

Members present: Schofield, Vergiels, Lowman, Foote, McNeel,  
Broadbent, Barengo

Members absent: None

Guests present: Carrie Bagley - Las Vegas, Nevada  
Phil Cook - Clark County Social Science  
Council  
J. E. Martie - Reno, Nevada - American Legion  
Marvin Moss - Reno, Nevada  
Jim Bean - Department of Education  
Bob Best - Nevada State School Board Assn.  
John Gamble - State Department of Education  
Mrs. J. E. Martie  
Victor M. Hyden - State Department Education  
Ann Edenburg - Las Vegas Review Journal  
Mary Rausch - " " " "  
Shirlee Wedow - PTA  
John Gamble  
Robert Best  
Richard Morgan - NSEA

Chairman Schofield called the meeting to order at 4:20 P.M. by saying that he received a letter from Attorney General Robert List on the NRS that Mr. Petroni made reference to the other day regarding SB 170 and the state's position. (NRS 388.070) According to the Attorney General's opinion the State Legislature has established a policy which would conform to the policy that is made reference to in SB 170. He then passed the letter around. Addendum I.

He said that ACR 48 was introduced today and proceeded to have copies brought up and passed around to committee. See Addendum II. Pertaining to Law School.

He then asked for testimony on AB 932.

Mr. Phil Cook, Social Science Counsel from Clark County spoke and said that In January 1973, the State Board of Education made out a new series of graduation requirements and under these requirements they provide for a local option or local autonomy, and the Social Science area, for example, they ~~tenured~~ the two unit requirement. However, he said, those two units would no longer be tied to U. S. History and American Government, and as a result the NRS Statute which is on the books NRS 389.020 and 389.030 as you see listed in AB 932 are still on the books requiring some instruction be given in the Constitution and some instruction be given in American History. What they

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felt essentially, he said, was that since the graduation requirements had been lifted from History and American Government, we need to restore this by simply taking the existing law and providing it and equating it with one unit of instruction which would require one full year of American Government and American Constitution and one full year of American History. To prove his point, he said, a series of administrators were called together to study the graduation requirements as devised in January, 1973. He read from documentations concerning this: "the speed with which full implementation will be accomplished. It was recognized by this Committee that this statement leaves very little choice but to speed implementation ----- by that date however, every senior high school is expected to have prepared social studies course structure in such a manner that instruction in United States History and American Government can be accomplished in one semester. (There is possibly some misinterpretation here and it possibly means one semester of history and one of Government.)"

Mr. Cook said that one of the most important things that they can have is the study of our own American process (governmental process) and we have too few students that understand how to write petitions, to act on a local level, let alone a state level. He said that he did not feel that this was interference at the State level in local autonomy and he expected this committee to approve AB 932.

Mr. Lowman asked what exists now and Mr. Cook answered that one year of American Government is required and this was tied to graduation requirements until the changes he had mentioned made by the State Board.

Section two relates to American History he said.

Dr. Broadbent said the whole thrust of the legislation this Session had been to let the local people govern and why didn't this apply here.

Mr. Cook answered that the whole thrust was in seventeen counties, as you can see, if this thrust was, for example, no longer tied to a graduation requirement for an entire state, we will then allow students to pass through high school with a minimum watered down course of possibly one full semester allowing this to be left up to the student and the terminal student will tend to take the easiest route and therefore have very little understanding of our heritage and government. Every student's life will be touching government in some form and everything they can have to prepare them will make our country a better country.

Mr. Vergiels asked initially and historically, local and state governments have required government history courses to propagate democracy and specifically ourselves and our own development so that the students understand how they got there and how the election process represents and our election process represents democracy

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and on that basis states require that students take and be given adequate courses in these subjects.

Miss Foote said that since they were now considering eighteen years old can vote and have many other benefits as well of adults it seemed that it was incumbent more than ever that they require very adequate preparation in these vital subjects.

Mr. Gamble said he would like Jim Bean, the department of Education Social Studies Director give some comments after he made an introduction.

He said he just wanted to give a little historical background in regards to graduation requirements when he first came to this department in 1962 this law had been in existence for a long time and up until that time they had offered one semester of American History and one semester of American Government. At that time they, themselves, changed this to more preparation in this area. Now the thought has gone full circle and it is now thought that there should be more flexibility in student curriculum. He said that if you force a child to sit in an American Government class for a full six weeks and he doesn't like it he isn't going to learn anything. He said this was so true of so many mandatory courses that they have but to force kids into something by law or by regulation they are going to have full classes but they aren't going to learn anything.

Mr. Vergiels asked if they shouldn't have required English courses or other required courses?

Mr. Gamble said that some of the English courses were just as bad as some of the history courses he didn't say one was worse than others.

Mr. Vergiels asked if he felt all courses should be elective and Mr. Gamble said that there were many states going in that direction.

Mr. Lowman said that if we followed that logic we would have a situation where the youngster could take basket weaving one semester and Lord know what all the next.

He said he felt there was one difference and that is setting something down in statute and setting it by regulation either at the State level or the local level to meet the needs as they change or as they are existent in Clark County as compared to Washoe and so on.

Mr. Lowman said he felt it was important whether his fifteen year old son or his fifteen year old daughter were prepared to make those decisions.

Mr. Vergiels said how are these eighteen year old kids going to run for office if they don't know what they are doing.

Chairman asked Mr. Jim Bean to speak.

said

Mr. Bean the background of this was a year ago he was called to a meeting of social studies department chairman in Washoe County and these people told him that they were identifying students today that cannot take or learn much from a full year of government and they wanted to meet their needs as they were not able to maintain an interest for a full year. He said the State Department had not said one semester of history and one semester of government and that it may be combined into one year if it is orchestrated. There was mandate to decrease this. It was a school district option. He said he didn't think the time had much to do with it.

Mr. Lowman asked if this was a staff study from the State Board of Education. He answered it involved staff but it also involved write-in committees from all the counties of the various school districts in the State.

Mr. Lowman asked the write-in Committee?

On the Committee which produced the changes in the graduation requirements Mr. Bean answered.

Mr. Lowman said that what he was telling them that there were no objections from any county except Clark and he was told no.

Chairman asked if anyone else would like to speak on this.

Mr. Marvin Moss, Director of the Washoe County School District, and that Washoe County was generally satisfied with the graduation requirements as written in this statute at this point. It was their feeling, he said, that the teaching of aforementioned subjects could be strengtened by the graduation requirement as now written. If you were teaching one you were teaching both and some courses could be taught that way.

Robert Best spoke and said the school board association opposes this bill because the school boards do want the autonomy and the flexibility to operate within school districts.

Carrie Bagley of Las Vegas spoke on AB 932 and said she was an ex social studies teacher and she had a daughter who was in Junior High and to begin with it is a proper function of the Nevada State Legislature to legislate this type of thing and was not interference by big brother as the enemies of our constitution would like freedom in this area. It is a responsibility to mandate certain curriculum in our education as the foundation of our government.

She said we were asking our children to go out into the world and be good citizens without the background to do this. Also if our kids decide to go to college outside of our State they could be caught short.

Mrs. Wedow spoke for the PTA and we do oppose any kind of legislation that mandates curriculum in the schools. She said she served on the high school graduation requirement committee and they tried to combine what the consensus of opinion was in making up these requirements. She said she felt they were taking care of the problems on both sides.

Mr. Lowman asked if she found any conflict of interest in representing the State Board of Education and the PTA?

She said she worked on the same problems.

Chairman said the question was out of order.

Mr. J. E. Martie and he represented the American Legion and had taught social studies at Boy's Town. He said he suggest that they look at the finished product. The American Legion's interest was in getting the young people to serve their country and they couldn't do it without knowing something about it. He said if a child was taken away from his parents he would love the ones who raised him so he thought we should teach the history of our country, the heroes of our country and why we have the freedom we now have. You will find demonstrations by young people nowadays all over the nation and he believed it was because they did not understand it and they did not know the history. He said if the teacher couldn't make history interesting to the students he shouldn't be teaching those subjects. He said he had taught government at Boy's State for twenty-five years and it was easy to teach.

Chairman asked Richard Morgan if the NSEA had any position on this.

Mr. Morgan said that he had 271 teachers (social studies) in one county tell him they liked a bill he like it too and especially if it was endorsed by the American Legion.

Mr. Cook said the Clark County PTA endorsed this bill along with the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Further discussion was held on this and then Chairman passed out copies of ACR 48 which authorized the University of Nevada to establish a law school at Las Vegas.

Mr. Lowman made the motion to do pass.

Mr. Vergiels seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

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Mr. Lowman moved to indefinitely postpone AB 467, the middle school bill.

Mr. McNeel seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lowman moved to indefinitely postpone AB 856 which provides instruction in certain public school courses for pupils attending private schools.

Motion seconded by Mr. McNeil.

Motion carried unanimously.

AB 518 concerning driver's licences was discussed next and

Mr. Lowman made the motion to indefinitely postpone.

McNeel seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Lowman then moved to indefinitely postpone AB 796 which would direct the Board of regents of the University of Nevada System to establish a course on retirement subjects.

Seconded by Barengo.

Motion carried unanimously.

AB 834 which removes county participation in education of visually or orally handicapped persons was next.

Mr. Barengo moved to do pass.

Lowman seconded.

Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Barengo to speak.

AJR 38 next.

Mr. Lowman moved to do pass.

Vergiels seconded.

Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Lowman to speak.

Dr. Broadbent moved to indefinitely postpone AB 932.

McNeil seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Lowman then made the motion to do pass AB 932 as amended.

Motion seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

The amendments to be as follows: In Line 3 American Government including be not limited to. Line 5 strike "including". Lines ten through twelve remove "American" and other changes.

Mr. Lowman moved to do pass SB 170. (busing)

Seconded by Dr. Broadbent.

Motion passed with Mr. Barengo dissenting. Lowman to speak.

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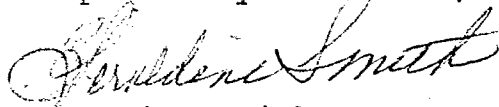
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Mr. Lowman moved to do pass SJR 7 (constitutional convention on busing.)

Mr. McNeel seconded.

Motion passed with Schofield, Lowman, McNeel and Broadbent for and Foote, Barengo and Vergiels no. Schofield to speak.

Respectfully submitted,



Geraldine Smith,  
Secretary



STATE OF NEVADA  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
ROOM 341, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING  
CARSON CITY 89701

ROBERT LIST  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 9, 1973

The Honorable Jack Schofield  
Assemblyman  
Nevada Legislature  
Legislative Building  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Jack:

This is in reply to your letter of this date inquiring if NRS 388.070 clearly spells out the State's position on integration of the public schools of Nevada. Local boards of school trustees are required to maintain all schools established by them with equal rights and privileges, pursuant to NRS 388.070, which reads as follows:

"When feasible, boards of trustees must maintain all the schools established by them for an equal length of time during the year and, as far as practicable, with equal rights and privileges."

I agree with Mr. Petroni that this statute makes it clear that the State's position on integration is that it is the responsibility of the local school trustees to establish their local schools with equal rights and privileges. See also Attorney General's Opinion No. 100, dated November 14, 1972, addressed to yourself.

Senate Bill 170, presently under consideration by the Legislature, goes further than NRS 388.070 to make it affirmatively clear that the responsibility for establishing a state-wide policy of integration or desegregation of public schools is now reserved to the Legislature. If Senate



The Honorable Jack Schofield  
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Bill 170 were enacted as written in the first reprint, there could be no mistake that at the county level the county boards of school trustees would be responsible for adopting county-wide policies to provide equal rights and privileges for persons attending the schools established by them, and that the Legislature has exclusive authority for adopting state-wide policies of desegregation or integration.

If this office can be of any further service to you on this matter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. List", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ROBERT LIST  
Attorney General

RL:JCS:llr

~~ADDENDUM II~~  
~~FOR~~

A. C. R. 48

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 48—MESSRS. SCHOFIELD, LOWMAN, McNEEL, BREMNER, HICKEY, MAY, DINI, BARENGO, GLOVER, SMALLEY, CRAWFORD, HOWARD, DEMERS, HAYES, ULLOM, CRADDOCK, BROADBENT, MRS. GOJACK, MESSRS. HUFF, JACOBSEN, BANNER, BICKERSTAFF, PRINCE, BENNETT AND MRS. BROOKMAN

APRIL 9, 1973

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Authorizes board of regents of University of Nevada to develop plans for establishing a law school at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. (BDR 873)

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

ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Authorizing the board of regents of the University of Nevada to employ personnel from private funds to develop plans for establishing a law school at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

- 1 WHEREAS, The legislature finds that a law school is needed in the Uni-  
2 versity of Nevada System; and  
3 WHEREAS, The legislature finds that it is for the best interests of the  
4 state and of the university that a law school be located at University of  
5 Nevada, Las Vegas; and  
6 WHEREAS, The legislature at this time desires to have more informa-  
7 tion in regard to the cost of a law school at the University of Nevada, Las  
8 Vegas; now, therefore, be it  
9 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of Nevada, the Senate con-*  
10 *curring:*  
11 1. That a law school be established in the future in the State of  
12 Nevada at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.  
13 2. That board of regents of the University of Nevada are authorized  
14 to employ a person who would be qualified to serve as a dean of a law  
15 school from funds not appropriated by the state legislature to develop  
16 plans for the physical facilities of a law school, including a law library,  
17 and for the faculty and staff of the law school to be located at the Univer-  
18 sity of Nevada, Las Vegas.  
19 3. That the information developed be submitted to the board of  
20 regents of the University of Nevada, the governor and 58th session of the  
21 legislature.



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April 9, 1973

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If this office can be of any further service to you on this matter, please contact us.

Sincerely,



ROBERT LIST  
Attorney General

RL:JCS:llr

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON

EDUCATION

Date 4/9/73

Time 4:00

Room 336

Bills or Resolutions  
to be considered

Subject

Counsel  
requested\*

AB 932

Makes more explicit provision for study of state and federal constitutions, history and government in public schools.

AB 467

Adds middle schools to public school law and provides for middle school certificates.

AGENDA FOR COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Date 4/11/73 Time 4:00 P.M. Room 336

Bills or Resolutions  
to be considered

Subject

Counsel  
requested\*

AB 379	Provides for confidentiality of school records.	
AB 380	Amends provisions relating to leave of absence by school district employees.	
AB 530	Clarifies computation of deductions from teachers' salaries for absence.	
AB 640	Increase salary and expense allowance of boards of school trustees and clerical help.	
AB 952	Concerning funds for libraries.	
SB 429	Changes designation of teacher to certificated employee and revises procedures for demotion, dismissal, and refusal to reemploy.	
SB 585	Designates State Department Education "educational institution" for certain purposes and allows extended school year.	