



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

PUBLIC MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2022

“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.”

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

(VIDEO CONFERENCED)

1. WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL

Denise Tanata, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair called the meeting to order, 9:05 AM. Quorum is met. Jennifer Butler and Tiffany Alston have been appointed to the NV ECAC by the Governor.

Council Members in Attendance:

- Carrie Paldi, Creative Kids Learning Center
- Cathleen Rexing, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Inclusive Education
- Julie Houchins, United Way of Southern Nevada
- Denise Tanata, The Children’s Cabinet
- Dr. Diane Nicolet, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees
- Alberto Quintero, Department of Education
- Jocelyn M. Pereira, Aging and Disabilities Services Division
- Latisha Brown, NV DHHS, Division of Public & Behavioral Health, Child Care Licensing
- Dr. Lori Ann Malina-Lovell, Department of Health and Human Services, Part C
- Marty Elquist, The Children’s Cabinet
- Patrice Gardner, Head Start State Collaboration Office
- Tina Springmeyer, Washoe County School District
- Dr. Linda E. Young, The Village Foundation
- Tiffany Alston, Sunrise Children’s Foundation
- Jennifer Butler, Las Vegas Urban League
- Stephanie Wyatt, Aging and Disability Services

Public in Attendance:

- Dr. Amanda Haboush-Deloye, NV Institute for Children’s Research and Policy, UNLV
- Heather Crawford Ferre, PhD, Nevada Department of Education
- Brooke Conway Kleven, PT, DPT; NICRP
- Ashley Dines
- Julie Balderson Knight, Carson Douglas ECAC
- Tiffany Tyler-Garner, PhD, Children’s Advocacy Alliance
- Anna Severens, Nevada Department Education, Office of Early Learning and Development



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- Annette Dawson Owens, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- Danielle Holmes, The Children's Cabinet
- Jamelle Nance, Children's Advocacy Alliance
- JT Champlin, NDE Management Analyst Contractor, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Karen Medina, The Children's Cabinet
- Ashleigh Baker, Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc. (ITCN)
- Mary Regan, Las Vegas Urban League
- Patti Oya, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Patty West, The Children's Cabinet
- Rachel Stepina, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Rebecca Dunne, NV Institute for Children's Research & Policy
- Karen Chessell, NV Dept. of Education
- Kathy Yoder-Bass, The Hills Preschool
- Janice Lee, PhD, State Coordinator, NV Pyramid Model Partnership, UNR
- Nikia Jenkins, Bright Horizons
- Brianna Cambra, The Children's Cabinet
- Lela Arney, The Children's Cabinet
- Katie Metz, Community Services Agency
- Rachel McKinney, United Way of Northern Nevada & the Sierra
- Emily Champlin, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Michelle Rindels
- Mia Pace, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

- No public comment provided.

3. APPROVAL OF FLEXIBLE AGENDA

Motion:

- Marty Elquist moved for the approval of a flexible agenda.
- Dr. Linda E. Young seconded the motion.
- All were in favor.
- Motion carried. Flexible agenda approved.

4. MINUTES FROM MAY 18, 2022

Motion:

- Items presented for correction: Cathleen Rexing asked that her PhD prefix be removed because she is not at doctor.
- Latisha Brown moved for the approval of motion with corrections.
- Carrie Paldi seconded the motion.



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- All were in favor.
- Motion carries.

5. NECAC Membership and Term Limits

(Discussion. For Possible Action) The Council will review the NECAC membership and term limits, including terms that are coming to end in 2022 and the process for renewing membership.

Denise Tanata, Council Chair

- Denise received an updated list of appointed councils from the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions and realized that 12 appointed ECAC members out of the 21 have terms that are expiring either on July 31, 2022 or August 31, 2022. Those impacted should have received an email from Denise Tanata. If you would like to be reconsidered for appointment, resubmit the application you submitted initially to the Governor's Office and sign the waiver and have it notarized. Regardless if you do or do not plan to submit the application to extend your appointment, inform Denise Tanata.
- The following individual are impacted, as their terms end on July 31, 2022: Cathleen Rexing, Dr. Diane Nicolet, Carri Paldi, Tiffany Alston, Patrice Gardner, Stephanie Wyatt, Tina Springmeyer, Heike Rudenauer-Plummer, Dr. Linda E. Young, & Denise Tanata.
- The following individual are impacted, as their terms end on August 31, 2022: Marty Elquist and Dr. Lori Ann Malina-Lovell.
- Denise Tanata noted that we may have an issue with subcommittees given these expiring terms. We need to have at least one Co-Chair on each subcommittee that is a validly appointed member.
- Denise Tanata went through each subcommittee:
 - *Leadership Subcommittee:* Denise Tanata & Patrice Gardner
 - Denise asked for one of the members not on this list step up and service as Temporary Co-Chair of the Leadership Subcommittee in the interim.
 - Jennifer Butler and Julie Houchins volunteered to help.
 - Denise Tanata appointed Julie Houchins as temporary Co-Chair since she is already on the Leadership Subcommittee.
 - *Systems Alignment Subcommittee:* Julie Houchins & Jenna Weglarz-Ward
 - Not affected. Neither Co-Chair has a term expiring at the end of July or August.
 - *Data & Evaluation Subcommittee:* Cathleen Rexing & Marty Elquist
 - Marty filled out her application yesterday (7/12/22) and will have her oath in today. As Marty's term is not set to expire until the end of August, this subcommittee should be fine.
 - *Finance & Policy Subcommittee:* Julie Houchins & Denise Tanta
 - Julie Houchins will carry over this subcommittee as Co-Chair when Denise's term expires.
 - *Communications & Engagement:* Dr. Linda E. Young & Maggie Salas Crespo
 - Denise asked Jennifer Butler if she was interested in serving as Co-Chair. Jennifer is interested so Denise Tanata will reach out to her after the meeting and get her set up with more information. Dr. Linda E. Young found this agreeable and noted she will expedite her application and submission process.
- Denise Tanata will request to the Governor's Office that all applications be expedited because the currently appointed members have already been vetted. Denise also informed meeting participants of the possibility that the Governor's Office will not approve her re-appointment because of her residency status (she is not currently residing in NV). If that is the case, there may have to be an Emergency Leadership team meeting to look for someone to step up in a leadership role. However, Denise reassured everyone that regardless of what happens, moving forward, she will be available to assist with ECAC.
- Denise Tanata asked if there were any questions, comments, or concerns regarding ECAC membership.
- Tina Springmeyer said she filled out and submitted her application and received a quick response from the Governor's Office.



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6. Presentation – 2022 Market Rate Survey Results

(Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) Presentation discussion on the 2022 Market Rate Survey.

Karissa Loper, DWSS-CCDP and Marty Elquist, The Children's Cabinet

- Karissa was not present for the ECAC meeting, so Marty noted that we can move forward and table this for this September meeting, during which time a full presentation of the report results can be provided.
- The Market Rate Study was done and submitted to the federal government on June 30, 2022. The analysis was done at 75% of the Market and compared to another methodology on the true cost of care. The State of Nevada is still reviewing the full report (~100 pages long).

7. Presentation – NDE Standards for Early Childhood Education Updates

(Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) Presentation and the new Early Childhood Standards.

Representative, NDE-Office of Early Learning and Development

- Patrice Gardner introduced Karen Chessel.
- Karen Chessel noted the following in regard to Early Child Standards Updates:
 - Standards are about a program of study for students who are in high school to learn about and practice occupational skills. The program is now two years in duration and provides the opportunity for dual credit obtainment at high school and community college level.
 - Standards were approved last Thursday (7/7/22) by the State Board of Education. Standards have not yet been processed. Content Standards 1.0-7.0 are listed in the Table of Contents. Standards Development Committee members are listed. The document also has information on components of standards.
 - Regarding the Early Childhood Education Standards, there are content standards and performance standards (these tell the teacher what the student should be experiencing and what the student should be able to do at the end of the program) listed. The hope is that this process leads to Child Development Associate (CDA) certification. A student must be 18 years old to get the CDA certification.
 - The Crosswalk of Early Childhood Education Standards and the Nevada Academic Content Standards is designed to help teachers support academic learning at the time they are teaching the Early Childhood Education Standards to their students. Another goal at the same time is to support students in workplace development readiness skills. Students take exams at the end of programming (100 questions each) and if they pass both exams and get a 3.0 GPA overall in their program over their course of study, they are eligible for articulated credit at the Community College Level, which is free in the state of NV.
 - Karen also shared the NV Department of Education (doe.nv.gov) homepage.
 - Click on the *Education* tab, scroll down to and click on the *Career & Technical Education* option. Then, scroll down and select *Education and Training* under the *Program Clusters* heading. The old standards are housed under the *Education and Training* header in the *Program Standards – Early Childhood Ed*, *Curriculum Frameworks – Early Childhood Ed*, and *Equipment List – Early Childhood Ed* bullet points. The new standards should be updated in the next month or so. As an example, the equipment list is a suggested list of the tools and equipment needed for an Early Child Education Program. This list was originally designed for schools interested in starting this sort of program.
 - One other potential area of interest pointed out by Karen is *Program Resources, Documents, and Publications*. This is found by clicking on the *Education* tab, scrolling down to and clicking on the *Career & Technical Education* option, and then accessing this point of interest under the *Program Resources, Documents, and Publications* header. Under the *CTE Program Directory* Header, there is a program directory that highlights where programs are offered with ~75 programs of study throughout the state. Karen showed a specific, clipped out portion of one of the program directories that shows where Early Childhood Education programs were offered in the 2021-2022 school year. Three of the



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seventeen school districts in Nevada currently offer these Early Childhood Education programs.

- Denise Tanata inquired about which schools this type of Early Childhood Education programming was available to and funding sources for starting an Early Child Education Program.
 - Any school that offers Career & Technical Programs has access to offering a program.
 - To start a program, the school contacts the Office of Early Learning and Development and the state can offer federal and state funding through competitive grants. The state is the doorway into offering Early Childhood Education in Nevada schools.
- Kathy Yoder-Bass asked the following: Will the program be expanding only to the ECTA's? Or will it be available to all high schools in Clark County?
 - Karen clarified that any high school in the state of Nevada can offer this program of study.
- Denise Tanata opened the floor for any additional questions.
- Karen noted that practicum hours outside of the school are essential to this course of study. Thus, if you are interested in helping a student get their practicum hours, reach out to Karen Chessell or the school district. Tiffany Alston asked for clarity on this process. Karen said to reach out to her (kchessell@doe.nv.gov) with any questions.
- Karen also noted that grant funding needs to come through school districts, charter public schools, or the community colleges. If you are not affiliated with any of those options, you will need to work with one of these groups to obtain grant funding.
- Dr. Linda E. Young voiced concerns about school districts not elevating Early Childhood Education Career Opportunities because of low pay.
- Denise Tanata thanked Karen for her presentation and noted that the wages in the Early Childhood Sector, especially in the private sector, are presenting barriers.

8. Pandemic Updates for Early Childhood

*(Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) Presentation on updates related to vaccinations and recommendations for the early childhood population in relation to COVID-19 and related items.
Representative, Nevada Health Division*

- This agenda item has been tabled for the September meeting.

9. Subcommittee Reports and Updates

*(Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) Discuss updates, recommendations and workplan progress from ECAC
Subcommittees
Subcommittees*

- *Leadership Subcommittee – Denise Tanata and Patrice Gardner, Co-Chairs*
 - Denise Tanata reminded everyone that the Leadership Subcommittee is made up of the Co-Chairs from all of other subcommittees to ensure that work is being aligned and to look for opportunities to support one another with workplans.
 - Reminder: If you are serving on a Subcommittee, try your best to attend meetings so that quorum is met. If you signed up as a subcommittee member but do not think you will be able to regularly attend, please let your leader know and step down as an official member. Anyone can attend any of the subcommittee meetings and participate in those meetings, but we have to have quorum based on official membership list.
 - A template for partner updates was recently developed. Relevant individuals should have received this from Denise last week. The hope is to have a Reporting Template that goes out to all Partners and Subcommittees. This is a written report that comes to us before so that we are able to summarize that information, send it out to everyone with the Agenda/Minutes, and then take time in Council Meetings to focus on the Strategic Plan and alignment there. Moreover, the Reporting Templates are set up in such a way to align with the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan for ECAC. If you have suggestions or concerns about how to best organize this data, do not hesitate to reach out.



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- We are in the process of trying to update the ECAC Website. We want to ensure that meeting information for subcommittees is posted in advance (more than a week ahead of time). Please bear with us as updates are made.
- Also, we are working on doing more with Communications. With updates we received, we will try to send out a newsletter, have an ECAC email address, etc. to help streamline information dissemination.
- Sign up with Office of Early Development List serve if you are not receiving notifications. Email Patty Oya (poya@doe.nv.gov).
- Patrice did not have any additional updates to add.
- *System Alignment Subcommittee – Julie Houchins and Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward, Co-Chairs*
 - Julie noted that their June meeting did not take place (were technical difficulties). The next meeting is scheduled for end of July 27, 2022 at 12:30 pm.
- *Communications and Engagement Subcommittee – Linda Young and Maggie Salas Crespo, Co-Chairs*
 - This subcommittee had a meeting on June 21, 2022.
 - Dr. Linda E. Young noted that their subcommittee is trying to keep their work aligned with other subcommittees and the overall ECAC Strategic Plan.
 - This subcommittee is especially looking at how to enhance communication, especially total engagement, in line with goals and objectives
 - The next meeting is scheduled for July 19. One of the goals for this meeting is to look at the workplan.
 - Further upcoming meetings will take place on August 23, September 27, & October 18. All meetings take place at 9 am and typically last no more than 90 minutes. This subcommittee will reach out to other subcommittees to ensure that subcommittees are working together.
 - Communications and Engagement is also looking at what they can do to work with Marketing firm that has been hired.
 - If you have any questions, contact Dr. Linda E. Young via cell at (702)-743-7750 or via email linda@villagestarfish.org
 - Denise Tanata mentioned that we have not been able to get ahold of the current Co-Chair of Communications, Maggie Salas Crespo, and thus Denise asked Jennifer Butler if she would be willing to do this long-term.
 - Jennifer Butler agreed to serve as Co-Chair with Dr. Linda E. Young for the Communications and Engagement Subcommittee. Denise appointed Jennifer as Co-Chair. Jennifer asked to be given access to meeting dates and times.
 - Denise Tanta will touch base with Dr. Linda E. Young to reschedule these subcommittee meeting dates in the calendar because they were lost. She will set up a meeting with Dr. Linda E. Young and Jennifer Butler.
 - Denise made a note to check if Carrie Paldi is receiving meeting information.
 - Marty Elquist also noted that many of her emails and a great deal of calendar information has disappeared as well.
 - Denise noted to send her an email if you notice missing information.
 - Denise noted that these meetings were affected when their system crashed and so will reschedule meeting times/dates.
- *Finance and Policy Subcommittee – Julie Houchins and Denise Tanata, Co-Chairs*
 - The last meeting was on June 9, 2022, and the next meeting is on Thursday, 7/14/22.
 - This subcommittee received a presentation at the June 9th meeting from the Children’s Funding Project regarding their upcoming fiscal mapping project. Nevada is part of a cohort of approximately 11 states doing a fiscal mapping project. They are contracting with the Children’s Funding Project to take a deeper dive into the Children’s Funding Project. Currently, they are putting together a list of all agencies and programs in the state that funds supporting early childhood programs and services for kids, going through that list to try and identify who are all of the budget holders, key contacts, and agencies that oversee the budgets. This project will be using available information at the state and federal level to start mapping out programs available, what funding available is available, indicators (e.g., ages served, intended outcomes, geographic information, etc.). This will be a huge spreadsheet and then a Fiscal Mapping Dashboard where you will be able to see how much funding goes into different categorical areas of children’s Programs and Services. Eventually, we will be able to compare this on a state-by-state level.



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This multi-year program will also be looking at what fiscal gaps exist and providing recommendations on additional funding sources that we can utilize to fill those gaps based on how other states are funding programs. There may be preliminary data available during the 2023 Legislative Session, but the aim is to have solid information in place before the 2025 Legislative Session.

- The following policy priorities for the upcoming 2023 Legislative Session were also discussed: funding for pre-k, needing additional funding to expand access, issues with HOAs and landlords for home-based childcare providers who are experiencing restrictions in being able to open up, & the early childhood workforce.
- Inform Children's Advocacy Alliance of any policy priorities that may or may not fit. We will talk more about these priorities at tomorrow's 1 pm meeting. Tell Denise Tanata if you need the link for this meeting.
- *Data and Evaluation Subcommittee – Marty Elquist and Dr. Cathleen Rexing, Co-Chairs*
 - Cathleen Rexing gave an update on the July 7, 2022 meeting. There was a debrief of Research Symposium from Amanda Haboush-Deloye. We also talked about Early Childhood research questions and how we will go about gathering, discussing them, and identifying best questions to make decisions on data. Time was also spent adjusting the Workplan. The meeting agenda for the next meeting in August was discussed.
 - Marty Elquist added that when talking about research questions, we also talked about other subcommittees of ECAC and how data might be related. We will make sure that after the list of research questions is reviewed, we will circle back to other subcommittees and make sure any relevant data points from other subcommittees are included.

10. Local ECAC Updates

(Discussion/For Possible Action) Discuss updates from Local ECACs, including plans for the ARP Local ECAC Small Grants.

- *Carson/Douglas ECAC (Julie Balderson Knight)*
 - Given mic issues, Julie Balderson Knight typed the following updates in the chat:
 - Providers asked for another ECE Employment Fair – We have it scheduled for August 2022 at the Carson City Community Center.
 - We are having our first Open House at Curiosity Corner in Carson City at the end of this month.
 - At the Open House, we will be announcing Gift Cards for EACH licensed Child Care Program in Carson and Douglas including the recreation programs of \$250.00 (Lakeshore)
 - We are planning our Fall Conference as well as a PD day connecting our school district Pre-K, Kinder and First grade educators with our private ECE educators to discuss the connections between quality early childhood experiences and success in grade school. We are leaning toward an emphasis on Social and Emotional Development and Trauma Informed Care.
- ~~Elko County~~ *Northeastern NV ECAC*
 - No update provided.
- *Lyon/Mineral/Storey ECAC*
 - Not currently active.
- *Southern Nevada ECAC (Amanda Haboush-Deloye)*
 - Amanda Haboush-Deloye provided an update for the last SNECAC that took place on June 15, 2022. At this meeting, time was spent talking about the following:
 - The Early Childhood Obesity Plan;
 - The Step up For Kids event will take place on Saturday, 10/8/22, at the East Las Vegas Library from 10 am-1 pm. The election of a Kid Mayor will occur at the Step Up for Kids 2022. Prior Kid Mayors have stayed involved and recently recorded PSAs that are being edited;
 - The Nevada Afterschool Network worked with Social Services to get an application in to increase access to and quality of afterschool services. This was funded by the Interim Finance Committee and will begin in September. To highlight afterschool, the Lights on After School national initiative will take place on 10/20/2022;
 - The next meeting is August 17. We take the month of July off.



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- *Tribal ECAC (Ashleigh Baker)*
 - Ashleigh Baker noted that they are working on providing individualized training to tribal providers/employees and families
 - They have a week-long training for all tribal providers coming up from July 31 through August 5 (Theme: A Vacation to Mental Health)
 - There will be a different destination for each breakout. Topics to be discussed include behavior management, trauma-informed care, STEM and stories, team-building, and other required trainings such as CRP/First Aid and medication administration.
 - Relationship building is another important component of this training and they will be having tribal artists and elders come in and speak to the providers (sessions on storytelling and beadwork plus collaborative art piece together with providers).
 - Massages will be available for participants.
 - Will also be conducting provider and community needs assessments to better understand needs.
 - Fort McDermott & Elko – have a few outreach events scheduled and they are trying to incorporate community needs assessments – providing grocery vouchers to anyone who completes a needs assessment.
 - Ashleigh can provide Denise with the actual needs assessment and data for community needs assessment. Ashleigh can also share provider needs assessment that should be completed at the end of August.
 - They are inviting urban centers as well. The event will take place (July 31-August 5) at The Nugget in Sparks, Nevada
 - If interested, reach out and let Ashleigh know (abaker@itcn.org)
 - Denise Tanata noted she would be very interested in the provider and community needs assessments.
- *Washoe County ECAC (Anna Severens)*
 - Anna noted that Washoe County had a great turnout for Pre-K & Kindergarten collaborative event at the Children's Museum.
 - They have not met over the summer, but did apply for the national P3 Institute, which involves many of the committee members. The upcoming Washoe County superintendent is a P3 National Leader and has agreed to be on that team should their application be accepted.
 - They will be hosting an open house for the Washoe County ECAC in September at the new CCSC center in Reno
 - Friday, September 16, 2022, from 4-6 pm

11.State Agency Updates

(Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) Relevant informational items from state agencies and departments on programs, services, initiatives and/or issues relevant to the ECAC Strategic Plan.

DeniseTanata, Chair

- *Department of Health and Human Services*
 - *Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child CareDevelopment Program*
 - No one present. No update given.
 - *Division of Child and Family Services, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health*
 - No one present today. No update given.
 - *Department of Public and Behavioral Health, Child Care Licensing*
 - Latisha Brown of DPBH mentioned that the licensing numbers were up and approaching pre-pandemic numbers.
 - Currently, in the state of Nevada, there are 439 facilities with the capacity to hold 38,930 children open. Another 100+ facilities are pending to be opened.
 - 44 licensed childcare providers that watch up to 6 children
 - 42 licensed group-care providers that watch up to 12 children



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- 317 centers currently active
- 1 special needs facility
- 1 institution that is currently open
- 31 licensed accommodations in other businesses
- 3 on-site centers
- The most common question right now concerns if these facilities are shutting down because of COVID-19. DPBH directs questions to the Office of Public Health Investigations and Epidemiology (OPHIE).
- We have had facilities opening up to do special events. This is a good thing and tells us the direction the city is moving.
- Marty Elquist clarified that licensing numbers do not include Washoe County Licensing.
- Denise Tanata thanks Marty for this clarification and will invite Washoe County to future meetings.
- Latisha provided updates on Washoe County numbers.
 - Washoe County currently licenses 195 total facilities. There is no breakdown by type as of now.
 - Washoe County Licensed (195) + State Licensed (439) means there are 634 total Statewide Licensed Facilities
- *Department of Public and Behavioral Health, Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health*
 - No one present today. No update given.
- *Director's Office, Aging and Disability Services, Part C and NEIS*
 - Dr. Lori Ann Malina-Lovell from DPBH Maternal Child and Adolescent Health, Part C Office, noted that DPBH continues to provide hybrid services for families.
 - They are continuing to experience critical staff shortages and working on how to address this issue and provide comparable options for professional development for providers.
 - They received a national highlight on a national platform from the National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP). NCCP has done a write up for the state's profile on the pyramid model and mental health work (<https://www.nccp.org/nevada/>).
 - Nevada has also received a Meets Requirements Determination from the US Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs for their annual performance reporting.
 - Denise Tanata congratulated Lori Ann and opened up the table for questions.
- *Department of Education*
 - *Office of Early Learning & Development (Patti Oya)*
 - Patti noted they are waiting for the announcement for the preschool development implementation grants to open again. The word is that applications will open September 4, 2022, and will be due November 3, 2022. The interesting thing is that 25 states are eligible to apply and 24 are expected to get the funding. They are excited about this grant and will be reaching out for help and support. Rachel Stepina will help with this and has a great deal of experience with grant management.
 - They continue work with WestEd on the cost of pre-k. WestEd is excited for the funding mapping project.
 - They are also working on following up on Senate Bill 102 from the last session, which changed the kindergarten eligibility date. There has been



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confusion around this. To clarify, the kindergarten eligibility date did change from September 30 to the first “instructional” day of school. Now, there is a window of the first instructional day of school to September 30 where certain students are now no longer eligible and must find another place for their child. An exception was made for these children on the condition that they went to pre-k (this definition was left to each individual school district and the public charter school authority).

- We are getting geared up for legislation. A goal is to get back to pre-pandemic numbers and secure additional funding.
- There are notices around regulations for work. There are 3 related to Early Childhood - SB2 (identifying kindergarten entry and language around that), NV Ready Pre-K regulations (state-board approved), and changing the minutes of kindergarten to align with first grade.
- Recently, information related to the Early Learning Institute was sent out. If you did not just get an email, you are not on the list serve. Please let Patti know if you are not on list serve and would like to be added on.
- *Early Childhood Special Education Office of Inclusive Education (Cathleen Rexing)*
 - Cathleen clarified that she works in the Office of Inclusive Education
 - The Office of Inclusive Education received their designation in Part B (Needs Assistance). In their statewide data for 2021-2022, inclusion data decreased. This was likely due to enrollment numbers also decreasing. They are continuing to work on increasing inclusion.
 - Denise Tanata thanked Cathleen Rexing for her office correction and update.
- *Office of Student and School Supports (Alberto Quinto)*
 - Alberto noted that on October 22, 2022, there will be a Statewide Family Engagement Summit. They are currently looking for keynote speakers and requesting proposals for workshops (90- and 50-minute sessions). This event is open to community members, educator, families, and students. This will be the 2nd annual Virtual Statewide Engagement Center.
 - Denise Tanata asked if Alberto heard anything regarding the grant with the Public Health Foundation. Alberto noted there has been a delay in announcement of grant recipients until August of 2022. When it is announced, Alberto will share with the group.
 - Jennifer Butler asked to share RFP link & Registration pages
 - Requests for proposals link: <https://forms.gle/LBgHPV3c5Mw5ea3Q6>
 - Registration has not yet opened, but he will share the Save the Date with the group.
 - Moreover, Denise Tanata asked Alberto to have Patti share with listserv.



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12. Partner Updates

(Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) Informational items from community partners on programs, services, initiatives and/or issues relevant to the ECAC. Unless otherwise indicated below, each item is limited to no more than five minutes. Any updates which require more time will be agendaized for a future meeting.

Denise Tanata, ECAC Chair

- *New Reporting Template – Denise Tanata*
 - We are looking at implementing new reporting template starting in September.
 - Carrie Paldi asked how far ahead of time the reporting template needs to be submitted.
 - Denise Tanata asked to please send the reporting template in 1.5-2 weeks before each meeting. This timeline may be adjusted a little bit. Denise will reach out.
- *Pyramid Model Update – Dr. Janice Lee*
 - Dr. Janice Lee from NV pyramid model partnership gave an update.
 - On June 17, 2022, they had their 11th annual end of year celebration and data review. Each of 12 programs presented on their pyramid model implementation that occurred over the last school or program year, and state aggregated data on pyramid model implementation as well as technical assistance and coaching to address suspension and expulsion in early childhood settings was shared. Based on the data that was shared, an annual report is being compiled and should be available about one month from now.
 - For the upcoming year, they are working on new training topic opportunities to continue to support social/emotional skills and behavioral and mental health wellness for young children, caregivers, and educators.
- *NevAEYC Update – Carrie Paldi*
 - Mark your calendars for the 2023 NevAEYC Early Childhood Conference that will be held May 18-20 at Tuscany in LV. More information will be coming throughout the summer and we welcome suggestions for keynote speakers.
 - For the Early Childhood Staff Stipends Incentives Program, 5501 educators applied and ~4813 educators were awarded with the stipend. This is a two-year grant and we expect the application cycle to open late summer or early fall. If people were denied from receiving the stipend, it is because they did not submit the required documentation to receive the stipend.
 - In FY 22, NevAEYC provided 164 early childhood educators with college scholarships through TEACH program. We are now accepting applications for individuals who would like to enroll in courses for the Fall 2022 semester.
 - Currently, we are also working on our public policy agenda for 2023-2024. This is anticipated to be completed and distributed by the end of 2022.
 - Lastly, this is an important week to make phone calls and send emails to NV's congressional leaders that it is unacceptable for childcare to be left out of the Reconciliation Package and that Congress cannot leave childcare behind. Families, childcare, and our economy are counting on it.
- *Strong Start Provider Action Committee – Carrie Paldi*
 - The Strong Start Provider Action committee met on May 26 and June 2. They are actively engaged in coming up with and working on policy ideas and initiatives that they would like to focus on as a committee. They have preliminarily identified a few action items that they would like to reach out to community partners about and talk to them about working together. Once that is solidified, Carrie will let the group know what those policy priorities will be.
 - An advocacy training was conducted with the Childcare Provider Action Committee (CPAC) members so they had an opportunity to learn about engaging in advocacy-related efforts with the state legislators should they want to be more involved.
 - We are also working to potentially develop a Policy Brief Subcommittee to work on a policy brief



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and potentially partner with other organizations. Lela is working to see how different priorities can align.

- Denise Tanata said to please let her know if she can be of any support to any of the committee members.
- Patrice Gardner asked about a link for people interested in joining or participating in The Childcare Provider Action Committee. Lela noted that though there is a full group, there will be future opportunities to participate. If you have thoughts, reach out to Lela (Larney@childrenscabinet.org) so that the group can continue to grow and be supported.
- *Pritzker PN3 Initiative and Early Childhood Policy Update – Jamelle Nance*
 - Jamelle Nance gave an update. There are three major workgroups that encompass early learning: childcare, maternal child/health, & CHW home visiting. They are continuing to move and shape policy priorities. However, policy priorities must be centered around what our partners need and want. We are always looking for your input. If there are policies/priorities that you want CAA to support, Jamelle is here on behalf of the Children's Advocacy Alliance (CAA) and Strong Start funded by the Pritzker PN3 Initiative.
 - Jamelle will share more in-depth about policy priorities tomorrow (7/14).
 - Also, the CAA just wrapped up their first round of evidence-based equity workshops. There will be additional workshops in the future. The more we can get engaged in the equity mission, the better.
 - Lastly, reporting season is coming up (Happens twice a year)! August 15 we will reporting out. We like to get information out, so please share with us what is going on in your organization.
 - Denise Tanata thanked Jamelle, clarified that the meeting tomorrow is for the Financial Subcommittee, and said to reach out if you need link information for tomorrow's meeting.
- *Strong Start Update – Annette Dawson-Owens*
 - Annette Dawson-Owens spoke about the Parent Ambassador Group. She thanked Denise for starting the group. The parent ambassadors are closing out their year. There was a summer series with the legislators and as this is closing out, their stories are being finalized to share.
 - If you have an interest or a need for a parent to serve on any of your committees, please reach out. They are wonderful and helpful.
 - They just launched their podcast. The first episode featured Compassionate LV and Senator Dina Neal and they talked about mental health issues for children. The next episode will feature Jamelle Nance talking about early learning investments and also featuring one of the Parent Ambassadors. The third recorded podcast is about children who are experiencing foster care. Please listen to these podcasts and if you have issues we can highlight, please reach out so we can amplify the work you are doing.
 - They have been accepted to a national fellowship working with Amanda Haboush-Deloye/Amaris of NICRP to advocate for out-of-school time activities.
 - They have doubled a grant with the Alliance for Success focused on improving outcomes for ages 0-8, amplifying their work, and operationalizing equity through additional funding.
 - They are working on their legislative agenda for the next session. Please reach out and connect if we can assist or help move that process along.
- *HRSA Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grant Update – Denise Tanata*
 - Denise Tanata mentioned work on the system asset and gap analysis that will be due to HRSA at the end of October. The work is aligned with what we are doing with ECAC and what is outlined in the Strategic Plan.
 - Currently, they are in collection mode right now and trying to identify every piece of data that aligns or connects with early childhood system. If you are aware of any reports, needs assessments, strategic plans, especially with health integration, that you think would be useful for the system asset and gap analysis, forward this to Denise or reach out.
 - Denise will likely be following up with some members of this group to do key informant interviews. In particular, she is looking for any programs you are aware of within the title of models for health integration and practice transformation. Anything you can think of aligning



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health and early childhood needs to be included in the analysis.

- *ECE Workforce Plan – Marty Elquist*
 - Marty Elquist presented last week about a convening of 30 folks on creating a workforce framework for the state of NV. The next steps from this meeting include:
 - Form a small group to create a draft framework for our state;
 - Take that draft framework back to the larger group. The small group met on Monday and has a rough draft of a framework. We used information from other states and national organizations plus the good work that is already being done in our state to draft this framework.
 - The next large-group meeting is Tuesday, 7/19/22.
 - After presenting updates to the large group, they anticipate using the Provider Action Committee to hold focus groups and determine what was missed and needed to support and grow our framework. Right now, there are four general areas: Compensation & Financial Supports; Professional Development and Career Pathways; Workforce Environment and Workforce Supports; and making sure we have data on our workforce readily available to chart our progress.
 - If you would like to [participate, put your email in the chat and Marty will forward you the meeting information. This is more of a grassroots group and is not formal
- *Research and Needs Assessments – Dr. Amanda Haboush-Deloye; Rebecca Dunne*
 - Rebecca Dunne provided an update.
 - On the NV ECAC website, under Reports and Documents, there is a link to a Sheets file with all [Needs Assessments](#) relating in some way to early childhood that have been conducted in Nevada. This was last updated 7/12/22. It is sorted by Needs Assessments, Reports, and Strategic Plans. There is a Recent and Old tab for our own purposes of comparing data across time and for consistency purposes.
 - Denise Tanata thanked Rebecca for this update and said this information will be utilized for the system asset and gap analysis she is conducting.
- *New or Potential Grants and Funding – All*
 - Ashley Dines from the Children’s Advocacy Alliance (CAA) provided an update. At the CAA, they just had a Coordinators’ meeting and are still providing start-up grants for FFNs and other grant opportunities. If you have any questions, Anthony/Tiffany in the South and Miranda in Reno can discuss these opportunities. There are emergency grants available as well. Reach out to Ashley and she can connect you to the appropriate individual with more details.
 - Denise Tanata asked if there were any additional updates for new or potential grants and funding.
 - No additional updates were presented.
- *Training & Professional Development Opportunities – All*
 - Jennifer Butler noted there is an Early Childhood Career Fair this Saturday, 7/23/22, from 10-1 at the College of Southern NV. The College of Southern NV and Urban League are hosting this event. There will be a lot of employers present and ready to hire individuals interested in working in early childhood education. Jennifer provided the participation link: <https://bit.ly/3lmPHRx>
 - Dr. Linda E. Young noted that on February 25-March 10, 2023, the Learning Institute will be offering 3 credits for professional training. She is inviting you to please submit a brief proposal if you are interested in conducting a 90-minute workshop. All speakers will be “keynotes,” as there will not be breakout sessions. They are partnering with the NV Association of School Administrators and feel it is critical that administrators at all levels understand the importance of early childhood. Dr. Linda E. Young will forward you the flyer and link if you send an email to Dr. Linda E. Young (linda@villagestarfish.org).
 - Denise Tanata asked if there were any other updates or opportunities for professional development.
 - No further questions were asked.



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13. Future Agenda Items

(Discussion/ For Possible Action) Council will discuss what they would like on the upcoming agendas.

Denise Tanata, Council Chair

- The next meeting will take place on September 21, 2022.
- At the next meeting, we will discuss ECAC leadership and membership, if needed.
- If the September 21, 2022, meeting needs to be canceled or postponed, Denise will inform everyone.
- Additional future agenda items include: Discussing the Early Childhood Systems Performance Assessment, which entails doing an assessment of where we are at as a system; discussing the Market Rate Survey and doing the associated presentation; and discussing the Pandemic Response for Early Childhood and Pandemic Updates for Early Childhood
- Be on the lookout for changes to the Reporting Template.

14. Public Comment #2

- Rachel Stepina announced that NDE is currently working on their language access plan and identifying community organizations that provide supports to families in other languages. They will be sending out a survey to those organizations to learn more about their specific supports. As we identify these organizations, we would appreciate any input from relevant early childhood education supports that are provided in languages other than English. Email rachel.stepina@doe.nv.gov if you know of any other organizations and the supports they provide so that we can incorporate this information into the larger NDE Access Plan
- Denise asked if there was any further comment.
- There was No further public comment.

15. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 am.