



**Nevada
Early Childhood
Advisory Council**

General ECAC

Public Meeting

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

9:00 am-12:00 pm

In-Person Meeting Locations

**Southern Nevada
Sunrise Children's Foundation**
2795 Desert Inn Rd #100
Las Vegas, NV 89121

**Northern Nevada
Child Care Services Center**
961 Matley Lane, #110
Reno, NV 89502

VIRTUAL MEETING held via Zoom.com **CLICK [HERE](#) to JOIN US**

Meeting ID: 815 9023 7818

Passcode: 308879

Click [HERE](#) for Zoom Directions

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public is hereby notified that the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council and its Co-Chairs reserve the right to take agenda items out of posted order. Agenda Items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time. Agenda Items may also be combined for consideration.

Public hearings will not begin earlier than posted times.

Public Comment Agenda Items are offered twice per meeting, once at the beginning and once at the end of the meeting. A time limit of two to three minutes may be imposed by the Council and/or Subcommittee Co-Chairs for public comments, to allow ECAC members and the public who wish to comment the opportunity to share their voice within the timeframe available. The Co-Chairs reserve the right to call on individuals from the audience or to allow for testimony at any time.

- Public Comment can also be called in at: 253.205.0468
- Support materials for this agenda are available online at no charge to the public. ‘
- **Notice of this meeting** is posted online at: **NVECAC.COM**

This **Public Notice** is posted in:

• **Carson City:**

- Nevada State Library and Archive
- Nevada Department of Education
- Department of Human Services

• **Las Vegas:**

- Nevada Department of Education

Reasonable efforts are being made for public meeting attendees who have disabilities or require assistance or accommodation at the meeting. If you or someone you know needs assistance, email us at least three (3) days before the meeting.

For meeting details, scheduling assistance, or to join Nevada ECAC, contact us at:

Sabrina Jones: ECAC Systems Specialist: **E:** sabrina.jones@doe.nv.gov

Brandi Hearst: ECAC Administrative Coordinator: **E:** brandi.hearst@doe.nv.gov

NDE Office: 2080 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV

Website: **NVECAC.COM**

AGENDA

1. Welcome, Call to Order, Roll Call, Language Access 5 minutes

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair

Patrice Gardner, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Vice Chair

• **Language Access Description and Instructions**

Nayesdi Badillo, Family Engagement Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education

• **Roll Call**

Brandi Hearst, ECAC Administrative Coordinator

2. Public Comment #1 6 min

Public Comments to 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 the 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.

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda (Discussion for Possible Action) 5 min

The Council will vote to approve a flexible agenda. The Council 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.

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Chair

Patrice Gardner, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Vice Chair

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 21, 2026 and February 18, 2026 (Discussion for Possible Action) 10 min

The Council will review and vote to approve both January and February meeting minutes.

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Chair

Patrice Gardner, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Vice Chair

5. Strategic Planning Update (Discussion for Possible Action) 20 minutes

The Council to be updated on the transition for the Strategic Plan including but not limited to:

- Transition and integration of new subcommittees and sunseting subcommittees
- Update on bylaw review, and plan to reflect 2026-2030 Strategic Plan within bylaws
- Projected timeline to complete transition process

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Chair

Patrice Gardner, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Vice Chair

6. Subcommittee Updates (Informational, Discussion)

Subcommittees will update the Council with work plan updates, success stories and barriers they face.

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Chair

Patrice Gardner, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Vice Chair

- **Executive Leadership** – Tiffany Alston and Patrice Gardner, Chair/Vice Chair
- **Systems Alignment** – Tiffany Olivas and Abbey Bernhardt, Co-Chairs
- **Communications and Engagement** – Dr. Jamelle Nance and Brianna Cambra, Co-Chairs
- **Policy and Finance** – Denise Tanata, Co- Chair, Looking to fill Co-Chair Vacancy
- **Data** – Marty Elquist and Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Co-Chairs

7. Nevada Department of Education (NDE) Data Updates (Informational, Discussion) 15 min

OELD to present the Council with updates that include but are not limited to available public reports, the ECAC Data Catalogue survey, progress on the EC Data Lab Cohort Project, and other data-related information.

Matthew Hoffman, Nevada Department of Education, Office of Early Learning and Development

8. Early Childhood System (ECS) Info-graphic (Informational, Discussion) 10 min

The Systems Alignment Subcommittee to present their Early Childhood System Info-graphic to the Council as a tool for use amongst the Subcommittees and outreach.

Tiffany Olivas & Abbey Bernhardt, Systems Alignment Subcommittee Co-Chairs

9. Website Revision Update (Informational, Discussion) 10 min

The Communication and Engagement Subcommittee to provide the council with a verbal update on the progress of the website revision.

Dr. Jamelle Nance and Brianna Cambra, Communication and Engagement Co-Chairs

10. First 5 Nevada Family Leadership Council Updates (Informational, Discussion) 10 min

Members will be presented with the First 5 Nevada Family Leadership Council facilitation rubric and companion guide, no *Parent Spotlight* this month

Tiffany Olivas & Anna Villatoro, The Children's Cabinet

11. Nevada ECAC Partner Updates (Information/Discussion)

Nevada ECAC Partners, Agencies, Local ECACs, and other programs can briefly share updates, progress, new initiatives, services, or upcoming challenges. The March/April 2026 Nevada ECAC Partner Summary Report is available on the ECAC website at:

<https://nvecac.com/ecac-reports-documents/>

Nevada Department of Education (NDE)

- **Office of Comprehensive Student Services (OCSS), Cate Guzy**
- **Office of Early Learning and Development (OELD), Michael Mitchell**
 - QRIS, Sara Kharrat
 - PDG B-5 Grant, Rachel Stepina
 - Nevada Ready!Pre-K, Marissa LaCroix
- **Nevada Department of Human Services (DHS)**
- **Division of Supportive Services (DSS)**
 - Child Care and Development Program (CCDP), Brooke Yarborough
 - Child Care Licensing, Edith Farmer
- **Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS)**
 - Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH), Rhonda Lawrence
- **Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD)**
 - Early Intervention Services, Dazzrael Lyke
 - Idea- Part C, Betsy Newman
- **Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)**
 - Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Blanca Ayala
 - Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health (MCAH), Tami Conn
 - Oral Health Program, Jannette Gomez
 - Nevada State Immunization Program, Tami Conn (temp)
- **Nevada Department of Administration (NDA)**
 - Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records, Darby Porter

Nevada ECAC Partners

- HRSA: Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems, Health Integration, Tiffany Olivas
- The First 5 Nevada Family Leadership Council, Anna Villatoro

- Nevada Association for the Education of Young Children (NevAEYC), Robin Marx-Mackerly and Carrie Paldi
- Nevada Child Care Provider Committee (CCPAC), Carrie Paldi and Lela Gonzales
- Pyramid Model, Janice Lee
- Research and Needs Assessments (NICRP), Amanda Haboush-Deloye
- Nevada Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health, Jacquelyn Kleinedler
- Children's Advocacy Alliance (CAA) Dr. Jamelle Nance
 - Plus: Strong Start Prenatal to Three (PN-3) and (PCI)
- Head Start and Early Head Start, Laura Brown

Local ECACs

- Elko/Northeastern, Sarah Carone, Yosaba Arellano (State Representative)
- Southern Nevada, Amanda Haboush-Deloye
- Washoe County, Anna Severns and Kacey Edington
- Carson/Douglas, Tiffany Olivas
- Tribal, Ashleigh Baker
- Rural Nevada, Michael-Ann Lazzarino
- Lyon-Churchill, Evelyn Knight

12. Agenda Items for the next meeting scheduled on May 20, 2026 (*Discussion for Possible Action*) **5 minutes** Council can add and discuss agenda items, keeping in mind the next 3 meetings (May, July, Sept) are shorter with a 2 hour time frame of 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm.

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Chair

Patrice Gardner, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Vice Chair

13. Member Updates and Share-Outs (*Discussion, Informational*), **5 min**

Members of this Council can share announcements.

14. Public Comment #2 (*Discussion for Possible Action*) **6 min**

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15. Upcoming ECAC Meetings (*Informational*)

Executive Leadership: 4.07.26, @ 11:00 am

Data: 4.16.26, @1:00 pm

Communication and Engagement: 4.28.26 @ 11:30 am

Policy and Finance: 5.19.26 @3:30 pm

General ECAC: 5.20.26, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm (Virtual Only)

16. Adjournment