

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 30—COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(ON BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION)

PREFILED DECEMBER 20, 2014

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to plans to improve the achievement of pupils enrolled in public schools in this State. (BDR 34-312)

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

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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; revising provisions concerning the submission of a plan to improve the achievement of pupils enrolled in public school in this State; requiring the State Board to review each plan submitted by the principal of a school and make certain recommendations to the Department of Education; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the principal of each school to prepare and submit a plan to improve the achievement of the pupils enrolled in the school to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Governor, the State Board of Education, the Department of Education, the Legislative Committee on Education, the Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation and the board of trustees of the school district in which the school is located or, if the school is a charter school, the sponsor of the charter school and the governing body of the charter school. (NRS 385.357) **Section 1** of this bill removes the requirement that a principal must submit the plan to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Governor and the State Board. **Section 2** of this bill requires the State Board to review each plan submitted by the principal of each school to determine common problems identified by the principal of each school and make recommendations to the Department concerning how the Department can best support the needs of schools.

Existing law requires the State Board to prepare and submit a plan to improve the achievement of pupils in this State to various entities. (NRS 385.3593) **Section 2** requires this plan to include: (1) certain information regarding the manner in which remediation will be provided to pupils who require remediation based on the



results of an end-of-course examination or the results of the college and career readiness assessment; (2) strategies to improve the literacy skills of pupils; and (3) strategies to improve the development of English language skills and the academic achievement of pupils who are limited English proficient. **Section 2** also revises the date on which the State Board is required to submit the plan or revised plan.

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

Section 1. NRS 385.357 is hereby amended to read as follows:
385.357 1. The principal of each school, including, without limitation, each charter school, shall, in consultation with the employees of the school, prepare a plan to improve the achievement of the pupils enrolled in the school.

2. The plan developed pursuant to subsection 1 must include:

(a) A review and analysis of the data pertaining to the school upon which the report required pursuant to subsection 2 or 3 of NRS 385.347, as applicable, is based and a review and analysis of any data that is more recent than the data upon which the report is based.

(b) The identification of any problems or factors at the school that are revealed by the review and analysis.

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

(d) Policies and practices concerning the core academic subjects which have the greatest likelihood of ensuring that each group of pupils enrolled in the school and identified in the statewide system of accountability for public schools will meet the performance targets established for that group.

(e) Annual measurable objectives and performance targets, consistent with the annual measurable objectives and performance targets established pursuant to the statewide system of accountability for public schools, for the continuous and substantial progress by each group of pupils identified in the statewide system of accountability for public schools who are enrolled in the school to ensure that each group will meet the performance targets established for that group.

(f) Strategies and practices which:

(1) Are consistent with the policy adopted pursuant to NRS 392.457 by the board of trustees of the school district in which the school is located, to promote effective involvement by parents and families of pupils enrolled in the school in the education of their children; and

(2) Are designed to improve and promote effective involvement and engagement by parents and families of pupils



enrolled in the school which are consistent with the policies and recommendations of the Office of Parental Involvement and Family Engagement made pursuant to NRS 385.635.

(g) As appropriate, programs of remedial education or tutoring to be offered before and after school, during the summer, or between sessions if the school operates on a year-round calendar for pupils enrolled in the school who need additional instructional time to pass or to reach a level considered proficient.

(h) Strategies to improve the academic achievement of pupils enrolled in the school, including, without limitation, strategies to:

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

(I) The curriculum appropriate to improve achievement;

(II) The manner by which the instruction will improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550 and 389.805 and the college and career readiness assessment administered pursuant to NRS 389.807; and

(III) An identification of the instruction and curriculum that is specifically designed to improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils in each group identified in the statewide system of accountability for public schools;

(2) Increase the rate of attendance of pupils and reduce the number of pupils who drop out of school;

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

(4) Manage effectively the discipline of pupils; and

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

(i) An identification, by category, of the employees of the school who are responsible for ensuring that the plan is carried out effectively.

(j) In consultation with the school district or governing body, as applicable, an identification, by category, of the employees of the school district or governing body, if any, who are responsible for ensuring that the plan is carried out effectively or for overseeing and monitoring whether the plan is carried out effectively.

(k) In consultation with the Department, an identification, by category, of the employees of the Department, if any, who are responsible for overseeing and monitoring whether the plan is carried out effectively.



(l) For each provision of the plan, a timeline for carrying out that provision, including, without limitation, a timeline for monitoring whether the provision is carried out effectively.

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

(n) The resources available to the school to carry out the plan. If this State has a financial analysis program that is designed to track educational expenditures and revenues to individual schools, each school shall use that statewide program in complying with this paragraph. If a statewide program is not available, each school shall use the financial analysis program used by the school district in which the school is located in complying with this paragraph.

(o) A summary of the effectiveness of appropriations made by the Legislature that are available to the school to improve the academic achievement of pupils and programs approved by the Legislature to improve the academic achievement of pupils.

(p) A budget of the overall cost for carrying out the plan.

3. The principal of each school shall, in consultation with the employees of the school:

(a) Review the plan prepared pursuant to this section annually to evaluate the effectiveness of the plan; and

(b) Based upon the evaluation of the plan, make revisions, as necessary, to ensure that the plan is designed to improve the academic achievement of pupils enrolled in the school.

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

(a) If the school is a public school of the school district, the superintendent of schools of the school district.

(b) If the school is a charter school, the governing body of the charter school.

5. If a Title I school is rated as underperforming pursuant to the statewide system of accountability for public schools, the superintendent of schools of the school district or the governing body, as applicable, shall carry out a process for peer review of the plan or the revised plan, as applicable, in accordance with 20 U.S.C. § 6316(b)(3)(E) and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto. Not later than 45 days after receipt of the plan, the superintendent of schools of the school district or the governing body, as applicable, shall approve the plan or the revised plan, as applicable, if it meets the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 6316(b)(3) and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto and the requirements of this section. The



superintendent of schools of the school district or the governing body, as applicable, may condition approval of the plan or the revised plan, as applicable, in the manner set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 6316(b)(3)(B) and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto. The State Board shall prescribe the requirements for the process of peer review, including, without limitation, the qualifications of persons who may serve as peer reviewers.

6. If a school is rated as meeting the annual measurable objectives and performance targets established pursuant to the statewide system of accountability for public schools, or if a school that is not a Title I school is rated as underperforming pursuant to the statewide accountability system for public schools, not later than 45 days after receipt of the plan or the revised plan, as applicable, the superintendent of schools of the school district or the governing body, as applicable, shall approve the plan or the revised plan if it meets the requirements of this section.

7. On or before January 31 of each year, the principal of each school shall submit the final plan or the final revised plan, as applicable, to the:

- (a) ~~Superintendent of Public Instruction;~~
- ~~(b) Governor;~~
- ~~(c) State Board;~~
- ~~(d) Department;~~
- ~~(e)~~ (b) Committee;
- ~~(f)~~ (c) Bureau; and
- ~~(g)~~ (d) Board of trustees of the school district in which the

school is located or, if the school is a charter school, the sponsor of the charter school and the governing body of the charter school.

8. A plan for the improvement of a school must be carried out expeditiously, but not later than February 15 after approval of the plan pursuant to subsection 5 or 6, as applicable.

Sec. 2. NRS 385.3593 is hereby amended to read as follows:

385.3593 1. The State Board shall prepare a plan to improve the achievement of pupils enrolled in the public schools in this State. The plan:

(a) Must be prepared in consultation with:

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



(4) At least one representative of the Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs created by NRS 391.516, appointed by the Council; and

(b) May be prepared in consultation with:

(1) Representatives of institutions of higher education;

(2) Representatives of regional educational laboratories;

(3) Representatives of outside consultant groups;

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

(5) The Bureau; and

(6) Other persons who the State Board determines are appropriate.

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

(a) A review and analysis of the data upon which the report required pursuant to NRS 385.3572 is based and a review and analysis of any data that is more recent than the data upon which the report is based.

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

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

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

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

(I) The curriculum appropriate to improve achievement;

(II) The manner by which the instruction will improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550 and 389.805 and the college and career readiness assessment administered pursuant to NRS 389.807 **and, including, without limitation, the manner in which remediation will be provided to pupils who require remediation based on the results of an examination administered pursuant to NRS 389.805 and 389.807;** and

(III) An identification of the instruction and curriculum that is specifically designed to improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils in each group identified in the statewide system of accountability for public schools;

(2) **Improve the literacy skills of pupils;**



(3) Improve the development of English language skills and academic achievement of pupils who are limited English proficient;

(4) Increase the rate of attendance of pupils and reduce the number of pupils who drop out of school;

~~[(3)]~~ (5) Integrate technology into the instructional and administrative programs of the school districts;

~~[(4)]~~ (6) Manage effectively the discipline of pupils; and

~~[(5)]~~ (7) Enhance the professional development offered for the teachers and administrators employed at public schools in this State to include the activities set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(34) and to address the specific needs of the pupils enrolled in public schools in this State, as deemed appropriate by the State Board.

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

(1) The requirements for admission to an institution of higher education and the opportunities for financial aid;

(2) The availability of Governor Guinn Millennium Scholarships pursuant to NRS 396.911 to 396.945, inclusive; and

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

(f) An identification, by category, of the employees of the Department who are responsible for ensuring that each provision of the plan is carried out effectively.

(g) A timeline for carrying out the plan, including, without limitation:

(1) The rate of improvement and progress which must be attained annually in meeting the goals and benchmarks established by the State Board pursuant to subsection 3; and

(2) For each provision of the plan, a timeline for carrying out that provision, including, without limitation, a timeline for monitoring whether the provision is carried out effectively.

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

(i) Strategies to improve the allocation of resources from this State, by program and by school district, in a manner that will improve the academic achievement of pupils. If this State has a financial analysis program that is designed to track educational expenditures and revenues to individual schools, the State Board



1 shall use that statewide program in complying with this paragraph.
2 If a statewide program is not available, the State Board shall use the
3 Department's own financial analysis program in complying with
4 this paragraph.

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

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

13 (l) A 5-year strategic plan which identifies the recurring issues
14 in improving the achievement and proficiency of pupils in this State
15 and which establishes strategic goals to address those issues. The
16 5-year strategic plan must be:

17 (1) Based upon the data from previous years which is
18 collected by the Department for the plan developed pursuant to this
19 section; and

20 (2) Designed to track the progress made in achieving the
21 strategic goals established by the Department.

22 (m) Any additional plans addressing the achievement and
23 proficiency of pupils adopted by the Department.

24 3. The State Board shall:

25 (a) In developing the plan to improve the achievement of pupils
26 enrolled in public schools, establish clearly defined goals and
27 benchmarks for improving the achievement of pupils, including,
28 without limitation, goals for:

29 (1) Improving proficiency results in core academic subjects;

30 (2) Increasing the number of pupils enrolled in public middle
31 schools and junior high schools, including, without limitation,
32 charter schools, who enter public high schools with the skills
33 necessary to succeed in high school;

34 (3) Improving the percentage of pupils who enroll in grade 9
35 and who graduate from a public high school, including, without
36 limitation, a charter school, with a standard or higher diploma upon
37 completion;

38 (4) Improving the performance of pupils on standardized
39 college entrance examinations;

40 (5) Increasing the percentage of pupils enrolled in high
41 schools who enter postsecondary educational institutions or who are
42 career and workforce ready; and

43 (6) Reengaging disengaged youth who have dropped out of
44 high school or who are at risk of dropping out of high school,
45 including, without limitation, a mechanism for tracking and



maintaining communication with those youth who have dropped out of school or who are at risk of doing so;

(b) Review the plan annually to evaluate the effectiveness of the plan;

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

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

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

(2) The plan is designed to improve the academic achievement of pupils enrolled in public schools in this State ~~H~~ ;
and

(e) Review the plans submitted pursuant to subsection 7 of NRS 385.357 to:

(1) Determine common problems identified by the principal of each school pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 385.357; and

(2) Make recommendations to the Department concerning how the Department can best support the needs of schools.

4. On or before ~~January~~ *March* 31 of each year, the State Board shall submit the plan or the revised plan, as applicable, to the:

(a) Governor;

(b) Committee;

(c) Bureau;

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

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

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

~~(g)~~ *(f)* Governing body of each charter school.

Sec. 3. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2015.

