

updated

June 5, 2017 12am

CCEA

Clark County Education Association

the union
of teaching
professionals

2017 Legislative Score Card

The 2017 Legislative Session is over. Four of CCEA's five legislative priorities made it to Governor Sandoval and two are already signed into law. A huge thank you to the thousands of educators who were active & engaged in the process. CCEA's strategy was to work in a bi-partisan fashion with both parties as well as the Governor and engage thousands of members in the legislative process. The CCEA Lobby Team worked hard to move our agenda forward. Please note CCEA was also engaged in other education legislation that affects members. Below are our priorities.

SB 547 | Salary Incentive for Professional Growth | CCEA Bill Support

Sponsored by: Senator Aaron Ford

Status: Passed out of the Senate: 20-1 Vote

Never heard in Assembly Ways & Means

Did Not Pass

CCEA led the effort to pass legislation that would create a dedicated funding stream for salary advancement. Specifically, this legislation would have required CCSD to reserve money to pay for column movements once educators have completed their PGP. NSEA didn't support this bill.

In the end, despite sailing through the Senate with a 20-1 vote, mounting pressure, and thousands of emails sent by educators, this bill did not receive a hearing in the Assembly Ways and Means Committee; A decision made by Democrats.

This is an issue we are not giving up on. What we weren't able to accomplish at the legislative level, we will work to resolve at the local level. Stay tuned for more information.

SB178 | Weighted Funding Formula | CCEA Bill: Support *Passed!*

Sponsored by: Senators Mo Denis & Joyce Woodhouse, Assemblypersons Tyrone Thompson & Olivia Diaz

Status: Passed the Senate Floor and Assembly Floor

Next Step: Waiting to be signed by Governor Sandoval

It is widely recognized in the Legislature and with the Governor that CCEA led on the Weighted Funding Formula legislation. SB178 will bring more resources to Clark County to help low proficient students with the greatest need. **Specifically, SB178 will provide \$1,200 additional dollars for English Language Learners and Free and Reduced Lunch qualified students who are in the bottom 25% of achievement in one and two star schools. In the end, the bill was funded at the \$72 million dollar level.**

AB 320 | Educator Evaluations | CCEA Bill: Support *Passed!*

Sponsored by: Speaker Jason Frierson

Status: Passed the Assembly & Senate Floors

Next Step: Signed by the Governor

CCEA led on the issue of evaluations from the beginning. By working with the Teachers and Leading Council & Department of Education, we successfully passed **legislation that removes any use of state student test scores from teacher evaluations and caps any use of formative, student learning goals, school, teacher or district assessment at 20% for the first year and 40% for the second year.** Most importantly, we secured the Governor's signature on the bill.

SB 369 | School Climate

CCEA Bill: Support

Passed!

Sponsored by: Senators Aaron Ford,

Joyce Woodhouse, Pat Spearman, Moises Denis & Tick Segerblom

Status: Passed the Assembly & Senate Floors

Next Step: Signed into law by the Governor

CCEA has headed up the effort to address the issue that every school has good school climate. This bill would require that School Districts ensure that there is a collaborative school climate among educators and the principal. This bill requires an investigation when 50% of the Site-Based Organizational Team or staff petition or when 5% of parents petition with concerns about school climate. Requires teachers and administrators to get training in working collaboratively.

Changes proposed would ensure that CCSD must provide school climate training on an annual basis for organizational teams at each precinct. This legislation is something CCEA will use to enforce good school climate with the District.

SB 300 | Peer Assistance & Review Program *Passed!*

CCEA Bill: Support

Sponsored by: Senate Committee on Education

Status: Passed Assembly & Senate floor

Next Step: Waiting to be signed by Governor Sandoval

In the end, CCEA was able to push to continue the work done in the 2015 session to fund a Peer Assistance and Review (PAR) program. SB300 would allocate \$1 million annually to support the PAR Program in Clark County, despite CCSD not assisting.

We requested \$2 million annually. The PAR Program provides ongoing, year long support by dedicated mentors to new teachers working in the Turn Around Zone. New educators receive formal, systematic support during their first year.

AB 469 | CCSD Reorganization Support *Passed!*

Sponsored by: Senate Majority Leader Ford, Senate Minority Leader Roberson, Speaker Frierson, Minority Floor Leader Anderson

Status: Signed by the Governor

In the 2015 Legislative Session, CCEA worked with Legislative Leadership and the Governor to steer the passage of AB394, the CCSD ReOrg bill. CCEA's Executive Director and President were appointed to serve as part of the AB394 Technical Advisory Committee during the interim and CCEA led the efforts in crafting the final regulations. As a result, bipartisan legislation, Assembly Bill 469, was introduced and signed by the Governor to formalize the CCSD Reorganization regulations.

This legislation puts an end to CCSD Board of Trustees' attempts to stop the reorganization through the courts. CCEA thanks the legislative leadership – Majority Leader Aaron Ford, Speaker Jason Frierson, Minority Leader Michael Roberson and Minority Floor Leader Paul Anderson - for working together to ensure that over 320,000 students will benefit from shifting autonomy and control from CCSD's control office to the schools.

Other key legislation CCEA Opposed or Supported:

AB516 | CCSD ReOrg Trailer Bill | *CCEA Opposed & Killed*

Sponsored by: Senator Ford & Speaker Frierson

Status: Acknowledged by bill sponsors as dead.

With only a week in the session remaining, legislation was introduced to delay the CCSD reorganization by a year, and reduced the funds that would go to the schools from the current 80% the district is required to do to 70% .

Our efforts paid off. The bill was met with staunch opposition and never received a committee hearing. CCEA led efforts to prevent this bill from getting any traction. Our Executive Director, John Vellardita was quoted in the *NV Indy* as saying, "the union was prepared to "go toe-to-toe" in opposition to the bill, and characterized it as the latest attempt by district trustees to disrupt or delay the reorganization process."

Through our effort, AB516 is dead. Hopefully CCSD Trustees finally get the message and stop obstructing the reorganization of the school district.

SB 430 | Achievement School District | *CCEA Bill: Support*

Sponsored by: Senator Mo Denis

Status: Passed the Senate Floor

Never heard in Assembly Ways & Means

Did Not Pass

CCEA worked to create a new option for ASDs called the A+ Option that would be a compromise that would have provided more safeguards to educators, staff, and parents that the original bill and current law does not address.

This bill allowed schools to remain autonomous where the principal, staff and parents have 100% control of the school in lieu of going into an ASD. This option was in lieu of a school being moved into an ASD controlled by a Charter Management Organization. The union contract would have been left in tact.

Unfortunately, this bill did not pass and now we are left with the current ASD bill which provides no options for parents, a takeover by a charter management organization and no rights for educators and staff who are left in the building. NSEA did not support our efforts to find more protections for teachers, parents, and students.