



NEWS RELEASE

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Shift in Working Conditions to Rock Nevada's Schools as Bell Rings for 2011-12 Academic Year *Educators Release Legislative Report Card*

(Las Vegas/Reno, NV)-- As Nevada's teachers, education support professionals, and students head back to school today to kick off the 2011-12 school year, the Nevada State Education Association releases its Legislative Report Card. The effects of legislative action and inaction are felt today as working and learning conditions look different than even last year.

"There is a significant landscape shift in our schools today. There were significant cuts to the education budget which translates into larger class sizes, fewer teachers and support professionals, fewer student programs, increased education standards, and fewer textbooks and classroom materials," **said NSEA President Lynn Warne.** "There were also many changes to laws that prescribe educator evaluations and collective bargaining which means diminished rights for educators along with stiffer challenges—all part of the outcome to the 2011 Legislative Session."

NSEA publishes its Legislative Report Card every fall following a legislative session, and today's release comes after careful analysis. Given the drastic changes to education, NSEA believes the Nevada Legislature **DID NOT make the grade.**

"What is most evident and clearly outlined in the Report Card (see attached or go to www.nsea-nv.org) is that lawmakers **failed** our kids as well as our members," **added Warne.** "Legislators were graded for their individual effort on behalf of Nevada's educators—our members. It's clear to us now that we must support individuals who will not just talk, but will make education a priority in this state. Our kids and educators deserve better!"

To view the NSEA Legislative Report Card go to www.nsea-nv.org. For further comments and/or to schedule an interview please contact Claudia Briggs at 702-595-9142.

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