SENATE BILL NO. 214—COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MARCH 21, 2005

Referred to Committee on Human Resources and Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing statewide system of accountability and revises other provisions governing education. (BDR 34-459)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

~

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to education; requiring the Department of Education to establish a monitoring system for the statewide system of accountability; revising various provisions governing the statewide system of accountability; requiring all the elementary schools, middle schools and junior high schools to provide an educational involvement accord to parents and legal guardians; creating an Advisory Commission on Highly Effective Academic Programs for School Improvement and Educational Excellence; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

9

10

11

12

13

14

Existing law establishes the statewide system of accountability for public education in this State. (NRS 385.3455-385.391)

This bill requires the Department of Education to establish a monitoring system for the statewide system of accountability. The monitoring system must be capable of identifying any inconsistencies in the results of the examinations that are administered for a comparison to a national reference group of pupils with the results of the examinations that measure progress on the State's academic standards.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to provide to the board of trustees of each school district a memorandum every year that describes the newly enacted legislation that affects the public schools and pupils. (NRS 385.210)

This bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to distribute the memorandum to the governing body of each charter school as well as the board of trustees of each school district.



This bill requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to prepare an addendum to the memorandum when any statute that affects the public schools and pupils is enacted during a special session of the Legislature that concludes after July 1.

Existing law requires the State Board of Education, the board of trustees of each school district and the principal of each public school to prepare an annual plan to improve the achievement of pupils. (NRS 385.34691, 385.348, 385.357)

This bill requires each plan for improvement to describe the curriculum that will be used to improve pupil achievement as well as a budget of the overall cost for carrying out the plan. In addition, the plan for improvement prepared by a school district must include an identification of programs, practices and strategies that have proven effective in improving pupil achievement.

Existing law establishes four regional training programs for the professional development of teachers and administrators and prescribes the governance and duties of the training programs. (NRS 391.500-391.556) The governing body of each regional training program is required to appoint a coordinator for the program. (NRS 391.532)

This bill requires the governing body of each regional training program to employ or otherwise contract with a coordinator for the program and to establish his compensation.

Existing law requires the State Board of Education to adopt a policy to encourage effective parental involvement in support of the education of children. (NRS 392.457)

This bill requires the Department of Education to prescribe a form for an educational involvement accord that complies with the parental involvement policy adopted by the State Board for use in all elementary schools, middle schools and junior high schools in this State. The educational involvement accord must outline the roles and responsibilities of each parent and legal guardian, each pupil and each school. The accord must be distributed to parents and legal guardians at the beginning of each school year.

Existing law creates the Legislative Committee on Education and prescribes the membership and duties of the Committee. (NRS 218.5351-218.5356)

This bill creates for the Committee an Advisory Commission on Highly Effective Academic Programs for School Improvement and Educational Excellence. The Advisory Commission is responsible for reviewing the plans for improvement prepared by the State Board of Education, the school districts and individual schools in order to identify programs, practices and strategies that are effective in improving the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils in this State. In addition, if money is made available from this State for effective programs, practices and strategies, the Advisory Commission is responsible for reviewing applications submitted, ranking proposals and making recommendations to the Committee and the Interim Finance Committee.

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

Section 1. Chapter 385 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

- 1. The Department shall establish a monitoring system for the statewide system of accountability. The monitoring system must:
- (a) Include a common formula that provides a comparison and analysis of the results of pupils on the examinations that are



administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 and 389.550, identified by grade, school and school district.

- (b) Identify any inconsistencies of the results of the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 compared with the results of the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550, including, without limitation, an identification of whether the results of one or more subject areas on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 are significantly higher or lower than the results of the same subject area or areas on the examinations that are administered pursuant to NRS 389.550.
- (c) Identify significant levels of achievement of pupils on the examinations that are administered pursuant to NRS 389.550 and the high school proficiency examination that is administered pursuant to NRS 389.015, identified by school and by school district.
- (d) Include procedures for investigating, and if necessary, auditing any inconsistencies identified pursuant to paragraph (b). The audit must include a review of data from the applicable school district or school districts, school or schools, and if practicable, class or classes.
- 2. On or before October 1 of each year, the Department shall prepare a written summary of the findings made pursuant to subsection 1. The written summary must be provided to:
 - (a) The Committee; and

2

3

4

5

6 7

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17 18

19

20

21 22

23

24 25

26 27

28

31

32

33

35

36 37

38

39 40

41

42

- (b) If the findings show inconsistencies applicable to a particular school district or school within a school district, the board of trustees of that school district.
- 29 3. The Committee shall review the report submitted pursuant 30 to subsection 2 and take such action as it deems appropriate.
 - **Sec. 2.** NRS 385.210 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 385.210 1. The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall prescribe a convenient form of school register for the purpose of securing accurate returns from the teachers of public schools. 34
 - The Superintendent shall prepare pamphlet copies of the codified statutes relating to schools, and shall transmit a copy to each school, school trustee and other school officer in this State. If the State Board adopts regulations to carry out these codified statutes or if additions or amendments are made to these codified statutes, the Superintendent shall have the regulations, additions or amendments printed and transmitted immediately thereafter. Each pamphlet must be marked "State property—to be turned over to your successor in office." Each school shall maintain a copy of the



pamphlet with any regulations, additions or amendments in the school library.

- 3. In addition to the requirements set forth in subsection 2, the Superintendent shall, to the extent practicable and not later than July 1 of each year, provide to the board of trustees of each school district and to the governing body of each charter school a memorandum that [describes] includes:
- (a) A description of each statute newly enacted by the Legislature which affects the public schools in this State and the pupils who are enrolled in the public schools in this State. The memorandum may compile all the statutes into one document. [If a statute requires the State Board to take action to carry out the statute, the memorandum must include a brief plan for carrying out the statute by the State Board. In addition, the memorandum must include the date on which the statute becomes effective and the date by which it must be carried into effect by a school district or public school.
- 4.] (b) A description of each bill, or portion of a bill, newly enacted by the Legislature that appropriates or authorizes money for public schools or for employees of a school district or charter school, or both, or otherwise affects the money that is available for public schools or for employees of school districts or charter schools, or both, including, without limitation, each line item in a budget for such an appropriation or authorization. The memorandum may compile all bills, or portions of bills, as applicable, into one document.
- (c) If a statute or bill described in the memorandum requires the State Board or the Department to take action to carry out the statute or bill, a brief plan for carrying out that statute or bill.
- (d) The date on which each statute and bill described in the memorandum becomes effective and the date by which it must be carried into effect by a school district or public school, including, without limitation, a charter school.
- 4. If a statute or bill described in subsection 3 is enacted during a special session of the Legislature that concludes after July 1, the Superintendent shall prepare an addendum to the memorandum that includes the information required by this section for each such statute or bill. The addendum must be provided to the board of trustees of each school district and the governing body of each charter school not later than 30 days after the special session concludes.
- 5. The Superintendent shall, if directed by the State Board, prepare and publish a bulletin as the official publication of the Department.



- **Sec. 3.** NRS 385.3455 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 385.3455 As used in NRS 385.3455 to 385.391, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act*, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 385.346 to 385.34675, inclusive, have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.
 - **Sec. 4.** NRS 385.34691 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 385.34691 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 established pursuant to 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 385.3469 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 389.015 and 389.550; and
- (III) An identification of the instruction and curriculum that is specifically designed to improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils in each subgroup identified in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.361;
- (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 districts;
 - (4) Manage effectively the discipline of pupils; and
- (5) 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), 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 millennium scholarships pursuant to NRS 396.911 to 396.938, inclusive; and
- (3) The need for a pupil to make informed decisions about his 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) 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 shall use that statewide program in complying with this paragraph. If a statewide program is not available, the State Board shall use the Department's own financial analysis program in complying with this paragraph.

- (j) Based upon the reallocation of resources set forth in paragraph (i), the resources available to the State Board and the Department to carry out the plan , including, without limitation, a budget for the overall cost of carrying out the plan.
- (k) A summary of the effectiveness of appropriations made by the Legislature to improve the academic achievement of pupils and programs approved by the Legislature to improve the academic achievement of pupils.
 - The State Board shall:
- (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 public schools in this State.
- On or before December 15 of each year, the State Board shall submit the plan or the revised plan, as applicable, to the:
 - (a) Governor:
 - (b) Committee;
 - (c) Bureau;

4 5

6

8 9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19 20

21 22

23

24

25

26

30

31

32

33

34 35

36 37

38 39

40

41

42

43 44

- (d) Board of Regents of the University of Nevada;
- 27 (e) Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools 28 created by NRS 389.510; 29
 - (f) Board of trustees of each school district; and
 - (g) Governing body of each charter school.
 - **Sec. 5.** NRS 385.348 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 385.348 1. The board of trustees of each school district shall, in consultation with the employees of the school district, prepare a plan to improve the achievement of pupils enrolled in the school district, excluding pupils who are enrolled in charter schools located in the school district. If the school district is a Title I school district designated as demonstrating need for improvement pursuant to NRS 385.377, the plan must also be prepared in consultation with parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in the school district and other persons who the board of trustees determines are appropriate.
 - Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the plan must include the items set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 6316(c)(7) and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto. If a school district has not been designated as demonstrating need for improvement pursuant to NRS 385.377, the board of trustees of the school district is not



required to include those items set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 6316(c)(7) and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto that directly relate to the status of a school district as needing improvement.

3

4 5

6

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19 20

21 22

23

24 25

26 27

28 29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36 37

38

41

42

- 3. In addition to the requirements of subsection 2, a plan to improve the achievement of pupils enrolled in a school district must include:
- (a) A review and analysis of the data upon which the report required pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 385.347 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 individual schools 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 set forth in NRS 389.018.
- (d) Strategies to improve the academic achievement of pupils enrolled in the school district, 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 389.015 and 389.550; and
- (III) An identification of the instruction and curriculum that is specifically designed to improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils in each subgroup identified in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.361;
- (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 district;
 - (4) Manage effectively the discipline of pupils; and
- (5) Enhance the professional development offered for the teachers and administrators employed by the school district to include the activities set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 7801(34), as deemed appropriate by the board of trustees of the school district.
- (e) An identification, by category, of the employees of the school district who are responsible for ensuring that each provision 39 40 of the plan is carried out effectively.
 - (f) 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.



(g) 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 the school district, by program and by school, 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, each school district shall use that statewide program in complying with this paragraph. If a statewide program is not available, each school district shall use its own financial analysis program in complying with this paragraph.
- (j) Based upon the reallocation of resources set forth in paragraph (i), the resources available to the school district to carry out the plan [.], including, without limitation, a budget of the overall cost for carrying out the plan.
- (k) A summary of the effectiveness of appropriations made by the Legislature that are available to the school district or the schools within the school district to improve the academic achievement of pupils and programs approved by the Legislature to improve the academic achievement of pupils.
- (l) An identification of the programs, practices and strategies that are used throughout the school district and by the schools within the school district that have proven successful in improving the achievement and proficiency of pupils, including, without limitation:
- (1) An identification of each school that carries out such a program, practice or strategy;
- (2) An indication of which programs, practices and strategies are carried out throughout the school district and which programs, practices and strategies are carried out by individual schools;
- (3) The extent to which the programs, practices and strategies include methods to improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils in each subgroup identified in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.361; and
- (4) A description of how the school district disseminates information concerning the successful programs, practices and strategies to all schools within the school district.
 - 4. The board of trustees of each school district shall:



- (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 district.
- 5. On or before December 15 of each year, the board of trustees of each school district shall submit the plan or the revised plan, as applicable, to the:
 - (a) Superintendent of Public Instruction;
 - (b) Governor;
 - (c) State Board;
 - (d) Department;
- (e) Committee; and
- 14 (f) Bureau.

- **Sec. 6.** 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 of NRS 385.347 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 subgroup of pupils identified in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.361 who are enrolled in the school will make adequate yearly progress and meet the minimum level of proficiency prescribed by the State Board.
- (e) Annual measurable objectives, consistent with the annual measurable objectives established by the State Board pursuant to NRS 385.361, for the continuous and substantial progress by each subgroup of pupils identified in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of that section who are enrolled in the school to ensure that each subgroup will make adequate yearly progress and meet the level of proficiency prescribed by the State Board.
- (f) Strategies, 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.

1 2

- (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 389.015 and 389.550; and
- (III) An identification of the instruction and curriculum that is specifically designed to improve the achievement and proficiency of pupils in each subgroup identified in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.361;
- (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), as deemed appropriate by the principal and other persons and entities responsible for the development of the plan.
- (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. In addition to the requirements of subsection 2, if a school has been designated as demonstrating need for improvement pursuant to NRS 385.3623, the plan must comply with 20 U.S.C. § 6316(b)(3) and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, 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.
- 5. If a school has been designated as demonstrating need for improvement pursuant to NRS 385.3623, the technical assistance partnership or the support team established for the school, as applicable, shall review the plan and make revisions to the most recent plan for improvement of the school pursuant to NRS 385.3692 or 385.3741, as applicable. If the school is a Title I school that has been designated as demonstrating need for improvement, the technical assistance partnership or support team established for the school, as applicable, shall, in making revisions to the plan, work in consultation with parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in the school and, to the extent deemed appropriate by the entity responsible for creating the partnership or support team, outside experts.
- 6. On or before November 1 of each year, the principal of each school, or the technical assistance partnership or support team



established for the school, as applicable, 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.
- 7. If a Title I school is designated as demonstrating need for improvement pursuant to NRS 385.3623, 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.
- 8. If a school is designated as demonstrating exemplary achievement, high achievement or adequate achievement, or if a school that is not a Title I school is designated as demonstrating need for improvement, 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.
- 9. On or before December 15 of each year, the principal of each school, or the technical assistance partnership or support team established for the school, as applicable, shall submit the final plan or the final revised plan, as applicable, to the:
 - (a) Superintendent of Public Instruction;
 - (b) Governor;
- 39 (c) State Board;

2

3 4

5

6

7

8

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20 21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

40

- (d) Department;
- 41 (e) Committee:
 - (f) Bureau; and
- 43 (g) Board of trustees of the school district in which the school is 44 located.



10. A plan for the improvement of a school must be carried out expeditiously, but not later than January 1 after approval of the plan pursuant to subsection 7 or 8, as applicable.

- **Sec. 7.** NRS 385.3622 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 385.3622 If the Department determines that a public school has failed to make adequate yearly progress pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385.3613 :
 - 1. The], the Department or its designee shall, to the extent money is available, monitor at the school the administration of the examinations that are required pursuant to NRS 389.550 and ensure that all eligible pupils who are in attendance on the day of the administration of the examinations are given an opportunity to take the examinations until the percentage of pupils who take the examinations is 95 percent or more of all pupils enrolled in the school who are required to take the examinations.
 - [2. The school is not required to adopt a program of remedial study pursuant to NRS 385.389 and is not eligible to receive money for remedial programs made available by legislative appropriation for the purposes of NRS 385.389.]
 - **Sec. 8.** NRS 385.389 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 385.389 1. The Department shall adopt programs of remedial study for each subject tested on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015, including, without limitation, programs that are designed for pupils who are limited English proficient. The programs adopted for pupils who are limited English proficient must be designed to:
 - (a) Improve the academic achievement of those pupils; or
 - (b) Assist those pupils with attaining proficiency in the English language.
 - → In adopting these programs of remedial study, the Department shall consider the recommendations submitted by the Committee pursuant to NRS 218.5354 and programs of remedial study that have proven to be successful in improving the academic achievement of pupils.
 - 2. [Except as otherwise provided in NRS 385.3622, if] If a school fails to make adequate yearly progress or if less than 60 percent of the pupils enrolled in a school who took the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 received an average score on those examinations that is at least equal to the 26th percentile of the national reference group of pupils to which the examinations were compared, the school shall adopt a program of remedial study that has been adopted by the Department pursuant to subsection 1 [-
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 385.3622, a] or a program, practice or strategy adopted by the Department pursuant to subsection 4, or any combination thereof, as applicable.



3. A school district that includes a school described in subsection 2 shall ensure that each of the pupils enrolled in the school who failed to demonstrate at least adequate achievement on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015 completes, in accordance with the requirements set forth in subsection 4 of NRS 389.015, remedial study that is determined to be appropriate for the pupil.

2

5 6

7

8 9

10

11

12 13

14

15

16

17

18

19 20

21 22

23

24

25

26 27

28 29

30

31 32

33

34

35

36

37 38

39

40

41

42

- 4. In addition to the programs of remedial study adopted by the Department pursuant to subsection 1, the Department shall adopt programs, practices and strategies that have proven effective in improving the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils. In adopting these programs and practices, the Department shall consider the recommendations submitted by the Committee pursuant to NRS 218.5354.
- Sec. 9. Chapter 386 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. Not later than 60 days after receipt of a memorandum pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385.210 or an addendum to a memorandum pursuant to subsection 4 of that section, the governing body of a charter school shall determine which statutes and bills described in the memorandum or addendum, as applicable, directly affect pupils, parents, teachers, administrators or other educational personnel of the charter school and require a plan for implementation. If the governing body determines that a statute or bill requires a plan for implementation, the governing body shall prepare a brief plan, which must ensure that the charter school will comply with the statute or bill on the date on which the statute or bill becomes effective and thereafter.
- The governing body of a charter school shall provide to the parents and legal guardians of pupils who are enrolled in the charter school, and to all teachers, administrators and other educational personnel who are employed by the charter school, written notice of the:
- (a) Information contained in the memorandum provided pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385.210 or the addendum provided pursuant to subsection 4 of that section, as applicable, that directly affects pupils, parents, teachers, administrators or other educational personnel of the charter school; and
- (b) Brief plan for implementation of the statutes or bills, if any.
 - The written notice provided pursuant to subsection 2 to the parents and legal guardians may be:
- (a) Included in other notices that the charter school provides 44 to parents and legal guardians.



(b) Provided in a language other than English if the governing body determines that it is necessary for the parent or legal guardian to understand the notice.

- **Sec. 10.** NRS 386.360 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 386.360 1. Not later than 60 days after receipt of [such] a memorandum pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385.210 [from the Superintendent of Public Instruction,] or an addendum to a memorandum pursuant to subsection 4 of that section, the board of trustees of a school district shall determine which statutes and bills described in the memorandum or addendum, as applicable, directly affect pupils, parents, teachers, administrators or other educational personnel and require a plan for implementation. If the board of trustees determines that a statute or bill requires a plan for implementation, the board of trustees shall prepare a brief plan, which must ensure that the school district and the public schools within the school district will comply with the statute or bill on the date on which the statute or bill becomes effective and thereafter.
- 2. The board of trustees shall provide written notice to the parents and legal guardians of pupils who are enrolled in public schools within the school district, and to all teachers, administrators and other educational personnel who are employed by the board of trustees and the governing body of each charter school that is located within the school district of the [information]:
- (a) Information contained in the memorandum provided pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 385.210 or the addendum provided pursuant to subsection 4 of that section, as applicable, that directly affects pupils, parents, teachers, administrators or other educational personnel; and [a brief]
- (b) Brief plan for implementation of the statutes [,] or bills, if any. [, to the parents and legal guardians of pupils who are enrolled in public schools within the school district and all teachers, administrators and other educational personnel who are employed by the board of trustees.]
- 3. The written notice *provided pursuant to subsection 2* to the parents and legal guardians may be:
- (a) Included in other notices that the board of trustees provides to parents and legal guardians.
- (b) Provided in a language other than English if the board of trustees determines that it is necessary for the parent or legal guardian to understand the notice.
- [2.] 4. Each board of trustees may prescribe or enforce rules, not inconsistent with law or rules prescribed by the State Board, for its own government and the government of public schools under its charge.



[3.] 5. Each board of trustees shall prescribe rules for the granting of permission to carry or possess a weapon pursuant to NRS 202.265.

Sec. 11. NRS 386.500 is hereby amended to read as follows:

386.500 For the purposes of NRS 386.500 to 386.610, inclusive, and section 9 of this act, a pupil is "at risk" if he has an economic or academic disadvantage such that he requires special services and assistance to enable him to succeed in educational programs. The term includes, without limitation, pupils who are members of economically disadvantaged families, pupils who are limited English proficient, pupils who are at risk of dropping out of high school and pupils who do not meet minimum standards of academic proficiency. The term does not include a pupil with a disability.

Sec. 12. NRS 389.012 is hereby amended to read as follows: 389.012 *I*. The State Board shall:

[1.] (a) In accordance with guidelines established by the National Assessment Governing Board and National Center for Education Statistics and in accordance with 20 U.S.C. §§ 6301 et seq. and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto, adopt regulations requiring the schools of this State that are selected by the National Assessment Governing Board or the National Center for Education Statistics to participate in the examinations of the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

[2.] (b) Report the results of those examinations to the:

[(a)] (1) Governor;

(b) (2) Board of trustees of each school district of this State:

[(c)] (3) Legislative Committee on Education created pursuant to NRS 218.5352; and

[(d)] (4) Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation created pursuant to NRS 218.5356.

[3.] (c) The report required pursuant to subsection 2 must include an analysis and comparison of the results of pupils in this State on the examinations required by this section with:

[(a)] (1) The results of pupils throughout this country who participated in the examinations of the National Assessment of Educational Progress; and

[(b)] (2) The results of pupils on the achievement and proficiency examinations administered pursuant to this chapter.

2. If the report required by this section indicates that the percentage of pupils enrolled in the public schools in this State who are proficient on the National Assessment of Educational Progress differs by more than 10 percent of the pupils who are proficient on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.550 and the high school proficiency examination administered



pursuant to NRS 389.015, the Department shall prepare a written report describing the discrepancy. The report must include, without limitation, a comparison and evaluation of:

- (a) The standards of content and performance for English and mathematics established pursuant to NRS 389.520 with the standards for English and mathematics that are tested on the National Assessment.
- (b) The standards for proficiency established for the National Assessment with the standards for proficiency established for the examinations that are administered pursuant to NRS 389.550 and the high school proficiency examination administered pursuant to NRS 389.015.
- 3. The report prepared by the Department pursuant to subsection 2 must be submitted to the:
 - (a) Governor;

- (b) Legislative Committee on Education;
- (c) Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation; and
- (d) Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools.
- 4. The Council to Establish Academic Standards for Public Schools shall review and evaluate the report provided to the Council pursuant to subsection 3 to identify any discrepancies in the standards of content and performance established by the Council that require revision and a timeline for carrying out the revision, if necessary. The Council shall submit a written report of its review and evaluation to the Legislative Committee on Education and Legislative Bureau of Educational Accountability and Program Evaluation.
 - **Sec. 13.** NRS 391.516 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 391.516 1. The Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs, consisting of nine members, is hereby created. The membership of the Council consists of:
- (a) Each coordinator [appointed] hired by the governing body of each regional training program pursuant to NRS 391.532.
- (b) One member of the governing body of each regional training program, appointed by the governing body. The member appointed pursuant to this paragraph may appoint a designee to serve in his place.
- 40 (c) One representative of the Nevada State Education Association, appointed by the President of that Association.
 - 2. Each coordinator who serves on the Statewide Council is a member of the Statewide Council only for the period of his service as coordinator of the regional training program pursuant to NRS 391.532.



- 3. Each member appointed by the governing body pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 and the member appointed pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1 serve a term of 2 years.
- 4. Members of the Statewide Council serve without salary, but are entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally for each day or portion of a day during which a member attends a meeting of the Statewide Council or is otherwise engaged in the work of the Statewide Council. For the members of the Statewide Council who are appointed pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 1, the governing body of the regional training program represented by those members shall pay the per diem allowance and travel expenses. For the member of the Statewide Council who is appointed pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 1, the Nevada State Education Association shall pay the per diem allowance and travel expenses.
- 5. The governing bodies of the regional training programs may mutually agree to expend a portion of their respective budgets to pay for the administrative support of the Statewide Council.
 - **Sec. 14.** NRS 391.532 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 391.532 1. The governing body of each regional training program shall [appoint]:
- (a) Employ or otherwise contract with a coordinator of the program, who serves at the pleasure of the governing body.
 - (b) Set the salary or other compensation of the coordinator.
 - 2. The coordinator of each regional training program shall:
 - (a) Serve on the Statewide Council;

- (b) Assist in the evaluation of the regional training program, as directed by the governing body; and
 - (c) Perform such other duties as directed by the governing body.
- Sec. 15. NRS 391.536 is hereby amended to read as follows: 391.536 1. On an annual basis, the governing body of ea
 - 391.536 1. On an annual basis, the governing body of each regional training program shall review the budget for the program and submit a proposed budget to the Legislative Committee on Education. The proposed budget must include, without limitation, the amount of money requested by the governing body to pay for the [services] salary or other compensation of the coordinator of the program [appointed] hired pursuant to NRS 391.532. In evennumbered years, the proposed budget must be submitted to the Legislative Committee on Education at least 4 months before the commencement of the next regular session of the Legislature.
 - 2. The governing body of a regional training program may:
- (a) Accept gifts and grants from any source to assist the governing body in providing the training required by NRS 391.544.



(b) Comply with applicable federal laws and regulations governing the provision of federal grants to assist with the training provided pursuant to NRS 391.544, including, without limitation, providing money from the budget of the governing body to match the money received from a federal grant.

- **Sec. 16.** NRS 391.540 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 391.540 1. The governing body of each regional training program shall:
- (a) Adopt a training model, taking into consideration other model programs, including, without limitation, the program used by the Geographic Alliance in Nevada.
- (b) Assess the training needs of teachers and administrators who are employed by the school districts within the primary jurisdiction of the regional training program and adopt priorities of training for the program based upon the assessment of needs. The board of trustees of each such school district may submit recommendations to the appropriate governing body for the types of training that should be offered by the regional training program.
- (c) In making the assessment required by paragraph (b), review the plans to improve the achievement of pupils prepared pursuant to NRS 385.348 by the school districts within the primary jurisdiction of the regional training program and, as deemed necessary by the governing body, review the plans to improve the achievement of pupils prepared pursuant to NRS 385.357 for individual schools within the primary jurisdiction of the regional training program.
- (d) Prepare a 5-year plan for the regional training program, which includes, without limitation:
- (1) An assessment of the training needs of teachers and administrators who are employed by the school districts within the primary jurisdiction of the regional training program; and
- (2) Specific details of the training that will be offered by the regional training program for the first 2 years covered by the plan.
- [(d)] (e) Review the 5-year plan on an annual basis and make revisions to the plan as are necessary to serve the training needs of teachers and administrators employed by the school districts within the primary jurisdiction of the regional training program.
- 2. The Department, the University and Community College System of Nevada and the board of trustees of a school district may request the governing body of the regional training program that serves the school district to provide training, participate in a program or otherwise perform a service that is in addition to the duties of the regional training program that are set forth in the plan adopted pursuant to this section or otherwise required by statute. An entity may not represent that a regional training program will



perform certain duties or otherwise obligate the regional training program as part of an application by that entity for a grant unless the entity has first obtained the written confirmation of the governing body of the regional training program to perform those duties or obligations. The governing body of a regional training program may, but is not required to, grant a request pursuant to this subsection.

- **Sec. 17.** Chapter 392 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. The Department shall prescribe a form for educational involvement accords to be used by all public elementary schools, middle schools and junior high schools in this State. The educational accord must comply with the parental involvement policy:
- (a) Required by the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, as set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 6318.
 - (b) Adopted by the State Board pursuant to NRS 392.457.
- 2. Each educational involvement accord must include, without limitation:
- (a) A description of how the parent or legal guardian will be involved in the education of the pupil, including, without limitation:
- (1) Reading to the pupil, as applicable for the grade or reading level of the pupil;
 - (2) Reviewing and checking the pupil's homework; and
- (3) Contributing 5 hours of time each school year, including, without limitation, by attending school-related activities, parent-teacher association meetings, parent-teacher conferences, volunteering at the school and chaperoning school-sponsored activities.
- (b) The responsibilities of a pupil in a public school, including, without limitation:
- 33 (1) Reading each day before or after school, as applicable 34 for the grade or reading level of the pupil;
 - (2) Using all school equipment and property appropriately and safely;
 - (3) Following the directions of any adult member of the staff of the school;
 - (4) Completing and submitting homework in a timely manner; and
 - (5) Respecting himself, others and all property.
 - (c) The responsibilities of a public school and the administrators, teachers and other personnel employed at a school, including, without limitation:



(1) Ensuring that each pupil is provided proper instruction, supervision and interaction:

2

3

4

5

6

7

8 9

10

11

12 13

14 15

16

17 18

19 20

21

22

23

24 25

31

32

33

34 35

36

37

43 44

45

(2) Maximizing the educational and social experience of each pupil;

(3) Carrying out the professional responsibility of educators to seek the best interest of each pupil; and

(4) Making staff available to the parents and legal guardians of pupils to discuss the concerns of parents and legal guardians regarding the pupils.

The board of trustees of each school district shall adopt a policy providing for the development and distribution of an educational involvement accord. The policy adopted by a board of trustees must require each elementary school, middle school and junior high school to distribute the educational involvement accord to the parent or legal guardian of each pupil at the beginning of each school year.

4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the board of trustees of each school district shall ensure that the form prescribed by the Department is used for the educational involvement accord of each elementary school, middle school and junior high school in the school district. The board of trustees of a school district may authorize the use of an expanded form that contains additions to the form prescribed by the Department if the basic information contained in the expanded form complies with the form prescribed by the Department.

The Department and the board of trustees of each school 26 27 district shall, at least once each year, review and amend their respective educational involvement accords. 28

29 Sec. 18. Chapter 218 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 19 and 20 of this act. 30

Sec. 19. 1. There is hereby created for the Committee an Advisory Commission on Highly Effective Academic Programs for School Improvement and Educational Excellence. The Advisory Commission consists of the following seven members:

(a) One employee of the Department of Education, appointed

by the Superintendent of Public Instruction;

- (b) One employee of the Budget Division of the Department of Administration, appointed by the Director of the Department of 38 Administration: 39
- (c) One employee of the Legislative Bureau of Educational 40 Accountability and Program Evaluation, appointed by the Director 41 42 of the Legislative Counsel Bureau;
 - (d) One representative of the Nevada Association of School Boards, appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of the Nevada Association of School Boards:



(e) One parent or legal guardian of a pupil enrolled in a public school in this State, appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of the Nevada Parent Teacher Association;

(f) One teacher, appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of the Nevada State Education Association; and

- (g) One representative of the regional training programs for the professional development of teachers and administrators, appointed by the Governor upon recommendation of the Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs.
- 2. The Governor shall appoint a chairman from among the members he appoints to the Advisory Commission.
- 3. Except for the members of the Advisory Commission who are appointed pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 1, each member of the Advisory Commission serves a term of 2 years and may be appointed to not more than 2 consecutive full terms.
- 4. A vacancy on the membership of the Advisory Commission must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.
- 5. For each day or portion of a day in which a member of the Advisory Commission attends a meeting of the Advisory Commission or is otherwise engaged in the business of the Advisory Commission:
- (a) If he is an officer or employee of this State or a political subdivision of this State, is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally, paid by his governmental employer.
- (b) If he is not an officer or employee of this State or a political subdivision of this State, is entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided for state officers and employees generally, paid from the Legislative Fund.
- 6. The Department of Education shall provide administrative support to the Advisory Commission.
- 33 Sec. 20. 1. The Advisory Commission created pursuant to section 19 of this act shall:
- 35 (a) Review the plan to improve the achievement of pupils 36 prepared by:
 - (1) The State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 385.34691;
- 39 (2) The board of trustees of each school district pursuant to 40 NRS 385.348; and
 - (3) Individual schools pursuant to NRS 385.357, if selected for review by the Advisory Commission,
 - to identify programs of remedial study and programs, practices and strategies that have proven effective in improving the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils.



- (b) If money is available from this State for the support of effective programs of remedial study and for the support of effective programs, practices and strategies designed to improve the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils, review proposals that may be submitted by school districts and schools for the financial support of those programs, practices and strategies.
- (c) Based upon the review of the applications from school districts and schools, evaluate and rank the applications submitted and provide a report of its findings and recommendations for the award of any money available from this State to the Committee and the Interim Finance Committee.
- (d) Prepare a quarterly report that identifies the school districts and schools that receive money from this State for programs of remedial study and programs, practices and strategies designed to improve the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils and that describes the progress of the school districts and schools in carrying out those programs, practices and strategies. The quarterly report must be submitted to the:
 - (1) Governor;

1 2

- (2) Committee; and
- (3) Interim Finance Committee.
- (e) Prepare a biennial summary of the programs and practices that have proven effective in improving the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils that are carried out by school districts and schools and provide a copy of the summary to the:
 - (1) Governor;
 - (2) Interim Finance Committee;
 - (3) Committee;
 - (4) Department of Education;
 - (5) Board of trustees of each school district;
- (6) The Statewide Council for the Coordination of the Regional Training Programs; and
- (7) The governing body of each regional training program for the professional development of teachers and administrators.
 - Sec. 21. NRS 218.5351 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 218.5351 As used in NRS 218.5351 to 218.5356, inclusive, and sections 19 and 20 of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, "Committee" means the Legislative Committee on Education.
 - Sec. 22. NRS 218.5354 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 218.5354 1. The Committee may:
- (a) Evaluate, review and comment upon issues related to education within this State, including, but not limited to:
 - (1) Programs to enhance accountability in education;
 - (2) Legislative measures regarding education;



- (3) The progress made by this State, the school districts and the public schools in this State in satisfying the goals and objectives of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §§ 6301 et seq., and the annual measurable objectives established by the State Board of Education pursuant to NRS 385.361;
 - (4) Methods of financing public education;
- (5) The condition of public education in the elementary and secondary schools;
- (6) The program to reduce the ratio of pupils per class per licensed teacher prescribed in NRS 388.700, 388.710 and 388.720;
- (7) The development of any programs to automate the receipt, storage and retrieval of the educational records of pupils; and
- (8) Any other matters that, in the determination of the Committee, affect the education of pupils within this State.
 - (b) Conduct investigations and hold hearings in connection with its duties pursuant to this section.
- (c) Request that the Legislative Counsel Bureau assist in the research, investigations, hearings and reviews of the Committee.
- (d) Make recommendations to the Legislature concerning the manner in which public education may be improved.
 - 2. The Committee shall:

- (a) In addition to any standards prescribed by the Department of Education, prescribe standards for the review and evaluation of the reports of the State Board of Education, school districts and public schools pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 385.359.
- (b) For the purposes set forth in NRS 385.389, recommend to the Department of Education [programs]:
- (1) Programs, practices and strategies that have proven effective in improving the academic achievement and proficiency of pupils; and
- (2) **Programs** of remedial study for each subject tested on the examinations administered pursuant to NRS 389.015. In recommending these programs of remedial study, the Committee shall consider programs of remedial study that have proven to be successful in improving the academic achievement of pupils.
- (c) Recommend to the Department of Education providers of supplemental educational services for inclusion on the list of approved providers prepared by the Department pursuant to NRS 385.384. In recommending providers, the Committee shall consider providers with a demonstrated record of effectiveness in improving the academic achievement of pupils.
 - **Sec. 23.** The Department of Education shall:
- 1. On or before December 1, 2005, submit to the Legislative Committee on Education a written report that sets forth the proposed



monitoring system for the statewide system of accountability that includes the elements prescribed in section 1 of this act.

 2. On or before July 1, 2006, adopt a final version of the monitoring system to be carried out beginning with the 2006-2007 school year.

- Sec. 24. The Department of Education shall participate in any national study that determines whether the standards of content and performance for the State of Nevada are calibrated to the standards that are measured on the National Assessment of Educational Progress if such a study is available and if the study will not require any additional expenditure of money by the Department.
- Sec. 25. On or before September 1, 2005, appointments must be made to the Advisory Commission on Highly Effective Academic Programs for School Improvement and Educational Excellence created pursuant to section 19 of this act.
 - **Sec. 26.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2005.



