



Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

NEVADA EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL (ECAC)

PUBLIC MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023 • 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.”

Office	Address	City	Meeting Room
Child Care Services Center	1771 E. Flamingo Road, Suite 200B, LV, 89119	Las Vegas	Training Room
Child Care Services Center	961 Matley Lane, Suite 110, Reno, 89502	Reno	Training Room
Virtual	Link: Zoom	1-669-900-9128	ID: 842 8701 1231 Passcode: 231921

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public is hereby notified that the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council reserves the right to take agenda items out of posted order (except that public hearings will not begin earlier than posted times); items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time; and items may be combined for consideration. A time for public comment is provided at the beginning and at the conclusion of the meeting. A Public comment may be submitted in person, virtually or in writing by contacting Denise Tanata at dtanata@childrenscabinet.org. A time limit of three minutes will be imposed by the Council Chair, for public comments, in order to afford all members of the public who wish to comment, with an opportunity to do so within the timeframe available to the Council. The Council Chair reserves the right to call on individuals from the audience or to allow for testimony at any time. Individuals providing testimony must fill out a visitor card.

Reasonable efforts will be made for members of the public who have disabilities and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting. Please contact Alberto Quintero at albertoquintero@doe.nv.gov, at least five business days in advance so that arrangements can be made.

This public notice has been posted at the offices of the Department of Education in Carson City and Las Vegas; and the Nevada Public Notices website notice.nv.gov. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada ECAC website at <http://nvecac.com>.

The support materials to this agenda are available, at no charge on the Nevada ECAC website at: <http://nvecac.com/> (under the meeting date referenced above) or by contacting Marty Elquist at dtanata@childrenscabinet.org.

AGENDA

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Membership Updates and Roll Call

Denise Tanata, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair

Attendance:

- Denise Tanata, The Children’s Cabinet
- Marty Elquist, The Children’s Cabinet
- Latisha Brown, State of Nevada Child Care Licensing
- Dr. Diane Nicolet, Washoe County School District Board of Trustees
- Dr. Lori Ann Malina-Lovell, Nevada Department of Education Section 619
- Julie Houchins, United Way of Southern Nevada
- Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward, University of Nevada Las Vegas



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- Elyse Monroy Marsala, Other Members as the Governor deems necessary
- Carrie Paldi, Creative Kids Learning Center
- Jocelyn Pereira, NV Early Intervention Services
- Alberto Quintero, Nevada Department of Education
- Maggie Salas
- Tiffany Alston, Sunrise Children's Foundation
- Patrice Gardner, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development
- Brenda Morales-Solorzano
- Tina Springmeyer, Washoe County School District
- Dr.

2. Public Comment #1

Public Comment will be taken during this agenda item regarding any item appearing on the agenda. No action may be taken on a matter discussed under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. The Council Chair of the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council will impose a time limit of three minutes. Public Comment #2 will provide an opportunity for public comment on any matter within the Council's jurisdiction, control or advisory power.

- No public comment

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda

(For Possible Action) The Council will approve a flexible agenda. The Board may take agenda items out of order; combine two or more agenda items for consideration; remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

Denise Tanata, Council Chair

- Carrie Paldi motion to approve
- Dr. Diane Nicolet second
- No Discussion
- Flexible agenda approved unanimously

4. Minutes from November 30, 2022

(Discussion, For Possible Action) The Council will discuss and approve the minutes.

Denise Tanata, Council Chair

Materials: November 30, 2022 Minutes

- Dr. Diane Nicolet stated that the packet she pulled down also has September 2022 minutes. Denise stated that those were re-posted due to correction.
- Dr. Diane Nicolet moved to approve the minutes from the November 30, 2022 meeting
- Julie Houchins seconded the motion
- No discussion
- Minutes from November 30, 2022 approved as drafted.

Public Comment agenda item taken out of order for a public comment from Purdue Marion

- Lynn Purdue announced that a statewide public awareness and communications campaign on the importance of early childhood will be launching. Colleague Tom Puckett stated that there are now over 4,000 parents and providers that have participated in the market study. This outstanding number is a testament to the attention to the issue and importance of



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early childhood. They have created a microsite: nevadachildcarefund.org. All inquiry will be going to this site, which is linked to nevadachildcare.org. They integrate seamlessly.

- The campaign began on Martin Luther King day on 92 outdoor billboards in Las Vegas and 18 in Reno. Billboards will continue to run throughout the campaign. TV commercials are coming and there is a casting sheet for children who want to participate. Doing auditions this Saturday and filming next Saturday.
- Lynn Purdue stated that we have a robust 23 plan and targets through the state including rural and tribal land as well as specific strategies through the legislative session.

5. Presentation and Discussion – Preschool Cost Study

(Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) As part of a collaborative project with the WestEd Region 15 Comprehensive Center, the Office of Early Learning and Development seeks input from the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (NECAC) to better understand regional cost nuances and the implications for increasing the number of state-funded preschool seats.

Patti Oya, NDE-Office of Early Learning and Development

Lucy Hadley, Research Associate, WestEd

- Lucy Hadley shared her screen with the ECAC. Brianne Dotson presented and was also jointed by Greg Hill Jr.
- Beginning in Summer of 2021 West Ed begin studying the per-child cost of PreK using current NR!PK standards. Final report will be ready Summer of 2023.
- Lucy Hadley presented cost analysis preliminary findings. Two major research questions are currently targeted:
 - How much does it cost to delivery NR!PK programming in Nevada? What are the factors that create this range?
 - What is the gap between what it costs and what Nevada’s invests in NV!PK.
 - 5 Case Study Regions were used:
 - LV Metro
 - Reno Metro
 - Lyon
 - Nye
 - Elko
- Ingredients Methods was used to estimate the cost:
 - Data Collection – Used interviews and ECERS.
 - Developing Ingredients List – Looked facilities, material, equipment, etc.
 - Assign Price & Quality to ingredients
 - Make Required Adjustments (e.g., inflation on costs)
 - Estimate Average Seat Costs
- Preliminary Results:
 - \$8,731-\$14,465 per seat cost. Current cost is \$8410/child.
 - Most sites are using other funds to make up the difference in cost.
 - Based on research in other states, this research is in line with other studies and programs.
 - Range is due to 4 factors:
 - Region – Tend to be lower in Urban areas and higher in Rural areas (e.g., Elko=\$14,465 non-LEA vs. Clark \$8,818 in non-LEA)
 - Site Type (LEA, LEA Charter, non-LEA)
 - Salaries – Average salaries are highly inconsistent. Range was \$38,518 to \$61,338 between the different case study regions.
 - Student-Teacher Ratio or Classroom Sizes – As class ratio approaches 1:20, costs decrease. \$15,000 for student for 1:10 down to less than \$10,000/student for 1:20. Lower classroom sizes and ratios created need to use/blend additional funding.
 - Lucy Hadley requested questions/comments from participants in the chat: What other challenges are providers facing that might impact the costs of operating this program?
 - <<INSERT CHAT HERE>>
 - Dr. Linda Young thanked WestEd for their report and research. Dr. Young suggested to disaggregate teacher-child ratio and salaries by race and ethnicity of staff.



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- Lucy Hadley responded that this information is also going to be layered with GIS Mapping to get at regional and racial differences. This data will be presented at the ECAC March 8, 2023 meeting.
- Brianne Dotson presented the question, “What additional information or analyses could inform potential NR!PK funding policy adjustments.”
 - <<INSERT CHAT HERE>>
- Brianne Dotson thanked the ECAC for their input as member and participants are linked to those with lived experiences, which the research questions must reflect.
- Will be back on March 8th to share equity finding and discuss preliminary recommendation. Final report will be delivered to Patti Oya and her team in June.
- Patti Oya stated that NDE has already started working with WestEd on a Universal PreK plan. We needed the cost of PreK before we can talk about expanding PreK to all 4-year-old.
- Denise Tanata recognized Diego Tapias comment in the chat and requested that Patti Oya respond to Diego.

6. Presentation – NDE Preschool Development Grant (PDG) B-5 Grant Application

(Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) Presentation and discussion on the NV PDG B-5 Grant Application.

Rachel Stepina, NDE-Office of Early Learning and Development

- Rachel Stepina stated that Nevada received notification in late December that Nevada was awarded the PDG B-5 grant.
- This is a federal grant from Administration for Children and Families.
- \$30 million grant over 3 years (\$10 million/year)
- This grant is awarded on a calendar year 2023, 2024 and 2025.
- Six activity areas funded:
 - Needs Assessment
 - Strategic Plan
 - Family Engagement
 - Workforce supports
 - Quality improvements
 - Subgrants
- Other areas:
 - Governance
 - Data
 - Evaluation
 - Dissemination
 - Sustainability
- Process & Tentative Timing:
 - December 22 – notice of award
 - January-April 23 – Implementation Planning
 - Project Management
 - Hire for New Positions – 9 positions over 3-year life-cycle
 - Federal Oversight
 - Nevada Engagement
 - Systems Collaboration. Identify overlapping areas of focus (Pritzker, COVID stimulus projects, ECAC plan) and develop a crosswalk and stay on the same page. Need to engage with the other early childhood partners across the state.
 - Opportunities for continued engagement include Public Canvas Course, which is an online platform used to organize projects and details organized by key partners. Members will have



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access and can interact with Canvas as they see fit. Will also hold webinars and quarterly idea exchange, and Ms. Stepina will have office hours for 1:1 interaction.

- April-May 23 – IFC and Board of Education Approval
- May 23 – Year 1 implementation begins
- PDB B-5 Vision: All children and families have equitable access to receive and participate in high-quality, affordable, and comprehensive early childhood care and education (ECCE) programs and services can meaningfully engage within and experience a seamless early learning continuum (birth 3rd grade) that inclusively, culturally, and linguistically meets their needs.
 - There are 5 overarching goals and logic model that will be shared on the Canvas page. The goals are aligned with the ECAC, HRSA, and Pritzker. Work falls in three “buckets:”
 - 1. Children and families,
 - 2. Workforce & quality, and
 - 3. Comprehensive systems.
 - All six activities areas to achieve goals will also be available on Canvas.
 - Activities include staffing for ECAC Admin and ECAC Systems support to fully align work with ECAC.

7. Subcommittee Updates and Workplan Discussion

(Information/Discussion/For Possible Action) Discuss updates, recommendations and workplan progress from ECAC Subcommittees and priorities for 2023.

Materials: 2023 NECAC Workplans

Denise stated that all updates are on a shared document with combined updates. The document is on the ECAC website under the January 18, 2023 meeting materials. Denise requested that subcommittee chairs give updates in addition to what is already included in the report.

- *Leadership Subcommittee – Denise Tanata and Patrice Gardner, Co-Chairs*
 - Leadership Committee is focused on spending time to identify 2023 key activities and metrics. We will be meeting with OnStrategy and using this system to track our goals and strategies.
 - Several documents have been created to move toward a comprehensive system structure. The Children’s Cabinet has also contracted with the Guinn Center to research and make recommendations on Nevada’s early childhood structure.
 - An Early Childhood Systems leader’s meeting is being held February 10, 2023 in Carson City with key agency leaders. Purpose is to make sure everyone is on the same page regarding Nevada’s Early Childhood system and roles of each.
 - Need to identify key strategies from the Manifesto for Race Equity so we can turn this presentation into action across not only the ECAC, but the broader EC system.
 - Next meeting is February 7, 2023 at 9am and the committee will continue to meet monthly.
- *System Alignment Subcommittee – Julie Houchins and Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward, Co-Chairs*
 - Julie Houchins stated that she and Dr. Weglarz-Ward would like to schedule a call with Denise to get caught up for 2023.
- *Communications and Engagement Subcommittee – Jennifer Butler and Dr. Linda Young, Co-Chairs*
 - Dr. Young stated that the last meeting was December 13 and continue to work on the activities for the 2023 workplan. The committee is focusing on communications and all the ways to communicate with various groups (culturally, regionally, etc.). Dr. Young gave the example of the Martin Luther King Jr. parade and stated that the ECAC should have a presence at events like this. We need to have presence in the community.
 - Next meeting will be on February 14, 2023 at 9am.
- *Finance and Policy Subcommittee – Julie Houchins and Denise Tanata, Co-Chairs*
 - Denise stated that the last meeting was January 12, 2023 and the update is on the report.
 - Denise wanted to highlight that the committee is putting together a Bill Draft Request (BDR) to track all early childhood-related bills. There is a BDR 788 to make the ECAC-recommended revisions to the ECAC



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membership. Denise requested that if there are specific BDRs to reach out to Denise so we can add the bills to the list.

- *Data and Evaluation Subcommittee – Marty Elquist, Chair*
 - Marty Elquist stated that there are no additional updates besides what is stated on the report. The next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, January 20 and that the committee will continue to meet monthly.

8. Local ECAC Updates

(Discussion/For Possible Action) Discuss updates from Local ECACs, including plans for the ARP Local ECAC Small Grants. Summary reports are provided in the Local ECAC Summary Report document.

Materials: JAN 23 Local ECAC Summary Report

- *Carson/Douglas ECAC*
- *Elko County ECAC*
- *Southern Nevada ECAC*
- *Tribal ECAC*
- *Tri-County ECAC*
- *Washoe County ECAC*

There were not additional comments or questions from the Council or the Public regarding the writing Local ECAC Summary Report. Denise stated that it has been very helpful to have funding to support the work of the Local ECACs.

9. State Agency and Partner 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. Summary reports are provided in the Partner Summary Report document.

Denise Tanata, ECAC Chair

Materials: JAN 23 NECAC Partner Summary Report

Denise stated that the report is available online, but will go down the list to see if there is anything partners would like to add or questions the ECAC might have regarding the report/update.

- *Department of Education*
 - *Office of Early Learning & Development – Patti Oya*
 - *Early Childhood Special Education*
 - *Office of Student & School Supports – Alberto Quintero*
- *Department of Health and Human Services*
 - *Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Child Care Development Program – Karissa Loper*
 - *Division of Child and Family Services, Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health – Rhonda Lawrence*
 - *Department of Public and Behavioral Health, Child Care Licensing – Latisha Brown*
 - Latisha Brown stated that child care licensing is still behind on background checks. Due to taking over other jurisdictions (e.g., Washoe and Clark), there are a lot of changes. The state is using federal requirements and is working closely with the state's Deputy Attorney General (DAG). Ms. Brown stated that she meets with those individually who have background check issues to come up with a plan to resolve.
 - Denise Tanata asked that other states are able to process their background check quickly/within a couple of weeks.
 - Ms. Brown stated that there are both processing issues and capacity issues.



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- Ms. Tanata stated she would like a continued update on background checks and offered the support of the ECAC as child care licensing navigates these challenges.
- Tiffany Alston stated that she is willing to support Ms. Brown with any challenges and any information she needs.
- Ms. Brown stated that if we could help share the prohibiting crimes list facilities and directors so they are aware of the prohibiting crimes as she spends a lot of time educating.
- Carrie Paldi asked if the list of prohibiting crimes is listed on the website.
- Ms. Brown stated that the list is available on the website.
- Ms. Paldi asked if we can use federal or stimulus dollars to improve our system as other states use Live Scan and get results back in a week.
- Ms. Brown stated that we do have Live Scan, but we do not get the results direct. The results go through another entity. Latisha stated that the State is looking into it, but have to navigate Nevada's laws and requirements.
- Ms. Paldi thanked Ms. Brown for her efforts.
- Ms. Alston stated that sometimes when you are the inside, it is difficult to advocate and to use those that are on the outside to advocate for the solutions to improve this system.
 - *Department of Public and Behavioral Health, Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health – Vickie Ives*
 - *Director's Office, Aging and Disability Services, Part C and NEIS – Lori Ann Malina-Lovell*
- *Pyramid Model Update – Janice Lee*
- *Research and Needs Assessments – Amanda Haboush-Deloye*
 - Rebecca Dunne stated that two new needs assessment have been added to the needs assessments list:
 - 2022 Quad-County Regional Community Health Needs Assessment (<https://www.carsontahoe.com/assets/Quad%20County%20Regional%202022%20CHNA%20Final%20Report.pdf>)
 - Carson City and Storey County Needs Assessment and Environmental Scan 2019 <https://naes.agnt.unr.edu/PMS/Pubs/2020-4104.pdf>
- *NevAEYC Update – Carrie Paldi*
 - 2nd application for EC staff stipends are available through 4/30/2023. 7836 stipends are available.
 - TEACH Early Childhood scholarship applications for Spring 23 semester.
 - <<Talks too fast!!>> **Get update from Carrie.**
 - Tiffany Alston asked if there was going to be a screening on *Dealing with Black Boys* at the NevAEYC conference
 - Dr. Young stated that she and Patrice Gardner are helping to organize a screening on *Dealing with Black Boys* documentary.
 - Patrice Gardner stated that we are still in negotiations with the producers and not sure if there will be a track or a screening.
- *Nevada Child Care Provider Action Committee – Carrie Paldi*
 - Denise stated that it is very exciting that we can finally compensate provider to participate on the Leadership Action Committee.
 - Carrie Paldi stated that
- *Pritzker PN3 Initiative and Early Childhood Policy Update – Jamelle Nance*
 - Jamelle stated she is in the process of submitting the Pritzker report that is due February ??
 - Around May 2023, CAA will work on an implementation grant for another three years.
 - CAA is following BDRs and legislative pieces regarding who is championing the effort.
 - Ms. Nance stated that if anyone needs support around any policy or legislative issues, to please reach out to her.



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- *Strong Start Update – Annette Dawson-Owens*
 - <<Missed update>>
 - Dianne Nicolet requested a list of names of our legislative champions.
 - Ms. Dawson-Owens stated that she would like to defer to their legislative team and will get back to Dr. Nicolet
- *HRSA Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Grant Update – Denise Tanata*
 - Denise wanted to welcome Rosa Tamayo, new Northern Nevada Parent Leadership Coordinator who will be joining Ashely Dines, Parent Leadership Coordinator in Southern Nevada.
- *ECE Workforce Plan – Marty Elquist*
- *NV Early Childhood Family Leadership Council – Ashley Dines*
- *New or Potential Grants and Funding – All*
- *Training & Professional Development Opportunities – All*

10. Discuss Agenda Items for March 8, 2023 Meeting

(Information/Discussion) Council will discuss recommendations for agenda items and structure for the 2023 meeting schedule.

Denise Tanata, Council Chair

- West Ed – Update
- PDG B-5 – Will be added to the Partner Summary Report
- Sustainability Planning for COVID Stimulus Projects facing a fiscal cliff.
- Revisiting the Manifesto for possible action
- Training on Teams
- Action Items:
 - Remove all Teams links on future meeting invites.
 - Presentations will be posted to the ECAC website
 - Reminders to complete reports will be sent
 - ECAC support will be recruited ASAP to support council, and keep us organized
 - Resources on background checks on nevadachildcare.org – Marty Elquist stated that the information is already on Nevadachildcare.org

11. Public Comment #2

Public comment will be taken during this agenda item on any matter within the Council's jurisdiction, control, or advisory power.

No action may be taken on a matter raised under this item until the matter is included on an agenda as an item on which action may be taken. The Council Chair will impose a time limit of three minutes.

12. Adjournment – 11:33am