



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC) PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday, April 23, 2019 • 9:00 AM

“Nevada’s children will be safe, healthy, and thriving during the first eight years of life, and the system will support children and families in achieving their full potential.”

MEETING LOCATIONS

Office	Address	City	Meeting Room
Nevada Department of Education	9890 South Maryland Pkwy	Las Vegas, Nevada	Las Vegas Board Room
Nevada Department of Education	755 North Rook Street	Carson, Nevada	Upstairs Conference Room
Early Childhood Professional Dev. Center	240 Rock Blvd	Reno, Nevada	

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

(VIDEO CONFERENCED)

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL

Marty Elquist, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair called the meeting to order at 9:09 AM. Quorum is met.

Council Members in Attendance

Las Vegas

- Carrie Paldi, Creative Kids Learning Center
- Patrice Gardner, Nevada Department of Education, Head Start State Collaboration
- Angela Triche, Sunrise Children’s Foundation
- Daina Loeffler, Nevada Department of Education, Part B Office of State 619 Coordinator
- Heike Ruedenauer-Plummer, Other Appointed Members (UNLV Grad Student)
- Linda Young, Clark County School District Trustee

Reno

- Marty Elquist, The Children’s Cabinet
- Sherry Waugh, University of Nevada, Reno Child and Family Research Center
- Tina Springmeyer, Washoe County School District, Child and Family Services
- Anna Severens, Nevada Department of Education, State Pre-K
- Megan Wickland, Division of Aging and Disability Services

Carson City

- Christell Askew, Division of Welfare & Supportive Services Child Care Program

Public in Attendance

Las Vegas

- Patti Oya, Nevada Department of Education Office of Early Learning and Development
- Stacey Joyner, Nevada Department of Education, PreK Development Grant

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- Denise Sidney, College of Southern Nevada
- Mary Regan, Las Vegas Urban League
- Amanda Harding, The Children’s Cabinet
- Krystal Griffin, Community Counseling Center
- Emily Champlin, Nevada Department of Education Office of Early Learning and Development
- Shelby Henderson, Children’s Advocacy Alliance

Reno

- Cristal Roldan, The Children’s Cabinet
- Suzanne Newman, Truckee Meadows Community College
- Anna Destefano, Truckee Meadows Community College
- Shelly Nye, The Nevada Registry
- Rachel Breithaupt, Nevada Department of Education, Preschool Development Grant B-5 Systems.

Carson City

- Cindy Johnson, Nevada Department of Education Office of Early Learning and Development, QRIS

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

No Public Comment regarding any item appearing on the agenda at this time.

No Public Comment on any matter within the Committee’s jurisdiction, control or advisory power at this time.

The Committee moves on to item #3.

3. APPROVAL OF FLEXIBLE AGENDA

Motion:

- Carrie Paldi moved for the approval of flexible agenda.
- Sherry Waugh seconded the motion.
- All were in favor.
- Motion carried. Flexible agenda approved.

4. ITEM A: MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 27, 2019

The Council discussed the December 5 Meeting Minutes for Approval.

Motion:

- Megan Wickland motions to approve February 27, 2019 minutes.
- Anna Severens seconded the motion.
- All were in favor
- Motion carries.

5. ITEM B: ONLINE DASHBOARD

OnStrategy presented their online dashboard as an option to help organize and track ECAC Strategic Plan progress. The council discussed and made a motion to approve Online Dashboard.

Erica Olsen, Kathleen Omen presenting.

- Linda Young asked how and when the ECAC will be trained. Erica replied that training is for the stakeholders that have accountability to the plan and will be entering data. Training can be done in committees. There is also a 10-15 minute video for those that cannot attend. OnStrategy has a TA team to support implementation.
- Linda Young asked about access for constituents and decision makers that might be interested. Erica responded that there are different options to share at various levels. You can have public link and it can also be pushed out via email.

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- Tina Springmeyer commented that we are all volunteers and voiced concern over the time for training and implementation. Erica stated that the tool can give committees structure and data can be entered during committee meetings.
- Tina Springmeyer asked where the data lives if we cannot afford the tool in the future. Erica replied that the data is owned by the ECAC, but lives on the site. The ECAC could import the data into spreadsheets, delete the data from the site or can turn off the site temporarily and then turn it back on if funding is renewed.
- Megan Wickland asked who inputs the data initially. Erica responded that OnStrategy does the initial data input for the entire plan.
- Anna Severens thanked the presenters and stated that the tool looks like it will be very helpful to keep committee conversations targeted.
- Erica and Kathleen ended their presentation and left the meeting.
- Megan Wickland stated that she looks forward to data-driven conversations and that the reporting capabilities can legitimize the plan.
- Angela Triche stated that the enhanced communication and transparency to the public is invaluable and that it looks like a great option to track progress. She stated that it is worth the investment with the funds we have now.
- The council discussed that funding for the dashboard is currently available through W.K. Kellogg Grant.
- Carrie Paldi stated that she is very interested in system but is concerned about funding after W.K. Kellogg runs out. Marty Elquist replied that she is not sure what other potential funding sources will be available but possibly Child Care Development Grant or PDG will be available after W.K. Kellogg runs out. Marty Elquist suggested that we make the determination on whether this tool will help us with successful implementation and management of the plan as we have the funding now.
- Marty Elquist stated that the W.K.Kellogg funds will not cover all base features and options. We have to decide what is essential.
- **Motion:** Linda Young motions to approve online dashboard as presented and open to other information.
- Christell Askew seconded.
- Further discussion – Angela Triche asked about the options and what we will be purchased and that it should be included in the motion. Heike Ruedenauer-Plummer asked if there is a user limit. Marty stated that there is not a user limit. Marty Elquist will review cost proposal per Angela Triche request. Megan Wickland suggests that we start with what we absolutely need and then we can add on options later with more funding availability.
- **Revised Motion:** Linda Young revised her motions to approve Onstrategy as presented included cost proposal of 17,000 plus subcommittee staffing at 7,500 within funds available per W.K. Kellogg and later pick up more optional items with new funds
- Christell Askew seconded.
- All in favor.
- Motion Carried

6. ITEM C: CHILD AND ADULT FOOD CARE PROGRAM NEEDS ASSESSMENT RESULTS

This item was moved to the June meeting.

7. ITEM D: STATE INCLUSION RATES

The Council received a report of Nevada's current inclusion rate for early childhood special education.

Daina Loeffler presenting.

- These inclusions rates are from October 1 2018 Child Count for three-to-five year-old children with IEPs including five-year-olds in Kindergarten.
- Nevada's inclusion rate increased by 5.33% to 39.4% from 34.7%. 40.4% of children are in self-contained classrooms and just over 14.8% have access to regular education by being pulled out to receive their services. Others are at home.
- Three-year-old children in inclusive classrooms saw a huge increase from 15% to 28%.

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- Heike Ruedenauer-Plummer asked if classes that are “pushed together” count in the inclusion percentage. Daina responded that at least 50% of children must be typically developing or without an IEP.
- Carrie Paldi asked if there was a difference between rural and urban districts? Daina responded that almost all the districts saw growth.
- Anna Severens commented that many rural districts have moved to no self-contained classrooms.
- Linda Young asked how these classrooms were coming along with their assessments. Daina commented that she doesn’t have the data in front of her, but that there are several that are exiting within the same range as the same age peers. Daina stated that the outcomes for this year will be available after end of school year.

8. ITEM E: ECAC STRATEGIC PLAN- ADDITION OF GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

The Council discussed and reviewed glossary and appendix from old strategic plan to make modifications to the current ECAC Strategic Plan.

Marty Elquist presenting.

- Carrie Paldi listed several additions: Silver State Stars , HIPPY, ECAC, OST, OSR, CCDGB, TEACH Early Childhood, IDEA, HPSA, CHW, FQHC, NCO, DPBH, WIC, K-12, FFN, EBP.
- Christell Askew suggests pulling out OST and replace it with After School Programs since it does not cover OSR as well. Or leave OST and add OSR
- Marty Elquist suggested that if other Council Members have additions, to please review to modify, highlight, change and send all changes to her by 5.31.2019.

9. ITEM F: SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

The Council received Subcommittee updates, membership and action step planning.

Angela Triche, Megan Wickand, Anna Severens, Tina Springmeyer presenting.

- Family & Community Subcommittee: Angela Triche- Looking for members to identify. Mind in the Making has trainings scheduled in North and South. Northern Nevada will be May 13,14, and 15th in Spanish Springs Library. Information posted on ECAC website. To register send Marty Elquist an email. Cost is \$135.00 for all materials. 35 participant capacity for training, and currently only 13 signed up.
- Health Subcommittee: Megan Wickland- Gathering information about services and incorporating as available. Deborah Loesch-Griffin has been great support to connect Subcommittee members. Amanda Haboush-Deloye compiling available trainings. Marty Elquist announced that there will be Mind in the Making Modules for HIPPY and Pediatricians in the near future.
- Early Learning Subcommittee: Anna Severens and Tina Springmeyer- May 15th is the next meeting. Identifying expertise in subcommittee and tying to action steps to lead agencies. Reviewing and revising local ECAC application. K-3 Partners are attending Mind in the Making training. Trying to make the large plan manageable.

10. ITEM G: EARLY CHILDHOOD FUNDING MAP REVIEW

The Council reviewed and discussed on all federal, state early childhood system funding, grant cycles, key contacts, and what programs the funding supports as well as look at the funding by strategic plan strategies.

Marty Elquist Presenting.

- 1st worksheet: the current funding sources are in column A.
- Map is in Google Docs and all Council member can update and add. Marty will change worksheet from read only to edit
- Christell Askew will update funding amounts for CCDF.
- Marty used CCDF as an example for the areas funded and noted that there is not an x in the health, nutrition or mental health cells to denote that these funds are not used in these areas.
- Patty Oya asked if members of the public should be able to edit as well? Marty Elquist agrees with suggestion.
- Marty Elquist suggests downloading a copy to be able to work on and do weekly pulldown in case any mistakes happen.
- Sherry Waugh suggests possibly integrating with Onstrategy system as well.

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- Marty Elquist will check with Erica Olsen if this feature would be a special customization and will it be extra? Marty Elquist will provide feedback at June meeting.

11. ITEM H: FACEBOOK PAGE

Anna Severens gave council updates on status of Facebook page

- 261 Followers.
- 1000 people reached last 10 posts.
- Shoot Anna Severens an email if someone would like to post something.
- B-3 and developmentally-appropriate practices were the topics with the most reach.

12. ITEM H: B-3 PROJECT

Rachel Breithaupt presenting

- B-3 Summit 5.16.2019 at 11:30am – 5pm and reception from 5- 6:30pm.
- All ECAC members invited. Reach out to Marty Elquist for information if you did not receive the invite.
- Reinforce B-3 effort.
- Presenting work and target discussing last three years of policy and leadership.
- Sending notes and documents at end of June.

13. ITEM I: CHILD CARE LICENSING

No updates at this time.

14. ITEM J: LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATES AND 2020 CENSUS

The council was updated on Nevada's 2019 Legislative Session and issues related to early childhood. The Children's Advocacy Alliance gave updates on 2020 Census as it relates to children under the age of 5.

Shelby Henderson presenting.

- SB 90- Diaper bank, 250K per year for grants physical, nutrition standards for childcare providers to reduce obesity
- AB194-ECAC Health Subcommittee Representative. Bill is looking good.
- AB 234- Childcare Subsidy for parents going to school. Only parents already on program can qualify for assistance.
- SB 84- Preschool fund for state funded preschools.
- SB 44- Increase money for seats.
- AB 346- Look at marijuana convictions for hiring staff.
- AB 253- funding for infrastructure. Bill died in committee.
- SB 198- Medicaid Health Continuum is now 12-month eligibility instead of a monthly check. To prevent inconsistent concern for huge state funding.
- Census committee- trying to make sure we get hard to reach communities.
- SB-90 related strictly to QRIS Programs.

15. ITEM K: NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UPDATES

The council was updated on NDE, KEA, Read by Three, CCDF Quality, PDG-5 and other early childhood programs and updates.

Patti Oya Presenting.

- Last year for preschool development grant. This is year four of grant. Total enrollment goal of 2990 students was exceeded this year at 3023 hundred students.
- Year 1 there were 26 PreK classrooms and at year 4, 172 classrooms.
- There are currently 17 subgrantees in 11 counties.
- Spending \$25M in year 4: \$22M to seats and \$3M to quality.

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- All QRIS ratings so far this year has been 4-and 5-stars.
- PDG-5 planning grant was awarded from 01/2019- 12/2019 and we are getting a late start – Received approval to spend on April 10th.
- 45 states received grant but only 10 states will get follow-up funding.
- \$788K was awarded for this planning grant.
- Working on sustaining current PreK seats and quality.
 - a. SB 84- puts language into law about Pre-K requirements and how Pre-K should be implemented across districts. Unfortunately, there is talk about killing this bill.
 - b. Budget 2709-asking for state investment to sustain current Pre-K seats and quality (some funds augmented by W.K.Kellogg foundation).
- Moving forward with Pre-K application due on 5.1.2019 although not sure what the funding will look like.
 - a. Give priority to current sub-grantes and make they can find current seats.
- NDE is moving. Tentative date is 5/20. Will have to figure out the technology piece for ECAC meetings. Can have mobile Lifesize cart at The Children’s Cabinet as an alternative.

16. ITEM L: STRONG START UPDATES

The council was updated on the progress of Strong Start

Shelby Henderson gave updates.

- Children’s Week at the Legislative building was a success so far one of the most successful ones. Media coverage at the event. Parent Ambassadors and Kid Mayor’s met with key legislatures.
- Parent Ambassador Program will end 6/2019 due to no more funds available to continue program. Hoping to get funding for at least one more year.
 - a. Daina asked if any parents represent children with disabilities. Shelby responded that one parent does and she is a wonderful advocate.
- One parent was able to go to Washington DC to talk about ECE.
- Kid Mayor’s working on their projects to donate duffle bags with items for foster youth. Kid Mayor booth getting hope bags.
- What is Lit? Literacy Event coming up. To donate books to event contact Shelby Henderson. Donate books by 5.18.2019.

17. ITEM M: QRIS UPDATES

The council was updated on the progress of Silver State Stars QRIS.

Cindy Johnson and Emily Chaplin presenting.

- Cindy Johnson departing Nevada Department of Public Education. Tiffany Olivas and Emily Chaplin will continue great work.
- District school-based reviews ratings are a lot smoother. Ratings are coming back high with scores of 4 & 5’s.
- Conference this weekend offering session on State of QRIS in Nevada. There will be a QRIS Party sponsored by Lakeshore Learning on Friday night. .
- Making website updates. Goal is to make site more comprehensive, clearer and user-friendly.
- Currently in process of hiring someone that will replace Cindy Johnson, hoping to get someone by June.

18. ITEM N: LOCAL ECAC UPDATES

- Southern Nevada: No one available for updates.
- Washoe County: Sherry Waugh- Continuing with B-3 work and participating in Summit on 5.16.2019.
- Carson City: Tiffany Olivas- Starting a new ECAC, more inclusive with folks from Douglas County. First event was 4.11.2019 had a mixer with 25 attendants. Programs are competitive in rural areas, so goal is to get folks together to talk about ECE. A lot of positive feedback with positive direction.

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- Nye: No one available for updates.
- Lyon/Mineral/Storey County: Marty Elquist- Possible updates next meeting. Currently building council and starting to have meetings.
- Elko: Marty Elquist presenting for Lisa Calder-5.8.2019 Dr. Kristie Pretti-Frontezak offering two-hour free training to educators and parents on how to handel difficult behaviors. On 5.29.2019, meeting for parents transitioning into Kindergarten. Kindergarten teachers will be on hand for any questions as well as the local librarian, several preschools, and NEIS. Eric Litwin, author of Pete the Cat, will be coming on 9.27 and 9.28. He will be doing a training for educators in the morning and a community concert in the afternoon from 2-2:45pm. All are welcome to attend.

19. ITEM O: NEVAEYC UPDATES

Carrie Paldi gave updates.

- Annual Conference April 25-27th celebrating 25 years of Strengthening the Silver State will be held at Tuscany Suites in Las Vegas.
- Registration is currently closed. People can call 775-327-0680 and check to see if anymore openings will be available.
- TEACH application are currently being accepted.
- ECE Awards Event on 6.21.2019 at 6pm in Southern Nevada.

20. ITEM P: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Council discussed what items they would like to see on the future agenda.

- Strategic Plan appendix.
- Child and Adult Food Care Program presentation.
- Standard Updates.
- Any item due send to Marty Elquist 5.3.2019.

21. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

- Marty Elquist announced The Children's Cabinet was selected as VROOM Ambassador. All staff are trained on spreading the word about Vroom. Materials are covered by CCDBG Funds. All materials are available in English and Spanish. Materials are available to order on ECAC website as well. Community partners who request and distribute materials will be sent a survey in October on how the materials were used. We have enough materials to last until next fiscal year.
- Marty Elquist announced that the Pritzker Children's Initiative has awarded The Children's Cabinet and Children's Advocacy Alliance a \$100K planning grant.. 45 States were eligible to receive Pritzker Funding to improve systems. 11 states received funding Nevada being one of them. Steve Greely will be assisting with this grant, 9-month planning on improving access and quality of services for Infant/Toddlers. Ambitious goal of increasing services to 25% of infants and toddlers under 200% of poverty. Pritzker is using BUILD for technical support. Will definitely link to ECAC Strategic Plan.
- Marty Reported that she gave a presentation to the State Council on Libraries and Literacy on the ECAC Plan. Most Libraries Strategic Plans align with ECE.
- Anna Severens informed the Council that she and Marty Elquist will host ECAC table at the upcoming NDE Mega Conference.
- Marty stated that all ECAC terms expire 7.31.2019. Application will be renewed and get roles notarized. Complete by next June meeting. Application process through button online. Carrie Paldi asked if that is the preferred process since the Council is all renewing. Marty Elquist stated that she will email Board and Commissions to get clarification and will email the Council the preferred process.

22. ADJOURNMENT

12:46PM