

**A Proposal to Conduct a Study
of A New Method for Funding
Public Schools In Nevada**

Anabel Aportela

Lawrence O. Picus and Associates, LLC

April 20, 2012

Exhibit E

Mission Statement

Lawrence O. Picus and Associates is an independent school finance consulting group whose mission is to work with states and school districts to improve the way public resources for education are provided and translated into improved student learning



2

Presentation Outline

- Proposed Study
- Firm Qualifications
- Timeline, Deliverables and Attendance at Meetings



3

Proposed Study: 50 State Comparison

- 50 state comparison of school finance models to meet individual needs of all students
 - Analysis of funding models
 - Comparative data tables



4

**Proposed Study:
State "Case Studies"**

- 5-7 State case studies
 - States that are generally comparable to Nevada demographically
 - States with small and remote districts and schools
 - Detailed case study descriptions
 - How schools are funded
 - How ELL and at risk students are funded
 - Seek approaches that are likely to work in Nevada



5

**Proposed Study: Improving the
Existing School Funding Model**

- Approach is to estimate additional costs of services for ELL, at-risk, gifted and special education – over and above the base program
- For ELL and at-risk, 3 categories:
 - Effective teachers – need for salary incentive for bilingual, poverty schools, math and science
 - Extra instructional services – tutoring, very small group, extended day, summer school, ESL classes
 - Additional pupil support
- Dr. Darline Robles will update the research on services for ELL and At-risk.



6

**Proposed Study:
Approach for Extra Needs**

- Special education
 - Census for mild and moderate
 - State funding for severe and profound
 - Incidence for mild and moderate can drop by 50% if services for at risk and ELL are effectively provided
- Gifted
 - Most services no extra cost
 - We add \$25 per pupil for an internet enrichment approach



7

Proposed Study: Integrating the Evidence-Based Model

- This approach assumes existing base funding is adequate
 - If desired we can provide Evidence-Based estimates of base funding
 - Critical elements of the base funding for ELL, at-risk, gifted and special education include recommendations on class size, professional development and pupil support



8

Proposed Study: Cost Model

- Estimate costs of recommendations for all 17 districts
- Simulate alternative resource levels with:
 - Current base funding
 - EB base funding (if desired)
- Estimate district-by-district costs



9

Timeline and Deliverables

- Assumes May 1 start date
- Initial data meeting with staff
- Draft report by August 1
- Final report by August 28 (includes cost model)
- Attend meetings on our about August 9 and 28



10

**Firm Qualifications:
Lawrence O. Picus and Associates**

- Vast experience in many states
 - Evidence-Based Adequacy Studies, including extra services for at risk, ELL, Gifted and students with disabilities
 - WY, AR, ND, AZ, KY, WA
 - Analyses of Resource Allocation and Use
 - WY, AR
 - Longitudinal equity analysis
 - KY, MA, LA, KS, MT
 - Linking resources to student learning
 - WY, WA, Beaverton, OR, Ohio
 - Best experts in the field to meet the specific needs of Nevada
- Interactive approach to all our work



11

Contact Information

Lawrence O. Picus
Allan Odden
Anabel Aportela

Lawrence O. Picus and Associates, LLC
4949 Auckland Ave.
North Hollywood, CA 91601
818 980-1703 (office)
818 693-1703 (mobile)
818 980-1624 (fax)
lpicus@lpicus.com
www.lpicus.com



12
