



NEVADA'S SENATE BILL 460 (2025)

Overview of Key Provisions

Dr. Anna Colquitt, Director of Education Policy
Todd Butterworth, Senior Research Analyst

• **PUBLISHED AUGUST 2025**



(775) 682-5083



info@guinncenter.org



guinncenter.org

KEY TAKEAWAYS

This brief offers a searchable, easy-to-use guide to SB 460's 80+ provisions, organized by topic and implementation timeline. Specifically, SB 460:

- Strengthens K–12 accountability, requires academic achievement plans, and authorizes district/state intervention in struggling schools;
- Prioritizes early literacy, expands pre-K access, and mandates science of reading training for educators;
- Addresses educator workforce challenges through new commissions, apprenticeships, and targeted professional development;
- Appropriates over \$35 million to support early learning, educator preparation, and school operations; and
- Streamlines or repeals outdated governance structures and redundant reporting requirements.

INTRODUCTION

[Senate Bill 460](#) (SB 460) of the 2025 Legislative Session is comprehensive legislation that affects a wide range of topics in Nevada’s K-12 education system. Sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Nicole Cannizzaro, Senator Marilyn Dondero Loop, and Senator Julie Pazina, the bill garnered bipartisan support in both houses of the legislature, with only four members voting “nay” in the Assembly. The bill, which was signed into law on June 9, 2025, primarily focuses on strengthening school accountability and advancing literacy in early childhood and grades K–3. However, it also includes provisions spanning charter school governance, educator recruitment and retention, school funding, pre-K access, and student data systems.

Due to SB 460’s breadth and complexity, this brief is intended as a navigational tool for educators, policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders who need to quickly locate relevant provisions. It is best used in electronic format to take advantage of keyword search functionality (by using Ctrl+F on a computer or the search bar in a PDF viewer).

The table below includes the following information:

Bill Sections – a reference for those wishing to read precisely what the bill (linked above) does related to a specific topic. Note that the bill addresses some issues in non-consecutive sections.

Policy Provisions – a brief overview of the topics addressed in the related sections. The main issues are bold to help with scanning the table. All bill sections became effective on or before July 1, 2025, unless a different date is noted in the “Policy Provisions” column. Where the bill amends an existing law, the description is followed by relevant links to the *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) or NRS Chapter in parentheses.

Affected Entities – are generally the local entities to whom a bill provision applies.

Responsible Entities – are generally the state-level entities tasked with implementing or overseeing a bill provision.

Note: An entity is only listed as “affected” or “responsible” if it plays a direct role in implementing the policy. Entities that merely receive reports or collaborate with others are not included in these columns.

Appropriations and Repealed Statutes – following the main table are brief summaries of the money appropriated in SB 460 and links to the statutes it repeals.

KEY PROVISIONS OF NEVADA'S SENATE BILL 460 (2025)

Bill Section(s)	Policy Provisions (and related existing statutes)	Affected Entities	Responsible Entities
1.3, 4, 5	Requires public elementary schools to create academic achievement plans , ¹ prescribes plan contents and reporting, and revises related planning entities, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 385)	Public/charter elementary schools	School districts, charter school sponsors, Department of Education
1.7	Authorizes the modification, suspension, or elimination of information or data reporting that is redundant or duplicative, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 385)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	School districts, Department of Education
5.5	Expands the duties of the <u>Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education</u> . Prescribes metrics for measuring student success and school effectiveness. Some metrics were previously under the purview of the <u>Commission on School Funding</u> , effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 385.920)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, Commission on School Funding, Department of Education
6.1–8.5	Adds school achievement plans ² to existing accountability reports and creates a school district and charter school sponsored accountability system , effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 385A)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Department of Education, Public Education Oversight Board, State Public Charter School Authority
6.6, 14.25–14.4	Designates low-performing or persistently underperforming schools and defines intervention processes, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 385A , NRS 388)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Department of Education

¹ The Nevada Academic Achievement Plan refers to a series of strategic initiatives and plans focused on improving student outcomes across the state.

² The Nevada School Achievement Plan, also known as the [Nevada School Performance Framework \(NSPF\)](#), is a system for rating and improving Nevada's public schools

Bill Section(s)	Policy Provisions (and related existing statutes)	Affected Entities	Responsible Entities
8.7–8.8	Makes technical changes related to the collection and reporting of student data , effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 385A ; NRS 388)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Department of Education
9.1	Authorizes a Public Education Oversight Board to be impaneled in certain situations, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 386)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Governor, legislative leadership, Department of Education
9.3–9.7	Outlines state actions available for underperforming school districts and charter schools , including probation and improvement plans, and the appointment of an independent state monitor, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 386)	School districts, charter sponsors	Superintendent of Public Instruction, Public Education Oversight Board, Department of Education
10–11	Grants voting rights to formerly nonvoting school board members in large districts, effective July 1, 2027. (NRS 386)	Clark County School District	Not applicable
12, 62–63, 81	Expands the authority of the Commission on School Funding , including a new interim study, an allocation for a legislative bill draft, analyzing the return on investment of the Pupil-Centered Funding Plan, and reviewing the process for identifying at-risk students. (NRS 387 ; NRS 218D)	Commission on School Funding	Not applicable
13–13.5	Expands early childhood literacy and pre-K grant eligibility to include state colleges and universities. Changes preschool guidelines. (NRS 387)	Institutions of the Nevada System of Higher Education, preschool providers	Department of Education

Bill Section(s)	Policy Provisions (and related existing statutes)	Affected Entities	Responsible Entities
15, 15.5–15.6	Requires the hiring of school counselors in Clark and Washoe county schools, and other schools with 500 students, effective July 1, 2030. Requires professional development days focused on academic achievement, and gives flexibility in choosing literacy assessments . (NRS 388)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Department of Education
16–18	Changes class size variance reporting to annual instead of quarterly. (NRS 388)	School districts	Department of Education
19–28	Revises charter school policies , including charter approval (effective July 1, 2026); teacher licensure, truancy contract terms, and school contract termination (effective October 1, 2027); and financial reporting and membership of the State Public Charter School Authority (effective July 1, 2026). (NRS 388A)	Charter schools and sponsors	State Public Charter School Authority
30–33	Adds reporting and testing requirements for Educational Choice Scholarship Program participants. (NRS 388D)	Public/charter schools, private schools, scholarship organizations	Department of Education
33.1	Authorizes designation of pilot innovation schools by school districts and the State Public Charter School Authority, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 388G)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Department of Education
33.57–33.59	Revises the duties of the Clark County School District superintendent, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 388G)	Clark County School District	Not applicable
33.93–33.97	Creates a STEM-integrated literacy pilot for grades K-3 and requires an assessment of phonics instruction in the program, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 389)	Public/charter schools	Department of Education

Bill Section(s)	Policy Provisions (and related existing statutes)	Affected Entities	Responsible Entities
34–35	Requires schools to report the time used to prepare for and conduct examinations and assessments , effective July 1, 2027. Provides guidelines for related regulations. (NRS 390)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Department of Education
37–38.2	Creates the Commission on Recruitment and Retention ; provides legal protection for school employees who intervene in physical altercations, fights, or other incidents. (NRS 391)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Department of Education
38.3–38.8, 58.7	Institutes intervention and support policies for struggling administrators and teachers; establishes a data-tracking system for school administrator training with a linkage to student achievement. (NRS 391 ; NRS 394)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Department of Education
39–42, 44, 48	Requires the Commission on Professional Standards in Education to establish guidelines for K-3 teachers to complete foundational literacy skills training and for obtaining an endorsement as a registered apprentice, effective July 1, 2026. Provides for changes in guidelines, oversight, and reporting related to the Commission. (NRS 391)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Commission on Professional Standards in Education, Department of Education
43, 45–46, 60–61, 83	Implements the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Rap Back Program for licensee background checks and updates fingerprinting rules, effective July 1, 2027. (NRS 391 ; NRS 179A)	Teachers and other educational personnel	Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History, Department of Education
47	Establishes requirements for hiring school district superintendents and chief financial officers in large counties, currently Clark and Washoe. (NRS 391.110)	Clark and Washoe County School Districts	Department of Education

Bill Section(s)	Policy Provisions (and related existing statutes)	Affected Entities	Responsible Entities
49–52.5	Modifies teacher evaluations , probation, and non-renewal protocols, effective July 1, 2027, except provisions related to returning an employee to probation, which are effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 391)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Teachers and Leaders Council, Department of Education
54–56, 66, 79	Requires large school districts to negotiate differential pay for staff of Title I schools experiencing persistent staff shortages. (NRS 391A ; NRS 288)	Clark County School District	Not applicable
56.2	Requires training in the science of reading for certain school staff in schools with grades K-3, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 391A)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Department of Education, Regional Professional Development Programs
56.5	Creates the Education Service Center with a governing body to develop, manage, and provide services and programs to local educational agencies and governments, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 391A)	Public/charter schools, school districts, charter sponsors	Education Service Center, Department of Education
57, 58.5	Requires additional training by the state’s Regional Professional Development Programs, effective July 1, 2026. (NRS 391A)	Regional Professional Development Programs	Not applicable
59, 59.5, 81.5	Requires the Nevada System of Higher Education to support foundational literacy instruction (effective July 1, 2026) and ID sharing ; authorizes a pilot program for an alternative assessment of the competency of prospective teachers . (NRS 396)	Nevada System of Higher Education	Department of Education, Commission on Professional Standards in Education
67	Removes the fiscal report publication requirement for school boards. (NRS 354.6015)	School districts	Not Applicable

Bill Section(s)	Policy Provisions (and related existing statutes)	Affected Entities	Responsible Entities
69–70	Creates the Nevada Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Support Account and Program. (NRS 610)	Prospective teachers	Office of Labor Commissioner
84.5	New accountability terminology: replaces “low-performing” with “focus” and “underperforming” with “priority.”	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
85, 33.2–33.54, 33.9	Repeals provisions requiring site-based decision-making in school precincts of the Clark County School District. (NRS 388G)	Clark County School District	Not Applicable

APPROPRIATIONS AND REPEALED STATUTES

Funding Provisions			
Section(s)	Purpose	Funding Amount	Fiscal Year(s)
Sec. 71	Commission on Recruitment and Retention (for studies)	\$500,000	–
Sec. 72	Department of Education – Institute on Teaching and Educator Preparation	\$1 million/year	FY 2026 & FY 2027
Sec. 73	Department of Education – Expansion of early childhood education facilities	\$4 million (FY 2026) and \$5 million (FY 2027)	FY 2026 & FY 2027
Sec. 74	Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Support Account	\$1 million/year	FY 2026 & FY 2027
Sec. 75	Early Childhood Literacy and Readiness Account (grants)	\$12 million	FY 2027
Sec. 76.5	Department of Education – STEM integration in literacy instruction	\$1 million/year	FY 2026 & FY 2027
Sec. 77.5	Department of Education – Transportation for students attending schools outside their attendance zone	\$7 million	FY 2027
Sec. 78	Department of Education – Educator workforce portal	\$500,000	–
Sec. 78.3	Department of Education – Personnel and service delivery	\$2.5 million (FY 2026) and \$4 million (FY 2027)	FY 2026 & FY 2027
Sec. 78.4	Department of Education – Grants for literacy interventionists and tutoring (grades K–5)	\$1 million/year	FY 2026 & FY 2027
Sec. 78.5	Department of Education – Training on statewide performance evaluation system	\$400,000	–
Sec. 78.6	Commission on School Funding – Research and analysis support	\$400,000	–
Sec. 78.7	Commission on School Funding – Revenue and tax structure review	\$250,000	–
Sec. 78.8	Commission on School Funding – Meeting and travel costs	\$20,000	–

Section 85 of SB 460 repeals several statutes, including:

- Recommended minimum expenditures on instructional materials for profoundly gifted pupils (NRS [387.206](#));
- Reporting requirements for non-compliance with minimum expenditures (NRS [387.2062](#));
- Legislative findings related to the governance of large school districts (NRS [388G.500](#));
- Multiple provisions related to site-based governance in Clark County School District (NRS [391.027](#) and [391.486](#)); and
- Provisions regarding the State Teacher and Education Support Professional Recruitment and Retention Advisory Task Force (NRS [391.486](#), [391.488](#), [391.490](#), [391.492](#), [391.494](#), and [391.496](#))

RELATED RESOURCES

The Guinn Center has additional resources that may be useful to those interested in or working on various topics addressed in SB 460. They can be found at the following links:

Vital Questions for Nevada About Universal Pre-K – Decades of research demonstrate that children who thrive in their K-12 education are more likely to become successful adults. One of the most potent predictors of K-12 success is kindergarten readiness. This white paper, published in connection with our 2024 research on early childhood systems in Nevada, examines pre-K education and answers vital questions about universal programming.

Examining School Funding in Nevada: Equity in Education and Policy Considerations – This report analyzes Nevada’s new K-12 funding formula and gauges stakeholders’ perspectives on its fairness and effectiveness. For an overview of the report’s key findings, [watch our companion webinar](#). [A GIS tool, ‘Mapping Equity in Education’](#), allows one to look at student trends, compare funding across Nevada regions, and dive into school profiles featured in the full report. The Guinn Center also published a [summary research brief](#) based on this report.

From Crowded to Coordinated: Examining the Governance of Nevada’s Early Childhood System – Our research shows that strong and coordinated Early Childhood Systems (ECS) are crucial for Nevada’s children and parents, and that early investments lead to long-term benefits like reduced societal costs and increased economic contributions as well-served children become adults. Our comprehensive report includes:

- 30+ strategies to streamline ECS governance, based on research and examples from other jurisdictions;
- A phased implementation framework;
- An inventory of key ECS entities with their budgetary and regulatory roles; and
- Best practices from other states and nations to improve Nevada’s ECS governance.

There is also a [policy brief](#) based on this report with key findings and insights at a glance. Finally, the Guinn Center hosted a [“first look” webinar](#) to discuss the report’s findings.

National Education Rankings: What Nevada Can Learn and a Proposal for Moving Forward – This final installment of a three-part report explores the value and shortcomings of existing state education rankings. It also outlines critical concepts for measuring state educational performance and proposes essential considerations for establishing a fair and robust system for state-to-state comparisons. The report concludes with a suggested approach for creating a Nevada-specific scorecard to measure the performance of the state’s K-12 education system.

ABOUT THE GUINN CENTER

The Kenny Guinn Center for Policy Priorities is a nonprofit, nonpartisan policy research center addressing key challenges faced by policymakers and all Nevadans.

Our staff researchers, together with academic partners and independent experts across the state, tackle policy issues that range from taxation to water use, healthcare to education, and everything in between. We identify and analyze the complex problems we face as a state and inform decisionmakers about actionable, data-driven, and effective policy solutions.

We invite you to join us in creating a brighter future for the Silver State by supporting our mission, signing up for our newsletter, or getting in contact.

© 2025 Guinn Center. All rights reserved.

Support Our Work:



Mailing Address:

1664 N. Virginia St.
M/S 0289
Reno, NV 89557

Physical Address:

190 E. Liberty St.
Reno, NV 89501



(775) 682-5083



info@guinncenter.com



guinncenter.org



OUR VISION

Identify and advance sound policies and actionable solutions that support a thriving and prosperous Nevada.



OUR MISSION

Advancing evidence-based policy solutions for Nevada through research, public engagement, and partnerships.