 41.** NRS 391.165 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 391.165 1. Except as otherwise provided in [subsection 3 of] this section and except as otherwise required as a result of NRS 286.537, the board of trustees of a school district shall pay the cost for a licensed teacher to purchase [one fifth] one-fourth of a year of service pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 286.300 if:
- (a) The teacher is a member of the Public Employees' Retirement System and has at least 5 years of service;
- (b) The teacher has been employed as a licensed teacher in this state for at least 5 consecutive school years, regardless of whether the employment was with one or more school districts in this state;
- (c) Each evaluation of the teacher conducted pursuant to NRS 391.3125 is at least satisfactory for the years of employment required by paragraph (b); and
- (d) In addition to the years of employment required by paragraph (b), the teacher has been employed as a licensed teacher for 1 school year at a school within the school district which, for that school year, carries the designation of demonstrating need for improvement pursuant to NRS 385.367.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in [subsection 3,] this section, the board of trustees of a school district shall pay the cost for a



licensed teacher to purchase [one-fifth] one-half of a year of service pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 286.300 if:

- (a) The teacher is a member of the Public Employees' Retirement System and has at least 5 years of service;
- (b) The teacher has been employed as a licensed teacher in this state for at least 5 consecutive school years, regardless of whether the employment was with one or more school districts in this state:
- (c) Each evaluation of the teacher conducted pursuant to NRS 391.3125 is at least satisfactory for the years of employment required by paragraph (b); and
- (d) In addition to the years of employment required by paragraph (b), the teacher has been employed as a licensed teacher for 1 school year at a school within the school district where, for that school year, at least 65 percent of the pupils who are enrolled in the school are children who are at-risk.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the board of trustees of a school district shall pay the cost for a licensed teacher to purchase:
- (a) One-fourth of a year of service for each year that a teacher is employed as a teacher at a school within the school district that is described in paragraph (d) of subsection 1 [...
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- (b) One-half of a year of service for each year that a teacher is employed as a teacher at a school within the school district that is described in paragraph (d) of subsection 2.
- If, in 1 school year, a teacher satisfies the criteria set forth in both subsections 1 and 2, the school district in which the teacher is employed shall, for that school year, pay the cost for the teacher to purchase one-half of a year of service pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 286.300.
- 4. In no event may the years of service purchased by a licensed teacher as a result of subsection 2 of NRS 286.300 exceed 5 years.
  - [4.] 5. The board of trustees of a school district shall not:
- (a) Assign or reassign a licensed teacher to circumvent the requirements of this section.
- (b) Include [,] as part of a teacher's salary [,] the costs of paying the teacher to purchase service pursuant to this section.
  - [5.] 6. As used in this section [, "service"]:
- (a) A child is "at-risk" if he is eligible for free and reducedprice lunches pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 et seq.
- 42 (b) "Service" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 286.078.
- Sec. 42. NRS 391.311 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 44 391.311 As used in NRS 391.311 to 391.3197, inclusive, 45 unless the context otherwise requires:



"Administrator" means [any]:

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- (a) Any employee who holds a license as an administrator and who is employed in that capacity by a school district.
- (b) A principal or vice principal of a school who is employed pursuant to section 36 of this act.
- 2. "Board" means the board of trustees of the school district in which a licensed employee affected by NRS 391.311 to 391.3197, inclusive, is employed.
- 3. "Demotion" means demotion of an administrator to a 10 position of lesser rank, responsibility or pay and does not include transfer or reassignment for purposes of an administrative reorganization.
  - 4. "Immorality" means an act forbidden by NRS 200.366, 200.368, 200.400, 200.508, 201.180, 201.190, 201.210, 201.220, 201.230, 201.265 or 207.260.
  - 5. "Postprobationary employee" means an administrator or a teacher who has completed the probationary period as provided in NRS 391.3197 and has been given notice of reemployment.
  - "Probationary employee" means an administrator or a teacher who is employed for the period set forth in NRS 391.3197.
  - 7. "Superintendent" means the superintendent of a school district or a person designated by the board or superintendent to act as superintendent during the absence of the superintendent.
  - 8. "Teacher" means a licensed employee the majority of whose working time is devoted to the rendering of direct educational service to pupils of a school district.
  - **Sec. 43.** NRS 391.3125 is hereby amended to read as follows: 391.3125 1. It is the intent of the Legislature that a uniform system be developed for objective evaluation of teachers and other
  - licensed personnel in each school district. 2. Each board, following consultation with and involvement of elected representatives of the teachers or their designees, shall develop a policy for objective evaluations in narrative form. The policy must set forth a means according to which an employee's
- overall performance may be determined to be satisfactory or 35 unsatisfactory. [The] Except as otherwise provided in this 36 subsection, the policy may include an evaluation by the teacher, 37 38 pupils, administrators or other teachers, or any combination thereof.
- In no event may a principal or vice principal employed pursuant to 39 40 section 36 of this act be charged with the evaluation of a licensed
- 41 employee. In a similar manner, counselors, librarians and other
- 42 licensed personnel must be evaluated on forms developed 43 specifically for their respective specialties. A copy of the policy
- adopted by the board must be filed with the Department. The
- primary purpose of an evaluation is to provide a format for 45



constructive assistance. Evaluations, while not the sole criterion, must be used in the dismissal process.

- 3. A conference and a written evaluation for a probationary employee must be concluded no later than:
  - (a) December 1;
  - (b) February 1; and
  - (c) April 1,

of each school year of the probationary period, except that a probationary employee assigned to a school that operates all year must be evaluated at least three times during each 12 months of employment on a schedule determined by the board.

- 4. Whenever an administrator charged with the evaluation of a probationary employee believes the employee will not be reemployed for the second year of the probationary period or the school year following the probationary period, he shall bring the matter to the employee's attention in a written document which is separate from the evaluation no later than February 15 of the current school year. The notice must include the reasons for the potential decision not to reemploy or refer to the evaluation in which the reasons are stated. Such a notice is not required if the probationary employee has received a letter of admonition during the current school year.
- 5. Each postprobationary teacher must be evaluated at least once each year.
- 6. The evaluation of a probationary teacher or a postprobationary teacher must, if necessary, include recommendations for improvements in his performance. A reasonable effort must be made to assist the teacher to correct any deficiencies noted in the evaluation. The teacher must receive a copy of each evaluation not later than 15 days after the evaluation. A copy of the evaluation and the teacher's response must be permanently attached to the teacher's personnel file.
- **Sec. 44.** NRS 391.3197 is hereby amended to read as follows: 391.3197 1. A probationary employee is employed on a contract basis for two 1-year periods and has no right to employment after either of the two probationary contract years.
- 2. The board shall notify each probationary employee in writing on or before May 1 of the first and second school years of his probationary period, as appropriate, whether he is to be reemployed for the second year of the probationary period or for the next school year as a postprobationary employee. The employee must advise the board in writing on or before May 10 of the first or second year of his probationary period, as appropriate, of his acceptance of reemployment. If a probationary employee is assigned to a school that operates all year, the board shall notify him in



writing, in both the first and second years of his probationary period, no later than 45 days before his last day of work for the year under his contract whether he is to be reemployed for the second year of the probationary period or for the next school year as a postprobationary employee. He must advise the board in writing within 10 days after the date of notification of his acceptance or rejection of reemployment for another year. Failure to advise the board of his acceptance of reemployment constitutes rejection of the contract. If a board intends to reemploy a principal or vice principal who is employed pursuant to section 36 of this act, the notice of reemployment provided pursuant to this subsection must include a condition that the employee will be reemployed only if he submits the written verification required by subsection 2 of section 36 of this act upon the completion of the school year and within the time prescribed by the board.

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- 3. A probationary employee who completes his 2-year probationary period and receives a notice of reemployment from the school district in the second year of his probationary period is entitled to be a postprobationary employee in the ensuing year of employment.
- 4. A probationary employee who receives an unsatisfactory evaluation may request a supplemental evaluation by another administrator in the school district selected by him and the superintendent. If a school district has five or fewer administrators, the supplemental evaluator may be an administrator from another school district in the State. If a probationary employee has received during the first school year of his probationary period three evaluations which state that the employee's overall performance has been satisfactory, the superintendent [of schools of the school district or his designee shall waive the second year of the employee's probationary period by expressly providing in writing on the final evaluation of the employee for the first probationary year that the second year of his probationary period is waived. [Such] Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, such an employee is entitled to be a postprobationary employee in the ensuing year of employment. If a board intends to reemploy a principal or vice principal who is employed pursuant to section 36 of this act, the notice provided pursuant to this subsection must include a condition that the employee will be reemployed only if he submits the written verification required by subsection 2 of section 36 of this act upon the completion of the school year and within the time prescribed by the board.
- 5. If a probationary employee is notified that he will not be reemployed for the second year of his probationary period or the ensuing school year, his employment ends on the last day of the



current school year. The notice that he will not be reemployed must include a statement of the reasons for that decision.

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- 6. A new employee or a postprobationary teacher who is employed as an administrator shall be deemed to be a probationary employee for the purposes of this section and must serve a 2-year probationary period as an administrator in accordance with the provisions of this section. If the administrator does not receive an unsatisfactory evaluation during the first year of probation, the superintendent [or his designee] shall waive the second year of the administrator's probationary period. [Such] Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, such an administrator is entitled to be a postprobationary employee in the ensuing year of employment. If a board intends to reemploy a principal or vice principal who is employed pursuant to section 36 of this act, the superintendent shall provide notice to the administrator that the administrator will be reemployed only if he submits the written verification required by subsection 2 of section 36 of this act upon the completion of the school year and within the time prescribed by the board. If:
- (a) A postprobationary teacher who is an administrator is not reemployed as an administrator after either year of his probationary period; and
- (b) There is a position as a teacher available for the ensuing school year in the school district in which the person is employed,
- the board [of trustees of the school district] shall, on or before May 1, offer the person a contract as a teacher for the ensuing school year. The person may accept the contract in writing on or before May 10. If the person fails to accept the contract as a teacher, the person shall be deemed to have rejected the offer of a contract as a teacher.
- 7. [An] Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, an administrator who has completed his probationary period pursuant to subsection 6 and is thereafter promoted to the position of principal must serve an additional probationary period of 1 year in the position of principal. A principal who is employed pursuant to section 36 of this act is not required to serve an additional probationary period pursuant to this subsection. If the administrator serving the additional probationary period is not reemployed as a principal after the expiration of the additional probationary period, the board [of trustees of the school district in which the person is employed] shall, on or before May 1, offer the person a contract for the ensuing school year for the administrative position in which the person attained postprobationary status. The person may accept the contract in writing on or before May 10. If



the person fails to accept such a contract, the person shall be deemed to have rejected the offer of employment.

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- 8. Before dismissal, the probationary employee is entitled to a hearing before a hearing officer which affords due process as set out in NRS 391.311 to 391.3196, inclusive.
- **Sec. 45.** Chapter 392 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, the parents, legal guardian or custodial parent of a pupil may submit an application for the pupil to attend a public school, including, without limitation, a magnet school as defined in section 15 of this act, that is located within the school district but outside the zone of attendance established pursuant to NRS 388.040 that the pupil is required to attend.
- 2. An application for enrollment in a public school pursuant to this section must be submitted on a form provided by the board of trustees. The board of trustees of each school district shall prescribe the deadline for the submission of applications, which must not be sooner than 3 months before the commencement of a school year.
- 3. The board of trustees of a school district shall not act on an application that has been submitted until after the deadline for the submission of applications. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the board of trustees of a school district shall approve all applications that are submitted. If the board of trustees of a school district determines that a public school within the school district does not have sufficient resources to accommodate the total number of pupils who submitted applications for that school, including, without limitation, a sufficient number of classrooms or personnel, the board of trustees of the school district shall hold a meeting in accordance with chapter 241 of NRS to select randomly which applications will be approved. The board of trustees of the school district shall ensure that the random selection of applications occurs in such a manner that every application which has been submitted for a particular school is given an equal opportunity to be included in the selection.
- 4. If the board of trustees of a school district approves an application, the board of trustees shall:
  - (a) Provide written notice of the approval to:
- (1) The person who submitted the application on behalf of the pupil;
- (2) The public school that the pupil would otherwise be required to attend; and
  - (3) The public school that the pupil will attend.



- (b) Enter into an agreement with the parent or guardian of the pupil concerning the transportation of the pupil to the public school that the pupil will attend.
- 5. A pupil may remain in the public school for succeeding school years without submitting an application pursuant to this section if space for the pupil is available. If space for the pupil is not available in that public school, he may return to the public school that he is otherwise required to attend or submit an application pursuant to this section to attend another public school.
  - 6. If a pupil attends a public school pursuant to this section, the pupil may return to the public school that he is otherwise required to attend if the parents, legal guardian or custodial parent of the pupil provide written notice of that desire to the board of trustees of the school district.
    - 7. The provisions of this section do not apply:
    - (a) For enrollment in a charter school.

- (b) To a pupil who is enrolled in a public school for which the board of trustees of the school district is required to provide school choice pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6301 et seq.
- (c) For enrollment in a public school pursuant to NRS 392.015.
- (d) For enrollment in a program of distance education pursuant to NRS 388.820 to 388.874, inclusive.
- (e) To a pupil who is ineligible to attend a public school pursuant to NRS 392.264 or 392.4675.
  - **Sec. 46.** NRS 392.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 392.010 Except as to the attendance of a pupil pursuant to NRS 388.820 to 388.874, inclusive, or 392.015 [...] and section 45 of this act, or a pupil who is ineligible for attendance pursuant to NRS 392.4675 and except as otherwise provided in NRS 392.264 and 392.268:
- 1. The board of trustees of any school district may, with the approval of the Superintendent of Public Instruction:
- (a) Admit to the school or schools of the school district any pupil or pupils living in an adjoining school district within this state or in an adjoining state when the school district of residence in the adjoining state adjoins the receiving Nevada school district; or
- (b) Pay tuition for pupils residing in the school district but who attend school in an adjoining school district within this state or in an adjoining state when the receiving district in the adjoining state adjoins the school district of Nevada residence.
- 2. With the approval of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the board of trustees of the school district in which the



pupil or pupils reside and the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil or pupils attend school shall enter into an agreement providing for the payment of such tuition as may be agreed upon, but transportation costs must be paid by the board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil or pupils reside:

- (a) If any are incurred in transporting a pupil or pupils to an adjoining school district within the State; and
- (b) If any are incurred in transporting a pupil or pupils to an adjoining state, as provided by the agreement.
- 3. In addition to the provisions for the payment of tuition and transportation costs for pupils admitted to an adjoining school district as provided in subsection 2, the agreement may contain provisions for the payment of reasonable amounts of money to defray the cost of operation, maintenance and depreciation of capital improvements which can be allocated to such pupils.

**Sec. 47.** NRS 392.033 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 392.033 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a pupil who is enrolled in a junior high or middle school must complete at least 15 units of credits to be promoted to high school. The State Board shall adopt regulations which prescribe the courses of study required for promotion to high school, which [may] must include the credits [to be earned.] required for each course of study.
- 2. The board of trustees of a school district may adopt written rules that authorize a pupil who is enrolled in a junior high or middle school to apply for a reduction of the total units of credit required for promotion to high school if the pupil has fewer than three absences in each year that he is enrolled in junior high or middle school. The board of trustees may reduce the total units of credit required for promotion to high school pursuant to this subsection by not less than one-half of the total units of credit required for promotion.
- 3. The board of trustees of a school district shall not promote a pupil to high school if the pupil does not complete the course of study [or] and credits required for promotion. The board of trustees of the school district in which the pupil is enrolled [may provide] shall ensure that the pupil has the opportunity to attend summer school or other special programs to complete the courses of study required for promotion to high school.
- [3.] 4. The board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a procedure for evaluating the course of study [or] and credits completed by a pupil who transfers to a junior high or middle school from a junior high or middle school in this state or from a school outside of this state.



**Sec. 48.** NRS 392.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 392.040 1. Except as otherwise provided by law, each parent, custodial parent, guardian or other person in the State of Nevada having control or charge of any child between the ages of 7 and 17 years shall send the child to a public school during all the time the public school is in session in the school district in which the child resides.
- 2. A child who is 5 years of age on or before September 30 of a school year may be admitted to kindergarten at the beginning of that school year, and his enrollment must be counted for purposes of apportionment. *If such a child is at-risk, he must be admitted to kindergarten for a full school day and not for a part of a school day.* If a child is not 5 years of age on or before September 30 of a school year, the child must not be admitted to kindergarten.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, a child who is 6 years of age on or before September 30 of a school year must:
  - (a) If he has not completed kindergarten [, be]:
- (1) **Be** admitted to kindergarten at the beginning of that school year; **and**
- (2) If he is at-risk, be admitted to kindergarten for a full school day and not for a part of a school day; or
- (b) If he has completed kindergarten, be admitted to the first grade at the beginning of that school year, and his enrollment must be counted for purposes of apportionment. If a child is not 6 years of age on or before September 30 of a school year, the child must not be admitted to the first grade until the beginning of the school year following his sixth birthday.
- 4. The parents, custodial parent, guardian or other person within the State of Nevada having control or charge of a child who is 6 years of age on or before September 30 of a school year may elect for the child not to attend kindergarten or the first grade during that year. The parents, custodial parent, guardian or other person who makes such an election shall file with the board of trustees of the appropriate school district a waiver in a form prescribed by the board.
- 5. Whenever a child who is 6 years of age is enrolled in a public school, each parent, custodial parent, guardian or other person in the State of Nevada having control or charge of the child shall send him to the public school during all the time the school is in session. This requirement for attendance does not apply to any child under the age of 7 years who has not yet been enrolled or has been formally withdrawn from enrollment in public school.
- 6. A child who is 7 years of age on or before September 30 of a school year must:



(a) If he has completed kindergarten and the first grade, be admitted to the second grade.

- (b) If he has completed kindergarten, be admitted to the first grade.
- (c) If the parents, custodial parent, guardian or other person in the State of Nevada having control or charge of the child waived the child's attendance from kindergarten pursuant to subsection 4, undergo an assessment by the district pursuant to subsection 7 to determine whether the child is prepared developmentally to be admitted to the first grade. If the district determines that the child is prepared developmentally, he must be admitted to the first grade. If the district determines that the child is not so prepared [, he]:
  - (1) He must be admitted to kindergarten ; and
- (2) If he is at-risk, he must be admitted to kindergarten for a full school day and not for a part of a school day.

The enrollment of any child pursuant to this subsection must be counted for apportionment purposes.

- 7. Each school district shall prepare and administer before the beginning of each school year a developmental screening test to a child:
- (a) Who is 7 years of age on or before September 30 of the next school year; and
- (b) Whose parents waived his attendance from kindergarten pursuant to subsection 4,
- to determine whether the child is prepared developmentally to be admitted to the first grade. The results of the test must be made available to the parents, custodial parent, guardian or other person within the State of Nevada having control or charge of the child.
- 8. Each school district shall prepare a developmental screening test to be administered as a pretest at the beginning of each school year and as a posttest at the end of each school year to pupils who are at-risk and enrolled in kindergarten for a full school day. A school district may use the same developmental screening test that is administered pursuant to subsection 7. The screening test administered pursuant to this subsection must be used solely to gather information and data and must not be used for purposes of determining eligibility for first grade.
- **9.** A child who becomes a resident of this state after completing kindergarten or beginning first grade in another state in accordance with the laws of that state may be admitted to the grade he was attending or would be attending had he remained a resident of the other state regardless of his age, unless the board of trustees of the school district determines that the requirements of this section are being deliberately circumvented.
  - [9.] 10. As used in this section [, "kindergarten" includes:]:



- (a) A child is "at-risk" if he is eligible for free and reducedprice school lunches pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 et seq.
  - (b) "Kindergarten" includes:

- (1) A kindergarten established by the board of trustees of a school district pursuant to NRS 388.060;
- (b) (2) A kindergarten established by the governing body of a charter school; and
- [(e)] (3) An authorized program of instruction for kindergarten offered in a child's home pursuant to NRS 388.060.
  - **Sec. 49.** NRS 392.070 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 392.070 1. Attendance required by the provisions of NRS 392.040 must be excused when satisfactory written evidence is presented to the board of trustees of the school district in which the child resides that the child is receiving at home or in some other school equivalent instruction of the kind and amount approved by the State Board. As a condition to approving a program of instruction at home, the State Board shall:
- (a) Require the child for whom the request is made to take the achievement and proficiency examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015, if applicable to the grade level in which the child will receive instruction.
- (b) Require that the results of the achievement and proficiency examinations administered to the child be submitted to the Department.
- The State Board shall adopt regulations governing the administration of the achievement and proficiency examinations to children who receive instruction at home to ensure the confidentiality and security of the examinations.
- 2. The board of trustees of each school district shall provide programs of special education and related services for children who are exempt from compulsory attendance pursuant to subsection 1 and receive instruction at home. The programs of special education and related services required by this section must be made available:
- (a) Only if a child would otherwise be eligible for participation in programs of special education and related services pursuant to NRS 388.440 to 388.520, inclusive;
- (b) In the same manner that the board of trustees provides, as required by 20 U.S.C. § 1412, for the participation of pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in private schools within the school district voluntarily by their parents or legal guardians; and
- (c) In accordance with the same requirements set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 1412 which relate to the participation of pupils with disabilities who are enrolled in private schools within the school district voluntarily by their parents or legal guardians.



- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 for programs of special education and related services, upon the request of a parent or legal guardian of a child who is enrolled in a private school or who receives instruction at home, the board of trustees of the school district in which the child resides shall authorize the child to participate in a class that is not available to the child at the private school or home school or *to* participate in an extracurricular activity, excluding sports, at a public school within the school district if:
- (a) Space for the child in the class or extracurricular activity is available; and
- (b) The parent or legal guardian demonstrates to the satisfaction of the board of trustees that the child is qualified to participate in the class or extracurricular activity.
- If the board of trustees of a school district authorizes a child to participate in a class or extracurricular activity, excluding sports, pursuant to this subsection, the board of trustees is not required to provide transportation for the child to attend the class or activity.
- 4. The board of trustees of a school district may revoke its approval for a pupil to participate in a class or extracurricular activity at a public school pursuant to subsection 3 if the board of trustees or the public school determines that the pupil has failed to comply with applicable statutes, or applicable rules and regulations of the board of trustees. If the board of trustees revokes its approval, neither the board of trustees nor the public school are liable for any damages relating to the denial of services to the pupil.
- 5. The programs of special education and related services required by subsection 2 may be offered at a public school or another location that is appropriate.
- 6. The Department may adopt such regulations as are necessary for the boards of trustees of school districts to provide the programs of special education and related services required by subsection 2.
- 7. As used in this section, "related services" has the meaning ascribed to it in 20 U.S.C. § 1401(22).
  - **Sec. 50.** NRS 392.458 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 392.458 1. The board of trustees of [a] each school district [may,] shall, in consultation with the schools within the district, parents and legal guardians of pupils who are enrolled in the district, and associations and organizations representing licensed educational personnel within the district, establish a policy that requires pupils to wear school uniforms.
  - 2. The policy must:

- (a) Describe the uniforms;
- (b) Designate which pupils must wear the uniforms; and
- (c) Designate the hours or events during which the uniforms must be worn.



3. [If the board of trustees of a school district establishes a policy that requires pupils to wear school uniforms, the board] The board of trustees of each school district shall facilitate the acquisition of school uniforms for pupils whose parents or legal guardians request financial assistance to purchase the uniforms.

- 4. The board of trustees of a school district may establish a dress code enforceable during school hours for the teachers and other personnel employed by the board of trustees.
- **Sec. 51.** NRS 392.4644 is hereby amended to read as follows: 392.4644 *I*. The principal of each public school shall establish a plan to provide for the progressive discipline of pupils

and on-site review of disciplinary decisions. The plan must:

[1.] (a) Be developed with the input and participation of teachers who are employed at the school and the parents and guardians of pupils who are enrolled in the school.

- [2.] (b) Be consistent with the written rules of behavior prescribed in accordance with NRS 392.463.
- [3.] (c) Include, without limitation, provisions designed to address the specific disciplinary needs and concerns of the school.
- [4.] (d) Provide for the temporary removal of a pupil from a classroom in accordance with NRS 392.4645.
- 2. After the input and participation of teachers and parents and guardians of pupils is received pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1, the principal and the teachers who are employed at the school shall adopt the plan without any further review except as required by subsection 3.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, on or before October 1 of each year, the principal of each public school shall review the plan in consultation with the teachers who are employed at the school. Based upon the review, the principal shall make revisions to the plan, if necessary. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the principal of each public school shall, on or before November 1 of each year, file with the board of trustees of the school district a copy of the plan adopted pursuant to this section, including, without limitation, any revisions to the plan.
- 4. A principal may submit a written request to his immediate supervisor for additional time to comply with this section. The supervisor may grant the principal additional time to comply with this section, not to exceed 30 days after receipt of the request. If a principal who is granted additional time fails to comply with this section:
- (a) Within the 30-day period allowed by his immediate supervisor, the supervisor shall ensure that a letter of reprimand



or letter of admonition is included in the personnel file of the principal.

is 2 school years.

(b) Within 30 days after the letter of reprimand or letter of admonition is issued pursuant to paragraph (a), the board of trustees shall take such action against the principal pursuant to NRS 391.312 as it considers necessary.

**Sec. 52.** NRS 392.4647 is hereby amended to read as follows: 392.4647 1. The principal of each public school shall establish at least one committee to review the temporary alternative placement of pupils. A committee established pursuant to this section must consist of the principal and two regular members who are teachers selected for membership by a majority of the teachers who are employed at the school. One additional teacher must be selected in the same manner to serve as an alternate member. *The term of membership for the teachers who serve on the committee* 

2. If a pupil is removed from the classroom pursuant to NRS 392.4645 by a teacher who is a member of a committee established pursuant to this section, the teacher shall not participate in the review of the placement of the pupil and the alternate member shall serve on the committee for that review.

**Sec. 53.** NRS 393.071 is hereby amended to read as follows:

393.071 The board of trustees of any school district may grant the use of school buildings or grounds for public, literary, scientific, recreational or educational meetings, or for the discussion of matters of general or public interest upon such terms and conditions as the board deems proper, and except as otherwise provided in sections 2 and 3 of this act, subject to the limitations, requirements and restrictions set forth in NRS 393.071 to 393.0719, inclusive.

- **Sec. 54.** Chapter 396 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 55. 1. The Board of Regents may administer, directly or through a designated officer or employee of the System, a program to provide loans for registration fees, laboratory fees and expenses, textbooks and course materials, and living expenses to students who are enrolled in programs of the System that provide courses of study and training for the education of teachers.
  - 2. Each student to whom such a loan is made must:
- (a) Have been a bona fide resident of this state for at least 6 months before his matriculation in the System;
- (b) At the time the loan is made, be enrolled at least part time in a program of the System to become a licensed teacher;
- (c) Fulfill all requirements for classification as a student showing progression towards completion of the program; and



- (d) Maintain at least a 2.0 grade-point average in each class and at least a 2.75 overall grade-point average, on a 4.0 grading scale.
  - 3. Each such loan must be made upon the following terms:
- (a) All loans must bear interest at 8 percent per annum beginning the date when the student receives the loan.
- (b) Each student who receives a loan shall repay the loan with interest after the termination of his education for which the loan is made unless the amount owed is waived pursuant to section 57 of this act. The loan must be repaid in monthly installments over the period allowed, with the first installment due 1 year after the date of the termination of his education for which the loan is made. The amounts of the installments must not be less than \$50 and may be calculated to allow a smaller payment at the beginning of the period for repayment, with each succeeding payment gradually increasing so that the total amount due will be paid within the period of repayment. The maximum period for repayment of the loans must be:
  - (1) Five years for loans that total less than \$10,000.
- (2) Eight years for loans that total \$10,000 or more, but less than \$20,000.
  - (3) Ten years for loans that total \$20,000 or more.
- 4. A delinquency charge may be assessed on an installment that is delinquent 10 days or more in the amount of 8 percent of the installment or \$4, whichever is greater, but not more than \$15.
- 5. If a person is delinquent in repayment, the reasonable costs of collection and an attorney's fee may be recovered from the person.
- 6. As used in this section, "bona fide resident" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 396.540.
- Sec. 56. 1. The loans made pursuant to sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act must not exceed the following amounts per student per semester. If the student is enrolled in a program of:
  - (a) A community college, \$1,700.
  - (b) A university, \$2,005.

- 2. Money loaned pursuant to sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act must be allocated among the campuses of the System in amounts that will allow the same percentage of eligible students from each campus who are enrolled in programs that provide courses of study and training for the education of teachers to receive loans.
- Sec. 57. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a student who receives a loan pursuant to sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act shall repay the loan and accrued interest in full pursuant to the terms of the loan.



- 2. If a recipient of a loan desires to have the total amount of his loan waived pursuant to this section, the recipient shall file a statement of intent with the Board of Regents indicating that the recipient intends to:
- (a) Obtain a license to teach issued pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS; and
  - (b) Teach full-time for at least:

- (1) Three consecutive school years in any public school where a majority of the pupils enrolled in the school are children who are at-risk; or
- (2) Five consecutive school years in any other public school in this state.
- The recipient shall submit verification at least once every 6 months to the Board of Regents in a format prescribed by the Board of Regents indicating that the recipient has maintained his status as a full-time licensed teacher in a public school in this state.
- 3. Upon receipt of such a statement of intent, the Board of Regents shall defer the payment of the loan until the recipient of the loan has:
  - (a) Taught full-time as a licensed teacher for:
- (1) Three consecutive school years in any public school where a majority of the pupils enrolled in the school are children who are at-risk, regardless of whether he teaches at the same school for all 3 years; or
- (2) Five consecutive school years in any other public school in this state, regardless of whether he teaches at the same school for all 5 years; or
- (b) Left his employment, voluntarily or otherwise, as a fulltime licensed teacher in a public school in this state.
- 4. If a recipient of a loan who filed a statement of intent pursuant to subsection 2 satisfies the requirements of paragraph (a) of subsection 3, the recipient may apply to the Board of Regents to request a waiver of the loan and interest that must be repaid. The Board of Regents shall waive the total amount owed by the recipient upon receipt of credible evidence that the recipient has satisfied the requirements of paragraph (a) of subsection 3.
- 5. If a recipient of a loan who filed a statement of intent pursuant to subsection 2 leaves his employment, voluntarily or otherwise, as a full-time licensed teacher in a public school in this state, he shall repay the loan and accrued interest in full pursuant to the terms of the loan.
  - 6. The Board of Regents may adopt:



(a) Regulations that extend the time for completing the qualified teaching service beyond 3 or 5 years, as applicable, for persons who are granted extensions because of hardship; and

- (b) Such other regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act.
- 7. The Board of Regents shall, in cooperation with the boards of trustees of school districts in this state:
- 8 (a) Identify, on an annual basis, the public schools within this 9 state where a majority of the pupils enrolled are children who are 10 at-risk.
  - (b) Recruit pupils who are enrolled in high schools in this state into the program to provide loans to students pursuant to sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act.
  - 8. For the purposes of this section, a child is "at-risk" if he is eligible for free and reduced-price school lunches pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 et seq.
    - Sec. 58. The Board of Regents or its designee may require:
  - 1. A student to acquire, as security for a student loan, insurance on his life and on his health or against his disability, or both.
  - 2. That a financially responsible person agree to be jointly liable with the recipient of the loan for the repayment of the loan.
  - Sec. 59. The Board of Regents or its designee may require, upon notice to a recipient of a loan, that he repay the balance and any unpaid interest on the loan immediately if:
    - 1. An installment is not paid within 30 days after it is due;
  - 2. The recipient fails to notify the Board of Regents or its designee, within 30 days, of:
  - (a) A change of name or of the address of his home or place of employment; or
  - (b) The termination of the education for which he received the loan: or
  - 3. The recipient fails to comply with a requirement or perform an obligation he is required to perform pursuant to an agreement with the Board of Regents or its designee.
  - Sec. 60. A recipient of a loan pursuant to sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act shall comply with the regulations adopted by the Board of Regents. If a recipient fails to comply, the Board of Regents or its designee may:
- 40 1. For each infraction, impose a fine of not more than \$200 against the recipient in 1 academic year, and may deny additional money to the recipient if he fails to pay the fine when due;
  - 2. Increase the portion of a future loan to be repaid by the recipient; and



- 3. Extend the time by which the recipient is required to teach in this state in lieu of repaying his loan.
- Sec. 61. 1. The Board of Regents or its designee may, after receiving an application stating the reasons therefor, grant an extension of the period for the repayment of a loan in case of hardship arising out of the circumstances of a recipient of a loan. The extension must be for a period that will reasonably alleviate that hardship.
- 2. Applications for extensions must be filed within the time prescribed by regulation of the Board of Regents.

Sec. 62. 1. The Board of Regents shall:

- (a) Receive, invest, disburse and separately account for all money received for the program.
- (b) Use all the money that is accounted for separately pursuant to paragraph (a) only to provide loans to students and waivers of those loans pursuant to the program set forth in sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act.
- (c) Report to the Governor and the Interim Finance Committee on or before October 1 of each year immediately preceding a regular session of the Legislature, setting forth in detail the transactions conducted by the Board of Regents relating to the program during the biennium ending June 30 of that year.

(d) Make such recommendations for legislation as the Board

24 of Regents considers appropriate for the program.

- 2. The money in the account required by subsection 1 and all interest and income earned on that money must remain in the account and does not revert to the State General Fund at the end of any fiscal year.
  - **Sec. 63.** NRS 288.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 288.150 1. Except as provided in subsection 4, every local government employer shall negotiate in good faith, through one or more representatives of its own choosing, concerning the mandatory subjects of bargaining set forth in subsection 2 with the designated representatives of the recognized employee organization, if any, for each appropriate bargaining unit among its employees. If either party so requests, agreements reached must be reduced to writing.
  - 2. The scope of mandatory bargaining is limited to:
- (a) Salary or wage rates or other forms of direct monetary compensation.
  - (b) Sick leave.
- (c) Vacation leave.
- (d) Holidays.

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- (e) Other paid or nonpaid leaves of absence.
- (f) Insurance benefits.



- (g) Total hours of work required of an employee on each workday or workweek.
- (h) Total number of days' work required of an employee in a work year.
  - (i) Discharge and disciplinary procedures.
  - (i) Recognition clause.

- (k) The method used to classify employees in the bargaining unit.
- (l) Deduction of dues for the recognized employee organization.
- (m) Protection of employees in the bargaining unit from discrimination because of participation in recognized employee organizations consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
- (n) No-strike provisions consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
- (o) Grievance and arbitration procedures for resolution of disputes relating to interpretation or application of collective bargaining agreements.
  - (p) General savings clauses.
  - (q) Duration of collective bargaining agreements.
  - (r) Safety of the employee.
  - (s) Teacher preparation time.
  - (t) Materials and supplies for classrooms.
- (u) The policies for the transfer and reassignment of teachers [.], but in no event may a request for a transfer or reassignment made by a teacher pursuant to section 37 of this act be denied based solely upon the number of consecutive years, if any, that the teacher has been employed at a particular school.
  - (v) Procedures for reduction in workforce.
- 3. Those subject matters which are not within the scope of mandatory bargaining and which are reserved to the local government employer without negotiation include:
- (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (u) of subsection 2, the right to hire, direct, assign or transfer an employee, but excluding the right to assign or transfer an employee as a form of discipline.
- (b) The right to reduce in force or lay off any employee because of lack of work or lack of money, subject to paragraph (v) of subsection 2.
  - (c) The right to determine:
- (1) Appropriate staffing levels and work performance standards, except for safety considerations;
- (2) The content of the workday, including, without limitation, workload factors, except for safety considerations;
- (3) The quality and quantity of services to be offered to the public; and



- (4) The means and methods of offering those services.
- (d) Safety of the public.

- 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement negotiated pursuant to this chapter, a local government employer is entitled to take whatever actions may be necessary to carry out its responsibilities in situations of emergency such as a riot, military action, natural disaster or civil disorder. Those actions may include the suspension of any collective bargaining agreement for the duration of the emergency. Any action taken under the provisions of this subsection must not be construed as a failure to negotiate in good faith.
- 5. The provisions of this chapter, including, without limitation, the provisions of this section, recognize and declare the ultimate right and responsibility of the local government employer to manage its operation in the most efficient manner consistent with the best interests of all its citizens, its taxpayers and its employees.
- 6. This section does not preclude, but this chapter does not require the local government employer to negotiate subject matters enumerated in subsection 3 which are outside the scope of mandatory bargaining. The local government employer shall discuss subject matters outside the scope of mandatory bargaining, but it is not required to negotiate those matters.
- 7. Contract provisions presently existing in signed and ratified agreements as of May 15, 1975, at 12 p.m. remain negotiable.
- **Sec. 64.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Education the sum of \$1,000,000 for distribution to school districts to administer examinations on the weekends rather than during the regular school week to pupils enrolled in junior high, middle school and high school.
- 2. The Department of Education shall distribute the money appropriated by subsection 1 to school districts that have adopted a program pursuant to section 24 of this act based upon the number of pupils enrolled in each junior high, middle school and high school in each school district. To receive a grant of money, each school district must submit to the Department a written description of the program adopted by the district pursuant to section 24 of this act.
  - 3. Each school district that receives a grant of money shall:
- (a) Use the money to carry out its program to administer examinations on the weekends rather than during the regular school week adopted pursuant to section 24 of this act; and
- (b) On or before November 1, 2004, submit a written report to the Department of Education evaluating the effectiveness of its program to administer examinations on the weekends rather than during the regular school week adopted pursuant to section 24 of



this act, including, without limitation, a report on the amount of instructional time that was added to the school week as a result of the administration on the weekends.

4. The Department of Education shall:

- (a) Review and compile the written evaluations submitted by school districts;
- (b) Based upon its review, prepare a separate written report evaluating the effectiveness of the programs of school districts to administer the examinations on the weekends, including, without limitation, a report on the amount of instructional time that was added to the school week as a result of the administration on the weekends; and
- (c) On or before February 1, 2005, submit the separate written report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature.
- 5. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2005, and reverts to the State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.
- **Sec. 65.** 1. There is hereby appropriated to the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to provide loans and waivers of those loans pursuant to the program set forth in sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act, the sum of \$100,000 from the money:
- (a) Received by the State of Nevada pursuant to any settlement entered into by the State of Nevada and a manufacturer of tobacco products; or
- (b) Recovered by the State of Nevada from a judgment in a civil action against a manufacturer of tobacco products.
  - 2. The Board of Regents shall:
- (a) Use the money appropriated by subsection 1 only to provide loans to students and waivers of those loans pursuant to the program set forth in sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act.
- (b) Account for the money separately and credit that account with any interest and income earned on the money.
- (c) Use all the money in the account, including, without limitation, all interest and income earned, only to provide loans to students and waivers of those loans pursuant to the program set forth in sections 55 to 62, inclusive, of this act.
- **Sec. 66.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Education for reimbursement of costs incurred by teachers to obtain endorsements in certain fields of specialization:

2. The Department of Education shall:



(a) In consultation with the boards of trustees of school districts throughout this state, identify fields of specialization where a shortage of teachers exist; and

- (b) Maintain a list available for public inspection that contains the fields of specialization identified pursuant to paragraph (a).
- 3. A teacher who holds a current license to teach issued pursuant to chapter 391 of NRS may submit an application on a form provided by the Department of Education for reimbursement of the costs incurred by the teacher after July 1, 2003, in obtaining an endorsement in a field of specialization identified pursuant to subsection 2. The reimbursement must not exceed an amount equal to the actual verified costs incurred by a teacher in obtaining an endorsement or \$2,000, whichever is less.
- 4. The sums appropriated by subsection 1 are available for either fiscal year. Any balance of those sums must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2005, and reverts to the State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.
- **Sec. 67.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Education the sum of \$250,000 for distribution by the Department in accordance with this section.
- 2. A principal or other administrator of a high school in which a pupil is enrolled and is receiving dual credit or participating in early studies from a course at a community college or university pursuant to NRS 389.160, may apply to the Department of Education for a grant of money to pay the costs of the pupil to attend the course.
- 3. The Department of Education shall establish a program by which a principal or administrator of a high school may apply to the Department for a grant of money pursuant to this section. The program must set forth, without limitation:
- (a) The procedure by which a principal or administrator of a high school may apply for such a grant;
- (b) Criteria for determining the eligibility of an applicant to receive such a grant; and
- (c) Any conditions which the Department considers necessary for the acceptance of a grant by a high school, including, without limitation, any conditions under which the recipient of a grant may be required to refund the money to the Department.
- 4. As used in this section, "costs" include, without limitation, the costs of:
- (a) Registration in a course offered at a community college or university; and
  - (b) Books and other materials which are required for the course.
- 5. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30,



2005, and reverts to the State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.

- **Sec. 68.** 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Department of Education the sum of \$5,000,000 for grants of money to school districts that adopt a program of enhanced compensation for certain teachers.
- 2. To receive a grant of money, the board of trustees of a school district must submit an application to the Department of Education that:
- (a) Sets forth a program adopted by the school district to provide enhanced compensation for certain teachers, which must include one or more of the following components:
- (1) Skills-based pay pursuant to which teachers develop certain skills verified through licensure, certification or some other method.
- (2) A "career ladder" program, pursuant to which teachers who perform at or above specified standards receive an increase in compensation. Each step requires additional growth, professional development, expertise and additional responsibilities, including, without limitation, mentoring.
- (3) Market-based pay, pursuant to which one-time bonuses are paid to retain teachers who provide instruction in high-need subject areas such as mathematics, science and special education and to retain teachers who teach in at-risk schools.
- (b) Includes the amount of money necessary to pay the enhanced compensation pursuant to the program.
- (c) Includes the number of teachers who are estimated to be eligible for enhanced compensation pursuant to the program.
- 3. To the extent money is available from the appropriation made by subsection 1, the Department of Education shall provide grants of money to school districts with approved applications based upon the amount of money that is necessary to carry out each program of enhanced compensation. If an insufficient amount of money is available to pay for each program, the money from the appropriation must be distributed pro rata based upon the number of teachers who are estimated to be eligible to participate in the program in each school district with an approved application.
- 4. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30, 2005, and reverts to the State General Fund as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.
- **Sec. 69.** Notwithstanding any other provisions of law to the contrary, upon receipt of sufficient money received by the State of Nevada on or after July 1, 2003, pursuant to any settlement entered into by the State of Nevada and a manufacturer of tobacco products



or recovered by the State of Nevada from a judgment in a civil action against a manufacturer of tobacco products, the State Controller shall:

- 1. Disburse the money appropriated by section 65 of this act in its entirety before other disbursements required by law are made; and
- 2. Thereafter, disburse all other money appropriated from this same source on a pro rata basis by percentage allocated by law.
- **Sec. 70.** 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall place a teacher who is initially hired by the school district for the 2003-2004 school year on the schedule of salaries of the school district at a salary that is at least \$30,000 annually. The board of trustees of each school district shall place a teacher who is initially hired by the school district for the 2004-2005 school year on the schedule of salaries of the school district at a salary that is at least \$30,000 annually.
- 2. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, neither the Department of Education nor the board of trustees of a school district may pay a signing bonus to a teacher who is initially hired by the school district during the 2003-2005 biennium. The provisions of this subsection do not preclude the payment of fringe benefits that are otherwise paid generally to teachers who are employed by a school district. As used in this subsection, "signing bonus" means any compensation, in addition to the amount a teacher is otherwise entitled to receive in accordance with the schedule of salaries of the school district for the school year, that is paid in exchange for the teacher's agreement to work for the school district or that is paid in exchange for the teacher's service during the first year of employment.
- 3. For the purposes of this section, 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.
- **Sec. 71.** 1. The State Board of Education shall establish a task force to study the manner in which the curriculum and courses of study used by the public schools in this state may be restructured to enable the schools more effectively to:
  - (a) Prepare each pupil to develop work and living skills;
- (b) Address any special needs of pupils who are from a racial or ethnic minority and of pupils who are female; and
  - (c) Establish interdisciplinary curriculum.
- 42 The task force shall establish a plan and set forth goals designed to facilitate the desired restructuring.



- 2. The task force shall also study alternative methods to train teachers to teach the restructured curriculum and meet the goals set forth in accordance with subsection 1.
  - 3. The State Board of Education shall appoint to the task force:
  - (a) Representatives of private business.
- (b) Teachers who currently provide instruction in public elementary or secondary schools in:
  - (1) Computer technology;
  - (2) Music or art;
    - (3) Special education;
    - (4) Occupational education;
    - (5) Civics or social studies;
- (6) Science:

- (7) Math; and
- (8) English, including, without limitation, composition, language and writing.

The State Board may appoint such additional members to the task force as it deems necessary.

- 4. On or before February 1, 2005, the task force shall provide to the State Board of Education, the board of trustees of each school district and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the 73rd Session of the Nevada Legislature, a report which contains the results of the study of the task force and the recommendations of the task force.
- 5. The State Board of Education shall ensure that the recommendations of the task force are carried out by the board of trustees of each school district no later than the 2005-2006 school year.
- **Sec. 72.** The Esmeralda County School District, Lincoln County School District and Storey County School District are hereby abolished on June 30, 2003. The public schools within a school district that has been abolished pursuant to this section must be placed under the direction and control of the county school district specified in section 4 of this act commencing on July 1, 2003.
- **Sec. 73.** The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.
- **Sec. 74.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.
- 2. Section 23 of this act becomes effective upon passage and approval for the purpose of preparing a list of examinations of reading comprehension and on July 1, 2003, for all other purposes.
- 3. Sections 1 to 12, inclusive, 14 to 18, inclusive, 20, 21, 22 and 24 to 73, inclusive, of this act become effective on July 1, 2003.



1 4. Sections 13 and 19 of this act become effective on July 1, 2 2004.



