



NEVADA STATE HIGH SCHOOL EXECUTIVE BRIEF

NSHS School Administration Data Analysis of School and Student Progress

December 2014

Nevada State High School (NSHS) is an early college high school where 11th & 12th graders attend real college classes as real college students while obtaining the support they need to succeed. The Executive Brief series are data summaries that have been prompted by stakeholder questions.

Question & Methodology:

Over five years, how has the school been able to offset and stabilize a stagnant state revenue increase (1.21%) and increases to tuition (41%) and textbooks (38%)?

The objective was to analyze past funding strategies to plan for future divide in state revenue versus student production costs to ensure the mission of the school continues. Students are provided with a free public school that pays for college tuition/textbooks, college placement exams, and career certificates.

Through the fiscally difficult period of 2008-2014, NSHS overcame: stagnant state revenue (1.21%), increasing college tuition (41%) and rising costs of college textbooks (38%), and implementing a new college/career assessment platform. NSHS maximized resources to ensure that the school preserved opportunities and high expectations for students regardless of budgetary shortfalls. During this time, NSHS shows a 99.3% graduation rate with EVERY graduate fulfilling college remedial requirements while averaging nearly 22 college credits per year per student.

SOURCES: Nevada State High School actual revenue and expenses reports, www.npr.org for national textbook costs, and www.nces.ed.gov/fastfacts for national tuition costs.

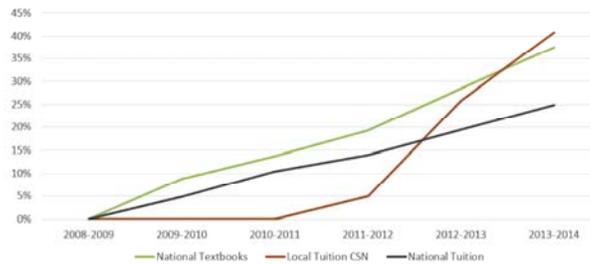


Chart 1: Increases in textbooks and tuition

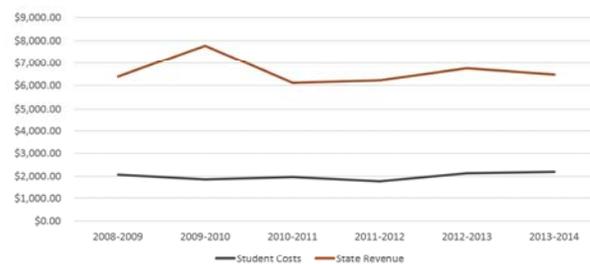


Chart 2: Student costs versus state revenue

Summary & Best Practices:

Since 2009, NSHS increased in size from 239 to 279 students. In 2008 - 2009, the financial crisis hit only a few years into the school's opening, and it was a time of challenges and opportunities. Between 2009 - 2014, the Governing Body wanted to expand student opportunities by developing a new platform that paid for pre/post college into career assessments while opening a second location to reach an underserved population of students in the Northern part of Clark County. The school's Governing Body directs and expects that the school administration continually achieve high academic results regardless of the outside challenges and the administration delivered with strategic moves that include, but are not limited to the following:

- developing partnerships with colleges to take classes at reduced fees;
- managing an internal exchange of used college textbooks; and
- incentivizing all staff to take on value added duties through performance incentives.

"To support our students in a college environment with personal, academic an social skills."

NSHS Mission

Increasing costs over five years driving a thin margin to operate:

- 38% increase in textbooks as seen Nationally
- 41% increase in college tuition as seen locally
- 64% increase in local college and career ready assessments

Nevada State High School focuses on stabilizing the unit cost per student.

School Yr.	Students		Production Costs			Total
	Enrolled	Credits/sem	Tuition	Books	Testing	
2008-2009	239	10.31	\$1559.61	\$387.89	-	\$2071.73
2009-2010	187	10.53	\$1371.57	\$367.74	\$40.62	\$1859.43
2010-2011	216	10.36	\$1517.40	354.68	\$87.72	\$1982.52
2011-2012	245	10.39	\$1444.07	237.32	\$68.06	\$1784.45
2012-2013	226	10.63	\$1736.54	\$297.50	\$83.47	\$2137.16
2013-2014	279	11.10	\$1738.25	\$349.02	\$57.51	\$2203.77

Table 1: Student information and production costs per student

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