

SENATE BILL NO. 328—SENATOR BEERS

MARCH 19, 2007

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing educational personnel.
(BDR 34-473)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§2)
(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 educational personnel; revising provisions governing the monthly salaries of the members of the boards of trustees of school districts; requiring the board of trustees of each school district to adopt a program to engage certain administrators in annual classroom instruction, observation and other activities; making various changes regarding the evaluation and admonition of educational personnel; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law prescribes varying salaries for the officers and other members of the boards of trustees of school districts based on the number of pupils enrolled in the school district during the immediately preceding school year. (NRS 386.320) **Section 2** of this bill revises provisions governing the salaries of the members of the boards of trustees of school districts based on the population of the county in which the school district is located. **Section 2** also authorizes a member of the board of trustees to donate all or a part of his salary to a school within the school district or to the school district.

The board of trustees of a school district is authorized to employ a superintendent of schools, teachers and all other necessary employees. (NRS 391.100, 391.110, 391.120) **Section 4** of this bill requires the board of trustees of each school district to adopt a program to engage administrators employed at the district level in annual classroom instruction, observation and other activities in a manner that is appropriate for the responsibilities, position and duties of the administrators.



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Existing law requires each probationary teacher to be evaluated at least three times during each school year and a postprobationary teacher to be evaluated at least once each school year. (NRS 391.3125) **Section 8** of this bill requires an administrator who is responsible for evaluating a teacher to personally observe that teacher in the classroom for not less than a cumulative total of 60 minutes during each evaluation period. If a deficiency is discovered during the evaluation process, every effort must be made to assist the teacher to correct the deficiency. Existing law prescribes the circumstances under which an administrator may admonish an employee. (NRS 391.313) **Section 9** of this bill requires that, if an administrator admonishes a teacher, an admonition must include a description of the deficiencies of the teacher and the actions that are necessary to correct those deficiencies.

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

Section 1. NRS 386.290 is hereby amended to read as follows:
386.290 1. In addition to salaries ~~allowed under~~ *required by* NRS 386.320, a trustee ~~shall~~ *must* be allowed:

(a) His traveling expenses for traveling each way between his home and the place where board meetings are held at the rate authorized by law for state officers.

(b) His living expenses necessarily incurred while in actual attendance at board meetings at the rate authorized by law for state officers.

2. Claims for mileage and per diem allowances ~~shall~~ *must* be allowed and paid in the same manner as other claims against the school district fund are paid, but no claim for mileage and per diem allowances for living expenses ~~shall~~ *must* be allowed or paid to a trustee residing not more than 5 miles from the place where board meetings are held.

Sec. 2. NRS 386.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:

386.320 1. ~~If the total pupil enrollment in the school district for the immediately preceding school year is less than 1,000:~~

~~—(a) The clerk and president of the board of trustees may each receive a salary of \$85 for each board of trustees meeting they attend, not to exceed \$170 a month.~~

~~—(b) The other trustees may each receive a salary of \$80 for each board of trustees meeting they attend, not to exceed \$160 a month.~~

~~—(c)~~ *Each member of the board of trustees of a school district in a county whose population is less than 100,000 must receive a salary of \$115 for each meeting of the board he attends, not to exceed \$345 per month.*

2. *Each member of the board of trustees of a school district in a county whose population is 100,000 or more must receive a salary of \$2,000 per month.*



1 **3. A member of the board of trustees of a school district who**
2 **receives a salary pursuant to this section may:**

3 **(a) Donate all or a part of the monthly salary that he receives**
4 **to a school within the school district or to the school district; or**

5 **(b) In lieu of making a donation after he receives the salary,**
6 **request that all or a part of his monthly salary be paid directly to a**
7 **school within the school district or to the school district.**

8 **4.** The board of trustees may hire a stenographer to take the
9 minutes of the meetings of the board of trustees, and the
10 stenographer may be paid a reasonable fee for each meeting
11 attended.

12 ~~[2. If the total pupil enrollment in the school district for the~~
13 ~~immediately preceding school year is 1,000 or more:~~

14 ~~—(a) The clerk and president of the board of trustees may each~~
15 ~~receive a salary of \$85 for each board of trustees meeting they~~
16 ~~attend, not to exceed \$510 a month.~~

17 ~~—(b) The other trustees may each receive a salary of \$80 for each~~
18 ~~board of trustees meeting they attend, not to exceed \$480 a month.~~

19 ~~—(c) The board of trustees may hire a stenographer to take the~~
20 ~~minutes of the meetings of the board of trustees, and the~~
21 ~~stenographer may be paid a reasonable fee for each meeting~~
22 ~~attended.]~~

23 **Sec. 3.** NRS 387.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 387.310 1. Except as otherwise provided by the board of
25 trustees, the clerk of the board shall draw all orders for the payment
26 of money belonging to the school district. The orders must be listed
27 on cumulative voucher sheets.

28 2. The board of trustees shall prescribe the procedures by
29 which the orders must be approved and the cumulative voucher
30 sheets signed. The procedures must provide:

31 (a) That the approval of the board of trustees is required before
32 orders are paid unless a payment must be expedited for the school
33 district to:

34 (1) Receive a discount or other savings which is related to
35 the timeliness of payment;

36 (2) Avoid a service charge or other cost which is related to
37 the timeliness of payment; or

38 (3) Abide by a purchase order, contract or other order for
39 payment which has been approved by the board of trustees at a
40 public meeting.

41 (b) For ratification by the board of trustees at its next regularly
42 scheduled meeting of any payment that is made without the
43 approval of the board pursuant to an exception set forth in
44 paragraph (a).



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3. When the orders have been approved and the cumulative voucher sheets have been signed in accordance with such procedures, the orders are valid vouchers in the hands of the county auditor for him to issue warrants on the county treasurer to be paid out of money belonging to the school district.

4. No order in favor of the board of trustees or any member thereof, except for salaries as ~~authorized~~ **required** by NRS 386.320 ~~[-, authorized] or~~ travel expenses and subsistence ~~[of trustees or for services of any trustee as clerk of the board,]~~ **as authorized by NRS 386.290**, may be drawn.

5. No order for salary for any teacher may be drawn unless the teacher is included in the directory of teachers supplied to the clerk of the board of trustees pursuant to the provisions of NRS 391.045.

6. An order drawn by a clerk of a board of trustees pursuant to subsection 1 is void if not presented for payment within 1 year after the date of issuance.

7. Any order remaining unpaid after the expiration of 1 year, whether outstanding or uncalled for in the office of the county auditor, must be cancelled by the county auditor, who shall immediately notify the county treasurer of the cancellation. The county treasurer shall not pay a warrant presented for payment more than 1 year after the date of issuance of such an order. This subsection does not apply if the board of trustees establishes and administers a separate account pursuant to NRS 354.603.

Sec. 4. Chapter 391 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 adopt a policy that sets forth procedures and conditions for a program to engage administrators employed by the school district at the district level in annual classroom instruction, observation and other activities in a manner that is appropriate for the responsibilities, position and duties of the administrators. The policy must require each administrator employed by the school district at the district level to:

(a) If he holds a license to teach, provide instruction in a core academic subject in a classroom for at least 1 regularly scheduled full instructional day in each school year; or

(b) If he does not hold a license to teach:

(1) Personally observe a classroom for at least one-half of a regularly scheduled full instructional day in each school year; or

(2) Otherwise participate in activities with pupils in the classroom in each school year, including, without limitation, serving as a guest speaker in the classroom, reading to pupils in elementary school and participating in career day.



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2. A district level administrator may choose a school within the school district at which he will carry out the requirements of this section.

3. An administrator who provides instruction pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 must be assigned as a substitute teacher for the full instructional day in which he carries out the requirements of this section.

4. The provisions of this section do not apply to administrators who are employed by a school district to provide administrative service at the school level, including, without limitation, a principal or vice principal.

5. As used in this section, "core academic subject" means the core academic subjects designated pursuant to NRS 389.018.

Sec. 5. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 6. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 7. (Deleted by amendment.)

Sec. 8. 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 unsatisfactory. The policy may include an evaluation by the teacher, pupils, administrators or other teachers or any combination thereof. In a similar manner, counselors, librarians and other licensed personnel must be evaluated on forms developed 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 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 ~~not~~ not 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. *An administrator charged with the evaluation of a probationary teacher shall personally observe the performance of the teacher in*



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1 *the classroom for not less than a cumulative total of 60 minutes*
2 *during each evaluation period, with at least one observation*
3 *during that 60-minute evaluation period consisting of at least 45*
4 *consecutive minutes.*

5 4. Whenever an administrator charged with the evaluation of a
6 probationary employee believes the employee will not be
7 reemployed for the second year of the probationary period or the
8 school year following the probationary period, he shall bring the
9 matter to the employee's attention in a written document which is
10 separate from the evaluation ~~[no]~~ *not* later than ~~[February 15]~~
11 *March 1* of the current school year. The notice must include the
12 reasons for the potential decision not to reemploy or refer to the
13 evaluation in which the reasons are stated. Such a notice is not
14 required if the probationary employee has received a letter of
15 admonition during the current school year.

16 5. Each postprobationary teacher must be evaluated at least
17 once each year. *An administrator charged with the evaluation of a*
18 *postprobationary teacher shall personally observe the performance*
19 *of the teacher in the classroom for not less than a cumulative total*
20 *of 60 minutes during each evaluation period, with at least one*
21 *observation during that 60-minute evaluation period consisting of*
22 *at least 30 consecutive minutes.*

23 6. The evaluation of a probationary teacher or a
24 postprobationary teacher must ~~[, if]~~ *include, without limitation:*

25 (a) *An evaluation of the classroom management skills of the*
26 *teacher;*

27 (b) *A review of the lesson plans and the work log or grade*
28 *book of pupils prepared by the teacher;*

29 (c) *An evaluation of whether the curriculum taught by the*
30 *teacher is aligned with the standards of content and performance*
31 *established pursuant to NRS 389.520, as applicable for the grade*
32 *level taught by the teacher;*

33 (d) *An evaluation of whether the teacher is appropriately*
34 *addressing the needs of the pupils in the classroom, including,*
35 *without limitation, special educational needs, cultural and ethnic*
36 *diversity, the needs of pupils enrolled in advanced courses of study*
37 *and the needs of pupils who are limited English proficient;*

38 (e) *If necessary, [include] recommendations for improvements*
39 *in [his] the performance [.* ~~A reasonable effort must be made to~~
40 ~~assist the teacher to correct any deficiencies noted in the evaluation.]~~
41 *of the teacher;*

42 (f) *A description of the action that will be taken to assist the*
43 *teacher in correcting any deficiencies reported in the evaluation;*
44 *and*



(g) *A statement by the administrator who evaluated the teacher indicating the amount of time that the administrator personally observed the performance of the teacher in the classroom.*

7. 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. *Upon the request of a teacher, a reasonable effort must be made to assist the teacher to correct those deficiencies reported in the evaluation of the teacher for which the teacher requests assistance.*

Sec. 9. NRS 391.313 is hereby amended to read as follows:

391.313 1. Whenever an administrator charged with supervision of a licensed employee believes it is necessary to admonish the employee for a reason that he believes may lead to demotion ~~or~~ or dismissal or *may* cause the employee not to be reemployed under the provisions of NRS 391.312, he shall:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection ~~2~~ 3, bring the matter to the attention of the employee involved, in writing, stating the reasons for the admonition and that it may lead to his demotion, dismissal or a refusal to reemploy him, and make a reasonable effort to assist the employee to correct whatever appears to be the cause for his potential demotion, dismissal or a potential recommendation not to reemploy him; and

(b) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 391.314, allow reasonable time for improvement, which must not exceed 3 months for the first admonition.

➤ *The admonition must include a description of the deficiencies of the teacher and the action that is necessary to correct those deficiencies.*

2. An admonition issued to a licensed employee who, within the time granted for improvement, has met the standards set for him by the administrator who issued the admonition must be removed from the records of the employee together with all notations and indications of its having been issued. The admonition must be removed from the records of the employee not later than 3 years after it is issued.

~~2~~ 3. An administrator need not admonish an employee pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 if his employment will be terminated pursuant to NRS 391.3197. If by ~~February 15~~ *March 1* of the first or second year of his probationary period a probationary employee does not receive a written notice pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 391.3125 of a potential decision not to reemploy him, he must receive an admonition before any such decision is made.

~~3~~ 4. A licensed employee is subject to immediate dismissal or a refusal to reemploy according to the procedures provided in



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1 NRS 391.311 to 391.3197, inclusive, without the admonition
2 required by this section, on grounds contained in paragraphs (b), (f),
3 (g), (h) and (p) of subsection 1 of NRS 391.312.

4 **Sec. 10.** NRS 391.3197 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 391.3197 1. A probationary employee is employed on a
6 contract basis for two 1-year periods and has no right to
7 employment after either of the two probationary contract years.

8 2. The board shall notify each probationary employee in
9 writing on or before May 1 of the first and second school years of
10 his probationary period, as appropriate, whether he is to be
11 reemployed for the second year of the probationary period or for the
12 next school year as a postprobationary employee. The employee
13 must advise the board in writing on or before May 10 of the first or
14 second year of his probationary period, as appropriate, of his
15 acceptance of reemployment. If a probationary employee is assigned
16 to a school that operates all year, the board shall notify him in
17 writing, in both the first and second years of his probationary period,
18 no later than 45 days before his last day of work for the year under
19 his contract whether he is to be reemployed for the second year of
20 the probationary period or for the next school year as a
21 postprobationary employee. He must advise the board in writing
22 within 10 days after the date of notification of his acceptance or
23 rejection of reemployment for another year. Failure to advise the
24 board of his acceptance of reemployment constitutes rejection of the
25 contract.

26 3. A probationary employee who completes his 2-year
27 probationary period and receives a notice of reemployment from the
28 school district in the second year of his probationary period is
29 entitled to be a postprobationary employee in the ensuing year of
30 employment.

31 4. ~~[A]~~ *If a* probationary employee ~~[who receives an~~
32 ~~unsatisfactory evaluation]~~ *receives notice pursuant to subsection 4*
33 *of NRS 391.3125 not later than March 1 of a potential decision*
34 *not to reemploy him, the employee* may request a supplemental
35 evaluation by another administrator in the school district selected by
36 him and the superintendent. If a school district has five or fewer
37 administrators, the supplemental evaluator may be an administrator
38 from another school district in ~~[the]~~ *this* State. If a probationary
39 employee has received during the first school year of his
40 probationary period three evaluations which state that the
41 employee's overall performance has been satisfactory, the
42 superintendent of schools of the school district or his designee shall
43 waive the second year of the employee's probationary period by
44 expressly providing in writing on the final evaluation of the
45 employee for the first probationary year that the second year of his



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1 probationary period is waived. Such an employee is entitled to be a
2 postprobationary employee in the ensuing year of employment.

3 5. If a probationary employee is notified that he will not be
4 reemployed for the second year of his probationary period or the
5 ensuing school year, his employment ends on the last day of the
6 current school year. The notice that he will not be reemployed must
7 include a statement of the reasons for that decision.

8 6. A new employee or a postprobationary teacher who is
9 employed as an administrator shall be deemed to be a probationary
10 employee for the purposes of this section and must serve a 2-year
11 probationary period as an administrator in accordance with the
12 provisions of this section. If the administrator does not receive an
13 unsatisfactory evaluation during the first year of probation, the
14 superintendent or his designee shall waive the second year of the
15 administrator's probationary period. Such an administrator is
16 entitled to be a postprobationary employee in the ensuing year of
17 employment. If:

18 (a) A postprobationary teacher who is an administrator is not
19 reemployed as an administrator after either year of his probationary
20 period; and

21 (b) There is a position as a teacher available for the ensuing
22 school year in the school district in which the person is employed,
23 ➤ the board of trustees of the school district shall, on or before
24 May 1, offer the person a contract as a teacher for the ensuing
25 school year. The person may accept the contract in writing on or
26 before May 10. If the person fails to accept the contract as a teacher,
27 the person shall be deemed to have rejected the offer of a contract as
28 a teacher.

29 7. An administrator who has completed his probationary period
30 pursuant to subsection 6 and is thereafter promoted to the position of
31 principal must serve an additional probationary period of 1 year in
32 the position of principal. If the administrator serving the additional
33 probationary period is not reemployed as a principal after the
34 expiration of the additional probationary period, the board of
35 trustees of the school district in which the person is employed shall,
36 on or before May 1, offer the person a contract for the ensuing
37 school year for the administrative position in which the person
38 attained postprobationary status. The person may accept the contract
39 in writing on or before May 10. If the person fails to accept such a
40 contract, the person shall be deemed to have rejected the offer of
41 employment.

42 8. Before dismissal, the probationary employee is entitled to a
43 hearing before a hearing officer which affords due process as set out
44 in NRS 391.311 to 391.3196, inclusive.



1 **Sec. 11.** On or before February 1, 2008, the board of trustees
2 of each school district shall submit a copy of the program to engage
3 administrators in annual classroom instruction, observation and
4 other activities adopted by the school district pursuant to section 4
5 of this act to the Legislative Committee on Education and to the
6 Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the
7 75th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

8 **Sec. 12.** Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 386.320, as
9 amended by section 2 of this act, to the contrary, the salaries of the
10 members of the board of trustees of a school district are not required
11 to be increased pursuant to that section until July 1, 2008.

12 **Sec. 13.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 354.599 do
13 not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are
14 related to the provisions of this act.

15 **Sec. 14.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

