

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

(Nevada Revised Statutes [NRS] 385.150 - 385.250)

Duties: Pursuant to NRS 385.175, the Superintendent of Public Instruction (State Superintendent) executes, directs, and supervises all administrative, technical, and procedural activities of the Department of Education in accordance with policies prescribed by the State Board of Education. In addition, the State Superintendent employs personnel for the positions approved by the State Board of Education for the efficient operation of the Department of Education. Finally, the State Superintendent maintains liaison and coordinates activities with other State agencies performing educational functions.

Selection Process: The *Constitution of the State of Nevada*, Article 11, assigns responsibility to the Legislature to provide for a Superintendent of Public Instruction. Pursuant to NRS 385.150, the State Superintendent is appointed by the State Board for a term of three years.

Budget: For Fiscal Year 2009-2010, \$181,173 supports the salaries for the State Superintendent (\$124,908) and his Executive Assistant (\$56,265).

Communication Structure:

- ✓ State Board of Education: Pursuant to NRS 385.150, the State Board of Education appoints the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- ✓ Department of Education: Pursuant to NRS 385.010, the State Superintendent is the executive head of the Department of Education.
- ✓ School Districts: Pursuant to NRS 385.210, the State Superintendent communicates statutes and regulations to the school districts.
- ✓ Governor and Legislature: Pursuant to NRS 385.230, the State Superintendent reports to the Governor and Legislature concerning matters relating to education in the State of Nevada.

EXHIBIT C Education Governance

Document consists of 6 pages.

x Entire document provided.

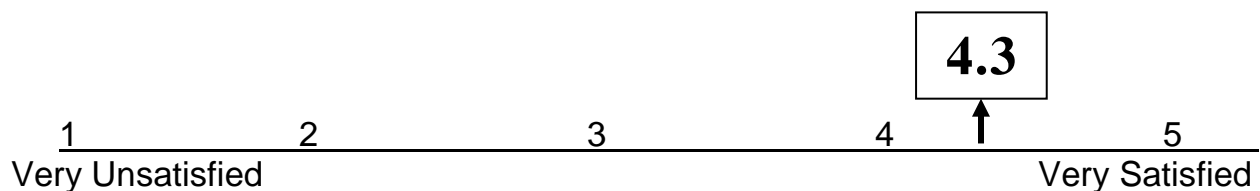
A copy of the complete document is available through the Research Library (775/684-6827) or e-mail library@lcb.state.nv.us.

Meeting Date 031110

SURVEY RESULTS

Respondents: 49 Surveys, Representing 78 Respondents

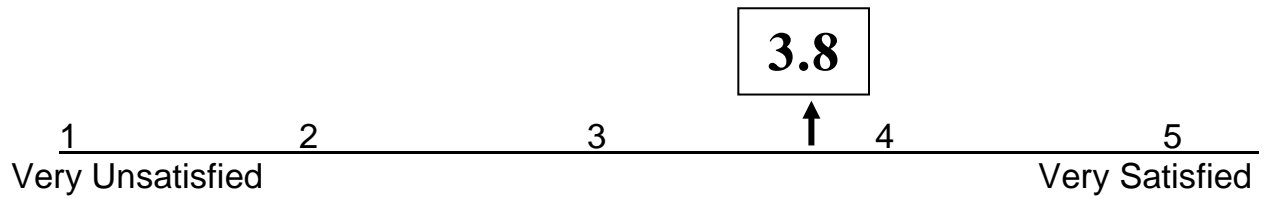
How satisfied are you with the role of the State Superintendent in maintaining liaison and coordinating activities with other State agencies performing educational functions? (n=47 Surveys)



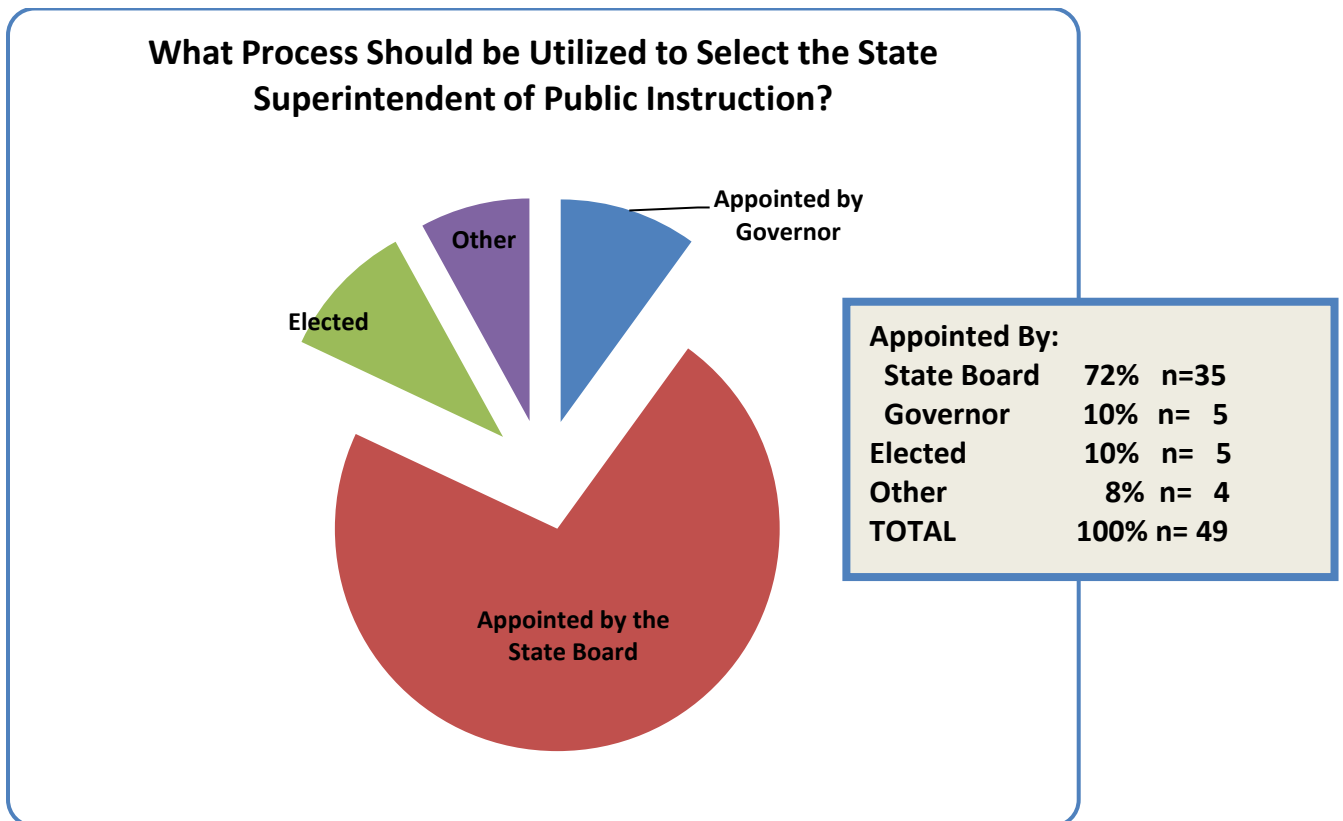
Comments:

- The State Superintendent does a terrific job. (n=11) [The State Superintendent keeps all of the lines of communication open and functional. (n=4)] [The State Superintendent does an outstanding job, considering the cloudy nature of Nevada's governance structure.] [The State Superintendent has good relationships with both the education community and the Legislature.]
- The State Superintendent should have a stronger role in education governance. (n=5) [The Superintendent is a working superintendent out of necessity; he must serve on several committees. (n=2)] [All education entities should report to the State Superintendent. However, adequate funding will be needed.] [The Superintendent needs to have time to work in an innovative mode, rather than a reactive mode.]
- In addition to liaison and coordination, the position of State Superintendent needs to be a regulatory and enforcement position. (n=2)

How satisfied are you with the process for selecting the Superintendent of Public Instruction? (n=46 Surveys)



Within your ideal system for public education governance, what process should be utilized to select the Superintendent of Public Instruction? (n=49 Surveys)



Comments concerning the selection of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction:

- The State Board should appoint the State Superintendent. (n=8) [The State Board should appoint the State Superintendent only if the State Board is revised to be an appointed Board. Otherwise, the Governor should appoint and the Legislature should confirm. (n=6)] [In this way, politics can be set aside and the State would not have a new Superintendent every time a new Governor is elected.]
- An education committee that does research into the candidates should appoint the State Superintendent. (n=2) [The search committee should be composed of a few State Board members and other key stakeholders.]
- The State Superintendent should not be elected. (n=2) [The person elected may not be qualified; may only be a good campaigner.]
- The school districts should be involved in the selection of the State Superintendent. (n=1)
- The State Superintendent should be elected. (n=1) [The State Board is politically motivated.] [The position should be independent of the Governor and the Legislature, which would allow the position to be an advocate for public education.]
- The Governor should appoint the State Superintendent; the Legislature should confirm the appointment. (n=1)

What revisions are necessary to increase the effectiveness of the position of State Superintendent of Public Instruction?

- The State Superintendent needs additional staff and resources. (n=23) [This would reduce the number of committee meetings the Superintendent must attend. (n=4)] [This will allow the position to set the strategic direction of education in Nevada. (n=2)] [This will allow the position to be more visionary instead of reactionary.]
- The State Superintendent should be given more control over the system of education. (n=14) [Eliminate many of the councils and commissions and consolidate within the Department. (n=9)] [The State Superintendent should be given the authority to require district level adherence to policies and regulations. (n=3)] [The NRS should be revised to reflect the need for this position to be a leader, such as in implementing a Program of Educational Excellence in Nevada. (n=2)] [Restructure the governance structure of education to have only one supervising entity for the State Superintendent.] [The State Superintendent should be able to regulate school district performance in implementation of the State Plan for Improvement.] [The Legislature should not make policies for schools; this should be the role of the State Superintendent.]
- The State Board needs to be revised to better support the position of the State Superintendent. (n=4)
- The position of the State Superintendent should receive a higher salary. (n=3) [In some cases, local superintendents receive a higher salary than the State Superintendent.]
- The office of the State Superintendent needs a specialist in researching effective practices in education. (n=2)
- The State Superintendent should be an active member of the Governor's cabinet. (n=2)
- The Regional Professional Development Programs must be accountable in some way to the State Superintendent. Perhaps representatives should be required to attend meetings of the State Board and have regularly scheduled meetings with the State Superintendent. (n=1)

- The State Board and the State Superintendent should be reform agents, constantly pushing for improvement. These entities should work with the Legislature to provide the resources for such improvement. (n=1)

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