



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

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PUBLIC MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020 • 11:30 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	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, 11:35 AM. Quorum is met.

Council Members in Attendance:

In Las Vegas:

- Patrice Gardner, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Angela Triche, Sunrise Children’s Foundation, Early Head Start
- Denise Tanata, J.D., Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Lynda Tache, Collab Center Las Vegas
- Linda Young, Clark County School District Board of Trustees
- LoriAnn Malina-Lovell, IDEA Part C

In Reno:

- Marty Elquist, The Children’s Cabinet
- Tina Springmeyer, Washoe County School District

In Carson City:

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

Public in Attendance:

In Las Vegas:

- Mia Pace, Nevada Department of Education
- Jon Bell, Lakeshore
- Scott Jones, Lakeshore
- Jennifer Butler, Las Vegas Urban League
- Adrienne Williams, Let’s Talk Therapy Center
- Emily Champlin, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development



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- Kaitlin Lewallen, Nevada Department of Education
- Kate McNabney, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Denise Sidney, College of Southern Nevada
- Mary Regan, Las Vegas Urban League
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
- Patti Oya, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Angela Rose, City of Las Vegas
- Julie Houchins, United Way of Southern Nevada
- Mychelle Weart, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development

In Reno:

- Niesha Tinajero, The Children's Cabinet
- Emma McCarthy, Metrix IQ
- Phil Perrin, Metrix IQ
- Tiffany Kaplan, State of Nevada, Child Care Licensing
- Stacey Joyner, Nevada Department of Education
- Sherry Waugh, University of Nevada, Reno, Child and Family Research Center
- Anna Severens, Nevada Department Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Rachel Breithaupt, Nevada Department of Education, Preschool Development Grant B-5 Systems

In Carson City:

- Cristal Johnson, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child Care Program

In Elko:

- Lisa Calder, Elko County School District

Via Videoconference:

- Ali Cooper, Carson-Douglas ECAC
- Melissa Burnham, University of Nevada, Reno, College of Education, Human Development and Family Studies

1. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

Marty Elquist announced that Anna Severens and Sherry Waugh have not been reappointed to the Council and that we are still awaiting the confirmation of their replacements.

Denise Tanata announced that City of Fernley is now restricting child care hours of operation from 7am to 7pm and requiring licensed family child care providers to pay a \$3,800 special use permit. CAA has started to look at municode and other local barriers to sustaining and building our child care capacity. Denise stated that Children's Advocacy Alliance can draft a letter to the Fernley City Council Ms. Elquist stated that this item will be added to the next meeting agenda for discussion.

2. APPROVAL OF FLEXIBLE AGENDA

Motion:

- Tina Springmeyer moved for the approval of flexible agenda.
- Patrice Gardner seconded the motion.
- All were in favor.



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- Motion carried. Flexible agenda approved.

3. ITEM A: MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 18, 2019

Motion:

- Tina Springmeyer – delete Trustee in her title
- Rachel Briethaupt noted the change from “Strategic” plan to “action” plan on page 3, number 5, Item B
- Tina Springmeyer motions to approve December 18, 2019 minutes with corrections.
- Patrice seconded the motion.
- All were in favor.
- Motion carries to approve minutes with corrections made.

4. ITEM B: FISCAL ANALYSIS OF THE NEVADA EARLY EDUCATION SYSTEM

MetrixIQ presented their research and analysis related to the PDG B-5 fiscal analysis project.

Phil Perrin and Emma McCarthy presented

- Introduction to Fiscal Feasibility Study
- Overview of ECE landscape in Nevada
 - 538 early education providers in Nevada
 - 181,207 children under five years old
 - Over 70% of Nevadans live in child care deserts – ranking 49/50
 - Inequitable access to quality-rated providers
 - Population with special needs
 - Subsidy enrollments
 - Tribal populations
 - Special education considerations
- Strengths and Weaknesses of Nevada’s model
 - Strengths
 - Revised subsidy rates
 - Agency alignment and collaboration
 - Weaknesses
 - Child Care Deserts
 - Goals for QRIS and subsidy participation
 - Expanding service delivery to underserved populations
 - Interoperability of child care data (licensing, QRIS, Subsidy, R&R)
- State Comparisons
 - Percentage Living in Rural Areas
 - Nevada – 9.4%
 - Colorado – 12.8%
 - Ohio – 16.0%
 - Oklahoma – 35.2%
 - Tennessee – 13.0%
- Cost Estimation Tool
 - List of Licensed Provides and Census Data
 - Statewide and Regional Modeling



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- Three scenarios
 - Addressing Child Care Deserts
 - Capacity as a percentage of number of children
 - Parameters for increasing percentage and administration costs
 - Enhancing Quality Ratings
 - Star ratings between ‘home’ and ‘center’ types
 - Parameters for desired star rating participation and support costs
 - Serving Underserved Populations
 - Child population data on poverty, tribal affiliation, and early intervention
 - Parameters for increasing service delivery and direct expenses
- Conclusions
 - Consider a diversity of funding sources
 - Build private-public partnerships
 - Engage and communicate with providers and families in advance of program launch
- **See Powerpoint slides for more information**

5. ITEM C: CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM STRATEGIC PLANNING & ALIGNMENT TO ECAC STRATEGIC PLAN

The Council is updated on Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Strategic Planning timeline and how the plan will be aligned to the ECAC Strategic Plan

Christell Askew presented

- Childcare strategic plan is still in early stages
- In the middle of doing a situational analysis including the PDG needs assessment, the ECAC strategic plan, the childcare and development program state plan and other relevant reports and presentation
- Setting up stakeholder meeting to flesh out mission/vision – still in early stages
- 30 minute interviews with key informants
- Process will go through June because of slow start
- Will bring in local ECAC to keep them in the loop and get representation statewide
- Anna suggests CCDF plan and policy recommendations; Marty mentions that the document is on the B3 page of the ECAC website

6. ITEM D: KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

All members have not dive into the document and would like more time to do so. Linda – asked for more understanding of the assignment and what needs to be done in order to dive into the key performance indicators. Item will be moved to April’s agenda.

7. ITEM E: EARLY EDUCATOR INVESTMENT COLLABORATIVE

Council is informed about grant opportunity to transform ECE higher education teacher preparation programs.

Melissa Burnham presented

- UNR is planning to submit a letter of intent for the Early Educator Investment Collaborative. Their tag line is “Professional educators, professional compensation, prepared children.”
- Group of funders put money together for 4-year degree programs to partner with state entities and others who have oversight over early childhood education to partner together for a 2 year grant to update the higher education and early



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childhood program so that it in lines with “Transforming the Workforce Competencies” and to have a plan for adequately and equitably funding the workforce for obtaining degrees.

- Plan to update courses and integrating classroom assessment scoring system into practicum and experiences to do observations of candidates.
- Recruitment plan and strategy for providers who are currently in the field, high school students interested in becoming early childhood teachers, trying to diversify the candidate pool.
- Timeline: LOI is due March 2, applicants will be invited to submit full proposal and answer additionally questions in April/May. Final application is due June 1 and grantees will be notified in late July.
- Improves preparation and compensation for people in the field
- Reached out to other higher institution in the state to see if they are applying and there are none planning to apply at this point. Ms. Elquist stated that she reached out to Great Basin and UNLV. Great Basin reported that they are concentrating on their bachelor’s program and UNLV has not made a decision.

8. ITEM F: SUBCOMMITTEE PROGRESS AND ROSTER UPDATES

The Council received Subcommittee updates, membership and action step planning. They received updates on use of OnStrategy and support needs. They identified any new or upcoming needs assessments that are being conducted in respective areas to add to inventory.

Marty Elquist, Angela Triche, Dolores Hauck, LoriAnn Molina-Lovell, Anna Severens and Tina Springmeyer presented

- Angela Triche, Family and Community Subcommittee – last meeting at the end of January – concentrated on organizational and housekeeping issues within subcommittee. The Committee looked at objectives and action steps that were overlapping with Health Subcommittee. Need to assign overlapping items to one or the other. Also looking at action steps that needed to be done, but do not have individuals assigned. They are now taking a look at the community to see who could help and report back to the committee, not necessarily be on the committee. Next meeting is schedule the first week of March.
- LoriAnn Malina-Lovell and Denise Tanata, Health Subcommittee – Held most recent meeting on February 13 but did not meet quorum because some members have dropped off the roster and as new chairs, they were unaware. They welcomed Denise Tanata from Children’s Advocacy Alliance as co-chair. Looking forward to OnStrategy training so they can participate more actively. Meeting again on April 3.
- Tina Springmeyer and Anna Severn – Early Learning Subcommittee – meeting was last week. They struggled with online system, so they met with Kathleen, but still needed help after doing it individually. Anna went through all indicators and will update some of the information and then assign certain tasks to each member.
- Marty has updated the timeline for Family and Community subcommittee and will do the same for the Health Subcommittee. OnStrategy was very helpful. Kathleen and Erica was able to put it in a format to make it look good for the government report which was received. Marty are not received any feedback from the Governor’s Office or LCB at this time.
- ECAC strategy plan was present to the Legislative Interim Committee on Health. In addition, Christell Askew presented on the childcare subsidy program and the capacity and quality of the early childhood system here in Nevada. Denise Tanata presented on Pritzker Children’s Initiative and specific policy recommendations that included all three presentations.
- Ms. Elquist stated that there are three chair appointment (1 Early Learning and 2 Family & Community), which will be an item on the April agenda.



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9. ITEM G: NEW OR UPCOMING EARLY CHILDHOOD NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Council identified any new or upcoming needs assessments that impact or inform the early childhood system. All needs assessments identified will be posted on the ECAC website under Reports and Documents.

Marty Elquist presented

- Under the Document and Report page on ECAC website there is a section for needs assessments. We need to do a better job to post and share early childhood needs assessments and we can do this on the ECAC website as there isn't a one-stop shop for needs assessments in early childhood.
- Rachel Breithaupt – working PDG-B5 needs assessment and will be available by mid-March.
- Amanda – No updates, but she will help put documents in ADA compliant for website. Amanda is working on the needs assessment list and will have it ready for the next meeting.
- There is a Home Visiting needs assessment being conducted and should be completed in April. Marty will reach out to Evelyn Dryer to see if it is available.

10. ITEM H: FACEBOOK PAGE

Council discussed the status of the ECAC Facebook Page

Anna Severens presented

- 292 followers. Last month post reached 87 and 46 post engagement.
- If you have anything to post pass it along to Anna.

11. ITEM I: CHILD CARE LICENSING UPDATE

Tiffany Kaplan presented

- Contacted supervisor this morning and there is no update at this time. Let Tiffany know there are any specific questions for licensing.

12. ITEM J: LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATES AND 2020 CENSUS

The council was updated on the preparation for Nevada's 2021 Legislative Session and issues related to early childhood. The Children's Advocacy discussed the important of and pending legislation regarding the 2020 Census as it relates to children.

Denise Tanata presented

- Children's Advocacy Alliance (CAA) just did a presentation to legislative Interim Committee on Healthcare that had recommendations from Pritzker initiative on children's health. They are in the process of setting up individual meetings with legislatures to identify sponsor for specific bills and putting together an analysis.
- CAA will be getting about 25,000 coloring books in English and Spanish that are Census focused and they are looking for individuals who work with families to distribute the coloring books. Let Denise know if you have leads on anyone who can distribute. Will have them delivered in the next week or two.
- CAA just found that they have funds to print posters and flyers and purchase swag items like bracelet and buttons to distribute, and they are looking for distribute who want help.
- CAA will also be doing presentation for families and providers. Census Bureau will be doing most of the presentations in English and Spanish.
- Southern Nevada will have a kick-off event on March 12, 9am – 12pm at the Clark County Govt. Center, Amphitheater. There will be entertainment, food trucks, and tabling.



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13. ITEM K: STRONG START UPDATES

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

Kate McNabney presented

- Mission of Strong Start: It is a community outreach campaign aimed at mobilizing parents, educator, advocates, community and business leaders to make quality early childhood education a priority in our state through program like the Children's Day event such as Step Up and Kid Mayor. CAA recently received funding to continue those two programs.
 - Northern Nevada/Washoe County Kid Mayor, Lincoln has partnered with Spread the Word NV and he will be traveling to Las Vegas in two weeks to attend Spread the Word NV Storybook Gala along with Kid Mayor Cameron.
 - Southern NV/Clark County Kid Mayor, Cameron is doing caucus outreaching with CAA. She created a video that they have on their social media accounts.
- Parent Ambassadors: They have a total of eight in south and seven in the north. First official meeting for southern meeting is Friday, Feb 21. They still need volunteers to supervise their children. It'll be from 6-8p in the new NICRP building. The first official meeting for the northern group is March 4.

14. ITEM L: 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 projects.

Patti Oya presented

- Department is required to have a five-year plan and an annual plan approved by the Department of Education. They are currently working on it and here will be a B-3 goal, which will align with the ECAC plan.
- They are working on SB84 where the State Board of Education has to approve regulations. There are four areas. Ms. Oya will present at the state Pre-K directors meeting. They will use April's meeting to get input as well.
- NDE is working on a new funding formula for K12 system. Zoom and Victory state funds are moving from categorical to DSA rate and weighted formulas. The formula will dictate how they distribute the funds and it is weighted for children with special needs or ELA or other things. Zoom funding for English learning is for Pre-K. She will be giving a public comment to help them understand why Zoom funding is for Pre-K.
- 1.5 million was used in this fiscal year to braid with state Pre-K funding. At \$84.76 per seat. We would lose 185 seats and we are only serving about 3,070 children.
- Counties that currently serve state Pre-K and braid funding are Carson, Humboldt, Lyon, Nye and Washoe. Separately, counties that serve Zoom Pre-K programs are Churchill, Clark, Douglas, Elko, Esmeralda, Humboldt and Washoe counties (3-4 year old English learners). That equals a little over 7 million dollars and roughly 1,937 seats.
- NDE will be requesting funding for those programs together, which is 8.6 million dollars. If we move it into the DSA formula we will be able to serve 860 more children in addition to what we are serving with Zoom dollars.



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15. ITEM M: QRIS UPDATES

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

Emily Champlin presented

- Silver State Stars has added 35 new programs July 2019 including 6 new family childcare providers in Southern Nevada, 13 centers in southern Nevada added in November 2019, and 16 centers in northern Nevada that started in February 2020.
- We are now serving 67 of the top 75 subsidy centers in Nevada.
- A lot of great work in creating a Maintenance 3+ Cohort for centers who have been participating for more than three maintenance cycles, which is over six years, with high rates. Then they join a cohort with other centers that are in the same boat and can share with each other and experience QRIS in a new way. Will free up some coaches to get more programs involved. Southern NV had their first meeting. Northern NV meeting is scheduled.
- Renewing contract with NAEYC in order to guide programs through QRIS and NAEYC national accreditation
- ECAC Strategic Plan Early Learning category about out of school time quality initiatives – They are attending an out of school conference, and will be presenting a session on quality interaction and social / emotional development.
- Tribal modals – Emily and Tiffany Olives, Education and Information Officer in northern Nevada, will be attending 13th Native American and Alaskan Native Education Summit.
- FCC – they have started a monthly call with coaching coordinators to create agendas and find out ways to better support and retain FCCs.
- Working on QRIS newsletter goal to have it out to participating programs by March 2020.
- LEA/QRIS model will be back online this fall – updating the model and how to streamline and improves to make the model stronger. Presented updated model next week in northern NV at LEA directors meeting.
- Hiring coaches
- QRIS Advisory Council meeting on April 28th 1pm at NDE.
- Linda Young as if QRIS' work with tribes includes southern NV. Emily stated that she will connect with them and believes they were invited to the Native American Summit March 16-17 at UNR.

16. ITEM N: LOCAL ECAC UPDATES

- Ali Cooper – Carson/Douglas – Reported an increase in attendance. Spring mixer coming up April 9 in Douglas County. Marty will be one of the guest speakers. Ordering T-shirts for ECAC to build awareness. They will be sending three scholarships to attendees for the conference in April.
- Lisa Calder – Elko – Working on inclusion training in the fall in September. They are currently working with Head Start for kindergarten transition summit in April or May.
- Amanda – Southern NV – Had meeting a couple weeks ago. They got an update from Family & Community Engagement committee from Angela. They talked about a toolkit including resources for breastfeeding, workplace policies and developmental screening and now has a sub group for pulling information together. It will be distributed to different businesses to help them encourage and/or support families. Will work over next couple meetings to figure out what to do to move forward from the ECAC strategic plan.
- Sherry – Washoe County – They are working on EEIC grant and referred the Council to the previous presentation by Ms. Burnham.
- Nye County – no representation
- Tribal – no representation



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- Rachel – Lyon/Story/Mineral – Tri county ECAC had mini-conference February 2nd. Deb and Rachel did the keynote. 35-40 people in attendance and 7 counties present.

17. ITEM O: NEVAEYC UPDATES

The Council receives updates from NevAEYC Amanda Haboush-Deloye presented.

- We had retreat at the end of January and welcome new board members including Danielle Holmes, Brianna Cambra, Marissa Meehan-Goff, Ana Villatoro, Kate McNabney, and Heather Friendale.
- Heading out to DC for public policy form with NAEYC. They are bringing a team of seven including two parents from Strong Start Parent Ambassador program (one from South and one from north) and a couple other people from the state. Will give update when they come back.
- Conference register is now open in Reno, NV April 16-18 at the Nugget. Can register through Eventbrite. Agenda with presenters will be up next week.
- Jon update from TEACH - Spring 2020 Teach is assisting 108 educators. 636 credits have been authorized, which is the most in one session in the past 4+ years. TEACH is currently accepting applications for summer and fall.

18. ITEM P: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Council discussed what they would like on the upcoming agenda.

- Adrienne Williams with Let's Talk Therapy
- Subcommittee Chair Appointments
- Key Performance Indicators
- CCDF Strategic Plan and ECAC alignment
- Denise recommends follow up on the City of Fernley and get an update from the City of Las Vegas and Henderson (Jared and Kate will present)
- Linda Young is attended the AASA March 25-27 for Early Childhood Summit and will give update.
- Rachel and Amanda will do a presentation on PDG-B5 finalize recommendations.

19. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

Amanda Haboush-Deloye reported that the Early Childhood Research Summit will be held on the Friday before the NevAEYC conference. People who attend last year did not attend the conference. The goal will be to integrate the summit and conference information. Working with John Cregg to have summit participants join conference participants for lunch and hear keynote speakers. The Research Summit is free. Work with Amanda on transportation options from Vegas to Reno.

Angela Triche announced her retirement from Sunrise Children's Foundation as Director of Programs next month. She will also be relinquishing her seat on the council representing Nevada Head Start. Marty and several members of the Council thanked Ms. Triche for her years of dedication to early childhood in Nevada. We wish her well and she will be missed.

20. ADJOURNMENT

2:05PM