



SESSION SPOTLIGHT

May 10, 2019

While the Nevada Legislature proceeded to hear and vote on many bills this week with the Second House Committee deadline coming next Friday, they did so with a heavy heart after the sudden passing of Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson late last week.

Assemblyman Thompson was the chair of the Assembly Committee on Education and one of the leading advocates for education in the state of Nevada. He led the initiatives this session such as the work on revising Read by Grade 3. More than that, he was a beloved member of our community who always brightened up any room he walked into, leaving a positive impression on everyone he encountered. His presence at the Nevada Legislature will be missed not only for the remainder of this session, but for years to come. [CCSD released a statement](#) from Superintendent Dr. Jesus F. Jara that conveys the impact and legacy Assemblyman Thompson leaves behind. The dates of his viewing and homegoing service will be on [May 17](#) and [May 18](#) respectively. Our thoughts are with Assemblyman Thompson's friends and family.

SB185 - Volunteer Background Checks

On Thursday, in the Assembly Committee on Education, **SB185** was presented by sponsor Senator Heidi Gansert. The bill clarifies requirements for parents and members of the community to volunteer at school. CCSD worked closely with Senator Gansert to make it easier to use a corresponding employment background as well as define which volunteers have “unsupervised contact” with students and therefore need to be fingerprinted. The definition of unsupervised contact is: Direct contact or interaction with a pupil who is not under direct supervision of someone else who has been fingerprinted. CCSD has continued to support the bill in order to reduce the barriers preventing many community members from volunteering at the schools.

SB319 - National Certifications for School Counselors, Psychologists, and Social Workers

On Thursday, the Assembly Committee on Education also heard **SB319**, which would clarify the law on who among the employees would receive a five percent salary increase if they earn a national certification. While currently, teachers, speech language pathologists, and school library media specialists are eligible for a the salary increase if they achieve national certification, **SB319** also added school counselors, psychologists, and social workers so they would also be eligible to receive the five percent increase. CCSD testified in support as this would balance the playing field among licensed professionals.

AB462 - Collaboration with Charter Schools - Work Session

At Wednesday's Senate Committee on Education work session, the committee passed **AB462**, which now requires the State Public Charter School Authority to collaborate with CCSD when a new site has been considered for a charter school. The bill has a conceptual amendment that requires sponsors of charter schools to solicit input from the Board of Trustees before the application is approved.

As always, you can find the full list of bills we are tracking [here](#).

[Current Scheduled Meetings for the Week of May 13, 2019](#)

The "[Calendar of Meetings](#)" on the Nevada Legislature Web site is always up to date.

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