

February 4, 2021

SB543 Commission  
C/o Chair Karlene McCormick  
Nevada Commission on School Funding  
2080 E. Flamingo Road; Suite 210  
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Re: **Public Comment for February 4, 2021 SB543 Commission Meeting**

SB 543 Commission Members:

With the convening of the 2021 Nevada Legislative Session the recommendations of this Commission will be helpful for Legislators and the Governor to move forward with the new Pupil Centered Funding Plan. CCEA wants to express our deep appreciation for the work this Commission has done as well as the support provided to you from the staff of NV Department of Education. Many of the recommendation the Commission has made we support and we will advocate during the Legislative Sessions for those recommendations.

Over the next two days two very important issues: optimal funding and recommendations for potential sources for optimal funding will be discussed. We believe these will be the most important recommendations you make. We know those discussions will be policy centric, as all of your discussions have been to this point. Maintaining that approach and making recommendations on those issues can help Legislators and the Governor make sound policy decisions not political ones when it comes to Nevada's k-12 education system.

Finally, we just want to share with the Commission that given the fact that our economy has been devastated by the pandemic as a result of being so dependent on two industries, now more than ever as Legislators and the Governor chart a course of recovery, investing in our State's education delivery system is paramount. Our economy must diversify and key to that is having a workforce with the education and skill to serve those industries and businesses. Nevada's k-12 system is the base of Nevada's k-20 education delivery system. We must strengthen the base. To that end the implementation of SB543 is critical for our future.

Respectfully,



John Vellardita, Executive Director  
Clark County Education Association (CCEA)