

March 5, 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 #2 for March 5, 2021 SB543 Commission Meeting**

SB 543 Commission Members:

The Clark County Education Association has supported the passage of SB543 in 2019 and its full implementation in July 2021. We believe that the work of this Commission has been invaluable and needs to be shared directly with Legislators. Your work over the past year and half has been very policy centric. Currently the discussion around SB543 as presented by the Governor's office has been fiscal centric. And if it remains a fiscal discussion then SB543 as written will not be implemented.

Accordingly, we have had many conversations with Legislators and Leadership in both houses and both parties about the work of the SB543 Commission. We suggested that legislators receive a presentation from the Commission about your work as well as the recommendations you have made. We have been informed that there will be an effort to schedule such a discussion. We hope that comes to fruition. We would suggest that it would be helpful if the following could be conveyed to legislators:

1. Legislators need to understand that the discussion around funding Nevada's k-12 education system didn't start with SB543 but has been ongoing for several years. The work of the Commission has been an extension of that discussion but this time with real legislation enacted that substantively changes funding k-12 in Nevada.
2. Legislators need to know why the Commission has recommended full implementation of the Pupil Centered Funding Plan (PCFP); the difference between the PCFP plan and the Nevada Plan; and finally, why the phase in proposal from the Governor is not being supported by the Commission.
3. It would also be very important to legislators to learn of recommendations from the Commission regarding the **amount of funding** needed and **the sources of revenue** to fund k-12 system.

As the Governor and Legislators act on economic recovery it is important to understand what investing in our education delivery system means to that recovery. Your recommendations must be incorporated into any discussion that legislators have regarding implementing SB543 so that sound policy decisions are made.

Respectfully,



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