



## Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

# NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

## PUBLIC MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 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
The Children’s Cabinet	5905 S. Decatur Blvd, Ste 13	Las Vegas, Nevada	Training Room
Nevada Department of Education	755 North Rook Street	Carson, Nevada	Upstairs Conference Room
Early Childhood Professional Development Center	240 Rock Blvd	Reno, Nevada	Conference Room

## 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, 09:17 AM. Quorum is met.

#### Council Members in Attendance:

##### In Las Vegas:

- Carrie Paldi, Creative Kids Learning Center
- Patrice Gardner, NDE – Office of Early Learning and Development
- Daina Loeffler, Nevada Department of Education, Part B Office of State 619 Coordinator

##### In Reno:

- Marty Elquist, The Children’s Cabinet
- Christell Askew, Division of Welfare & Supportive Services Child Care Program
- Sherry Waugh, University of Nevada, Reno – Child and Family Research Center
- Anna Severens, NDE – Office of Early Learning and Development
- Tina Springmeyer, Washoe County School District

##### Via Phone:

- Dolores Hauck, Southern Nevada Non-Profit

#### Public in Attendance:

##### In Las Vegas:

- Danielle Holmes, The Children’s Cabinet
- Mia Pace, Nevada Department of Education
- Kaitlin Lewallen, Nevada Department of Education
- Denise Sidney, College of Southern Nevada
- Kelly May, Clark County Library District



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- Kate McNabney, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Mary Regan, Las Vegas Urban League ECE
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
- Patti Oya, Nevada Department of Education
- Emily Champlin, NDE – Office of Early Learning and Development
- Matthew Hoffman, NDE – Office of Early Learning and Development

#### **In Reno:**

- Tina Warren, ACF – Office of Child Care, Region IX
- Niesha Tinajero, The Children's Cabinet
- Marybeth Phillips, SSS Region 9
- Alisa Ghazvini, National Center on Subsidy Innovation and Accountability
- Christie Bearden, National Center on Subsidy Innovation and Accountability
- Molly Cooley, National Center on Subsidy Innovation and Accountability
- John Cregg, Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children
- Rachel Breithaupt, Nevada Department of Education of Education , Preschool Development Grant B-5 Systems

#### **Via Phone:**

- Phil Perrin, MetrixIQ
- Emma McCarthy, MetrixIQ
- Janet Osalvo, Department of Public and Behavioral Health

## 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:**

- Carry Paldi moved for the approval of flexible agenda.
- Daina Loeffler seconded the motion.
- All were in favor.
- Motion carried. Flexible agenda approved.

## 4. ITEM A: MINUTES FROM JUNE 26, 2019

#### **Motion:**

- Sherry Waugh motioned to approve June 26, 2019 minutes with no corrections.
- Christell Askew seconded the motion.
- All were in favor.
- Motion carries to approve minutes as presented.



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#### 5. ITEM B: EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM FUNDING STRATEGY

**The Council discussed alternative funding structure for Nevada's Early Childhood System with focus on PDG B-5 Systems.**

**Rachel Breithaupt introduced Phil Parrin and Emma McCarthy, MetrixIQ to present.**

- Emma started the conversation with information about MetrixIQ. They are based in Denver, CO working on a municipal level in many different cities including Denver, CO; Dayton, OH; Cincinnati, OH; St. Paul, MN and Kansas City, MO.
  - MetrixIQ builds out models to figure out what programs cost for cities or states, and to understand how various funding mechanisms work in order to bring the programs to providers and families who need them.
- Phil listed different approaches they will take and how they will work with ECAC to achieve Nevada's quality goals.
  - How is funding flowing from the state to providers in support of their efforts.
  - Strengths and weaknesses of current model in Nevada.
  - Compare current model to the mechanisms used in other states.
  - Determine what quality means to Nevada and what level of quality they want to aim towards.
    - Create scenarios based on ECAC goals. For example universe vs. targeted approach or preschool vs. B-5 approach. MetrixIQ will work with ECAC to figure out which scenarios work for Nevada.
- Sherry wants to wait to see their deliverables before moving forward.
- Marty suggested MetrixIQ be a separate item from PDG-B5 on the agenda.
- Council agrees with Marty.

#### 6. ITEM C: ECAC MEMBER APPOINTMENT UPDATE

**The Council discussed membership re-appointment that have occurred to date.**

**Marty Elquist presenting.**

- Seven members have received their reappointment and seven have not received their appointment yet.
- As advised by Patti Oya, you are on the council until told otherwise.
- Continue to write follow-up emails to Boards and Commissions requesting a status update.
- Marty will post the list on the ECAC website when it is finalized.

#### 7. ITEM D: PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT: B-5 SYSTEMS ECAC FOCUS GROUP QUESTIONS

**The Council discussed Nevada's Early Childhood System needs to inform the PDG B-5 Implementation grant proposal.**

**Amanda Haboush-Deloye presenting.**

- Amanda gave update on focus groups and purpose of PDG grant for reference.
- Council discussed the definitions of quality childcare, availability, vulnerable and underserved children and families, children and families in rural areas, and the ECCE system as a whole.
  - Amanda will look at different resources (NAEYC, QRIS, ECE as a whole, etc.) and come up with a definition for quality. Rachel says it's ok to say we are still working on the definition of quality since it is ever-changing and evolving.
  - Council agreed with Amanda's definition of availability under 1.b. on her handout.
  - Council discussed the definition of vulnerable or underserved children. Not everyone agreed with the rural vs. urban definition and the correlation with rural being considered vulnerable.
  - For the definition of vulnerable, Sherry Waugh recommended incorporating or using the ACES definitions of children who went through trauma and adverse situations versus the broad groups that are listed on Amanda's



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handout. Amanda will pull both ACEs checklists (social determinants and community factors) to include in definition.

- Council discussed the definition of rural being defined by the amount of miles outside of a city versus the population amount and whether or not they are consider vulnerable.
- Council discussed the definition of the ECCE system as a whole.  
Early childhood vs. quality system and focus on basic needs/health, education, and family/community engagement.  
Stick with the infographic of the current ECCE System used in the ECAC Strategic Plan
- Council discussed children being served and awaiting services.
  - Waiting lists versus awaiting service. Waiting list is not an indication of need when eligibility thresholds are set low (i.e., 140% of poverty).
- Council discussed gaps in data on Quality and Availability of programming and supports for children and maximize parental choice.
  - Gaps are in the following data:
    - Measured quality
    - Teacher who are qualified vs. the providers who have space for infant/toddlers.
    - Number of classes, number of hours kids attend, and the cost.
    - Last year the data was not all in one spot.
- Amanda talked about reasons why there are gaps in data or research to support collaboration between programs/services and maximize parental choice.
  - Need funding for researchers to be able to enhance those services.
  - Hard to get providers to participate in programs such as QRIS.
  - Afraid to advertise the programs because they are not comprehensive yet.
- Council discussed measurable indicators of progress that align with the state/territory's vision and desired outcomes for the project.
  - How to determine Nevada's desired outcome.
  - How to do indicators for specific activities that meet the strategies under each of the subgroups.
  - Rachel agrees to look into the ECAC strategic plan and all the different outcomes and action steps and the work that OnStrategy is doing to track that plan.
  - Marty says, key performers indicators are still being identified in subcommittee level too; still in progress.
- Council discussed issues involving early childhood care and education facilities.
  - Amanda says some of the issues when talking to two-star facilities and QRIS is maintaining the facilities, upgrading kitchens in order to have access to better foods, building more facilities and upgrading home care in order to have higher quality.
  - Carrie added that older and single-owner facilities have even more issues with their equipment and playgrounds.
  - Marty recommended to add information about violations from a licensing perspective and suggested to use the Cabinet's provider survey to get this information. Would need any survey questions by the end of October.
- Council discussed barriers to the funding and provision of high-quality childhood care and education services and supports and opportunities for more efficient use of resources.
  - Marty stated that we need to address muni codes that prohibit the building and operating of child care programs (e.g., child care facilities can only be located on arterial or feeder streets (major streets) and the land/rent is much higher and largely unaffordable to operate a child care businesses).



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- Carrie stated that the cost of maintaining low ratios is another barrier especially for infant care.
- Daina mentioned the need for more private partners to partner with district programs and the supports needed in these programs.
- All comments and input about the definitions need to be submitted to Amanda by 8/29/2019 or over the weekend at the very latest.

#### 8. ITEM E: ONSTRATEGY UPDATE AND TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

**The Council received updates and discussed the timeline for implementing web-based Strategic Plan management tool. Marty Elquist Presenting.**

- Erica Olsen and Kathleen Colombo moving forward with the plan and working with the subcommittee chairs setting up meetings to inform subcommittee members to learn about OnStrategy and how the committees will use the online management tool to structure committee meetings.

#### 9. ITEM F: SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

**The Council received Subcommittee updates, membership and action step planning. Marty Elquist, Dolores Hauck, Anna Severens, Tina Springmeyer presenting.**

- Family & Community Subcommittee: Dolores Hauck – Has their next meeting in the calendar in mid-September.
- Health Subcommittee: Marty Elquist – Next meeting is Friday, Aug 30 at 10am with Kathleen Colombo and Erica Olsen as presenters. They are moving forward with their action plan.
- Early Learning Subcommittee: Tina Springmeyer – Next meeting is Sept 24. They will be getting help with the process from OnStrategy.

#### 10. ITEM G: FACEBOOK PAGE

**Anna Severens**

- In the last 28 days their Facebook engagement has gone up 111%, reach has gone up 41%, and they have 242 likes/followers.
- Posts that get the most attraction are related to social emotional and inclusion.
- Council members are encouraged to submit potential posts to Anna.

#### 11. ITEM H: CHILD CARE LICENSING UPDATE

**Yah-ner Walker not available to give updates.**

#### 12. ITEM I: LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATES AND 2020 CENSUS

**The Council prepared for Nevada's 2021 Legislative Session and issues related to early childhood. The Children's Advocacy Alliance gave updates on 2020 Census as it relates to children under age of five.**

**Kate McNabney gave updates.**

- Next meeting is Wednesday, Sept 4 from 2-4pm.
- Marty mentioned that the 2020 Census flyers are on the ECAC website for agencies to use and share with their clients.



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#### 13. ITEM J: STRONG START UPDATES

**The council was updated on the progress of Strong Start and asked for guidance in moving the Strong Start agenda and activities forward.**

**Kate McNabney gave updates.**

- Step Up for Kids event is Saturday, November 9 where election will take place.
- They are in conversation with people in the Reno/Washoe areas to determine the capacity to hold an event.
- They are working on the application for Clark County Kid Mayor. Deadline is September 6.

#### 14. ITEM K: NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION UPDATES

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

**Rachel Breithaupt and Patti Oya gave updates.**

- PDGB-5 is working hard to complete the needs assessment.
  - So far, 100 parents in focus groups.
  - Next activity is to update the strategic plan with the results from needs assessment. Will add task to a subcommittee to review the needs assessment for update.
  - PDG B-5 have conference calls set for September 12 to discuss the following shared goals and visions: data system EC, sharing and privacy agreements, consumer education website, and community innovation projects.
  - Reach out to Rachel if you have input for the one-stop shop website for parents.
  - Working with Christell Askew/CCDF to create consumer website and data system and that there is a stakeholder meeting in August to discuss alignment with Consumer Ed.
- Patti gave update on the deadlines, extensions and funding for current and future grants.
  - PDG approved a no-cost extension for materials and Curriculum Associates expenses, but that was it.
  - Nevada invested \$19.7M in Nevada Ready PreK to fund 3093 seats. All but 8 seats have been allocated.
  - Tina Warren asked how the distribution of seats was allocated to the districts. Patti responded that there was an application process, but the legislation was to support existing seats. Went to each district was approached to see if they would maintain the seats and then there was a second round to allocate any remaining seats.
  - TNTP Leadership program is offering a series for literacy/leadership, math and social emotional. TNTP has also finished the online leadership course.
  - Working hard at pulling in the Brigrance data from licensed child care. Will start to compare data across settings and star levels.
  - SB84 put the definition of PreK in Nevada Statute. Funding to ensure high-quality PreK was not included. Getting a much clearer picture on what quality costs.

#### 15. ITEM L: QRIS UPDATES

**The Council received updates on the progress of Silver Stars QRIS.**

**Emily Chaplin presents.**

- Working to make QRIS website more family-friendly in alignment with SRI and Fed reviews.
- All sites have been updated with the ERS3 tools in July and they are now training coaches on those tools.
- QRIS coaches have started at Rock and will be taking centers off the waitlist.
- Total of 172 participating providers, with the majority coming in at a 2-star level.
- Slowly rolling out the mandatory requirement for all centers to participate in QRIS programs.



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- Converting to FCCERS3 for family childcare providers by January 1. 15 programs currently participating.
- LEA district model quality pieces, including coaching and grants, were not funded and it is now on hold. All ratings will remain active for at least for a year, but no coaching. Meeting in October to troubleshoot and plan the next steps.
- 74 district PreK and LEA classrooms that have participated, and most of them are at a 4-5 star level.
- QRIS had a good meeting with childcare licensing regarding the licensing grading system. Plan to meet on a quarterly basis to remain on the same messaging to childcare providers.
- Next QRIS advisory meeting is September 18 at 9am, and it is open to the public.

#### 16. ITEM M: LOCAL ECAC UPDATES

- Southern Nevada: Amanda Haboush-Deloye – Meeting was last Wednesday. They discussed Step Up for Kids and tribal childcare. Boystown also did a presentation of their services. The next meeting is October where they will discuss breastfeeding and tuition costs.
- Elko: Anna Severens spoke for Lisa Calder who was not present – Event with author Eric Litwin (*Pete the Cat*) will be coming to Elko September 27 and 28. He will be putting on a community concert and a training for educators.
- Washoe County: Sherry Waugh – They will realign with ECAC subcommittee and figure out their role.
- Lyon/Mineral/Story County: Amanda Haboush-Deloye stated that they participated on PDG focus group.
- Tribal ECAC- Marty will talk to Pricilla at the Pritzker meeting on Thursday, August 29.

#### 17. ITEM N: NEVAEYC UPDATES

##### **Carrie Paldi gave updates.**

- The 2020 NevAEYC conference will be held at the Nugget Casino and Resort in Sparks on April 16-18. Reach out to Sarah Navarro at 775-327-0680 for more information.
- TEACH application are still being accepted scholarships for Spring 2020 semester. For more information reach out to the NevAEYC office at 775-327-0680.
- Southern NV chapter is holding a free two-hour NV registry workshop about STEM on September 29 from 8:00-10:00am at the Lakeshore store in Henderson, NV. Flyers will be sent.
- Southern NV chapter is holding their Leadership Retreat on September 12.

#### 18. ITEM O: OCTOBER MEETING DATE AND 2020 CALENDAR

##### **The Council discussed the rescheduling of October meeting date and 2020 Calendar.**

##### **Marty Elquist presented.**

- Meetings will remain on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every other month except December.
- 2019 December is on the 18<sup>th</sup>. 2020 December meeting is on the 16<sup>th</sup>.
- 2020 meetings will start in February and a calendar will be posted on the ECAC website.

#### 19. ITEM P: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

##### **The Council discussed what items they would like to see in future agenda items.**

Marty is not accepting new items for the October meeting.

Send items to Marty for December meeting.

#### 20. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

Carrie Paldi announced public workshop about childcare licensing in Las Vegas and Carson City on Thursday, Aug 29



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Mia Pace complimented the people working on the PDG grant saying they're doing a great job. She recommended that Amanda reference indicators of quality instead of a definition of quality and use the quality indicators outlined in QRIS.

## 21. ADJOURNMENT 12:10PM