

Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

General ECAC Public Meeting

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Evening /Virtual Only

Location	Zoom Meeting Link	Meeting ID	Passcode
Virtual - Zoom online platform	Join the General ECAC Meeting	815 9023 7818	308879

Public Notice

The public is hereby notified that the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) may take agenda items out of order, combine items for consideration, or remove or defer items as needed. Public hearings, if any, will not begin earlier than the time posted on the agenda.

Public comment will be provided at the beginning and conclusion of the meeting. Comments are limited to three minutes per person. The Chairs may limit public comment as necessary and reserve the right to call on individuals or allow testimony at any time during the meeting. Telephonic public comment can be called in at 253-205-0468.

This notice will be posted in accordance with [Nevada Open Meeting Law, NRS 241.020](#), and applicable Nevada Department of Education requirements. Meeting information and materials will be available on the [Nevada ECAC General ECAC Meetings webpage](#) and will also be posted on the [Nevada Department of Education website](#) and [Nevada Public Notice website](#). Notice will be emailed to people who have requested notice.

Reasonable accommodation will be provided for members of the public who require assistance to participate in this virtual meeting. Please contact [Nevada ECAC by email](#) at least five business days in advance, when possible, to request an accommodation.

Agenda

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - 5:30-5:35 p.m. (5 minutes)

The Chair will call the meeting to order. Member attendance will be taken to establish quorum.

Lead: *Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair, and Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair*

2. Public Comment #1 - 5:35-5:40 p.m. (5 minutes)

Public comment will be taken on any item appearing on the agenda. 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. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda (For Possible Action) - 5:40-5:45 p.m. (5 minutes)

The Council will consider approval of a flexible agenda to allow items to be taken out of order, combined, or adjusted as permitted by the posted public notice.

Lead: *Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair, and Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair*

4. Approval of July 15, 2026, General ECAC Meeting Minutes (Discussion for Possible Action) - 5:45-5:50 p.m. (5 minutes)

The Council will review and consider approval of the July 15, 2026, General ECAC meeting minutes.

Lead: *Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair, and Patrice Gardner, Nevada ECAC Vice Chair*

5. 2026 Market Rate Report (Informational) - 5:50-6:05 p.m. (15 minutes)

The Council will hear the results of the 2026 Child Care Market Rate Survey and receive an overview of the findings.

Lead: *Marty Elquist, Chief Executive Program Officer, The Children's Cabinet*

6. Nevada Department of Education Updates: Statewide Plan for the Improvement of Pupils and PDG SMART Grant (Discussion With Feedback Opportunity) - 6:05-6:20 p.m. (15 minutes)

During this agenda item we will discuss the STIP and PDG SMART Grant, as well as share avenues for feedback. ECAC members have two opportunities to share feedback with the Nevada Department of Education.

Lead: *Michael Tomas Mitchell, Education Program Director; Marisa Lacroix, Education Programs Professional; and Matthew Hoffman, Education Programs Professional, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education*

7. Overview of the Head Start Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Informational and Discussion) - 6:20-6:40 p.m. (20 minutes)

The Council will receive an update on Head Start performance standards and available information regarding program or funding changes. Members will discuss how updates can be communicated to families in clear, accessible, family-friendly language.

Lead: *Tiffany Alston, Executive Director, Sunrise Children's Foundation, and Patrice Gardner, Nevada Head Start Collaboration Office*

8. Subcommittee Updates (Information, Discussion, and Public Comment) - 6:40-6:55 p.m. (15 minutes)

Subcommittee Chairs and Co-Chairs will provide brief updates on progress, key discussions, action items, and upcoming work from the Executive Leadership; Family Leadership and Engagement; Communication and Engagement; Policy and Finance; Data; and Workforce Development Subcommittees.

Lead: *Subcommittee Co-Chairs*

9. Parent and Family Leadership Updates (Information, and Public Comment) - 6:55-7:05 p.m. (10 minutes)

The Council will acknowledge and welcome Zepporah Cousin-Lee, the new Co-Chair of the Family Leadership and Engagement Subcommittee, and receive Parent and Family Leadership updates.

Lead: *Tiffany Olivas, Family Leadership and Engagement Representative*

10. Partner Report Updates (Information, Discussion, and Public Comment) - 7:05-7:15 p.m. (10 minutes)

Members will review key updates submitted by ECAC partners and identify information, resources, or coordination opportunities relevant to the Council's work.

Lead: *ECAC Partners*

11. Upcoming ECAC Meeting Schedule (Review and Discussion) - 7:15-7:20 p.m. (5 minutes)

Members will review upcoming ECAC and subcommittee meeting dates and note scheduling needs or conflicts.

- Communication and Engagement: September 22, 2026, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Policy and Finance: September 24, 2026, 3:00-4:30 p.m.
- Family Leadership and Engagement: October 1, 2026, 4:00-5:30 p.m.
- Executive Leadership: October 6, 2026, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Data: October 15, 2026, 1:00-3:00 p.m.
- Workforce Development: November 10, 2026, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- General ECAC: November 18, 2026, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

12. Public Comment #2 - 7:20-7:25 p.m. (5 minutes)

Public comment will be taken 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. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.

13. Adjournment - 7:25-7:30 p.m. (5 minutes)

The Chair will adjourn the meeting following completion of the posted agenda.

Lead: *Tiffany Alston, Nevada ECAC Chair*