



**Communication and Engagement Subcommittee
Public Meeting**

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 11:30-12:30 pm

Virtual Meeting took place on: Zoom.com

ATTENDANCE

11 of 18 MEMBER'S PRESENT

1. Laura Brown, Monitoring and Compliance Coordinator, Acelero Head Start
2. Brianna Cambra, Provider Support Director, The Children's Cabinet
3. Patrice Gardner, ECAC Vice Chair
4. Jerek Hough, Source Academy
5. Adriana Lemus, Parent and First 5 Nevada Family Leader
6. Octavia McLaurin, Family Child Care Owner
7. Jamie Mendez, Early Childhood Workforce Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
8. Brittany Morris, SPED- Itinerant Early Childhood Teacher, Washoe County School District
9. Dr. Jamelle Nance, Communication & Engagement Co-Chair
10. Darby Porter, Youth Services Consultant, Nevada Library Systems
11. Dana Preece, Birth – 3rd grade Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education

7 of 18 MEMBER'S ABSENT

1. Cherry Clark, Developmental Specialist III, Nevada Early Intervention Services
2. Edith Farmer, Child Care Facilities Supervisor, Department of Social Services
3. Kendra Moore, Sr. Partnership Director, McGraw-Hill Education
4. Carrie Paldi, District Manager, Learning Care Group
5. Maura Snyder, Department of Welfare and Social Services, Regional Coordinator for the North
6. Tina Springmeyer, Child and Family Services Director and Nevada Pre-K Standards Coordinator, Washoe County School District
7. Anna Villatoro, Family Engagement Coordinator, The Children's Cabinet

PUBLIC PRESENT

1. Brandi Hearst, ECAC Administrative Coordinator, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
2. Sabrina Jones, ECAC Systems Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
3. Candace Lewis Vaughn, Department of Child and Family Services
4. Rachel Stepina, Preschool Development Grant Birth - 5 manager, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
5. Denise Tanata, Policy and Finance Co-Chair
6. F. Sullivan, Community member
7. Jennese Black, ECAC Member
8. Joetta Foresty, Nevada Registry
9. Nayesdi Badillo, Family Engagement Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
10. Nicole Sailors, Community member
11. Tiffany Olivas, Systems Alignment Co-Chair

Minutes

1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call

- Dr. Nance started the meeting at 11:36 am
- Brandi Hearst conducted roll call, noted above

2. Public Comment #1

Public Comment not given during this agenda item.

- No comment

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda (*Discussion for Possible Action*) 2 minutes

The Subcommittee approved a flexible agenda.

Dr. Nance, Communication and Engagement Subcommittee Co-Chair

- Laura Brown motioned to approve a Flexible Agenda
- Jerek Hough seconded the motion
- Members voted unanimously, motion carries

4. Approval of November 18, 2025 Meeting Minutes (*Discussion for Possible Action*) 5 minutes

The Subcommittee approved Meeting Minutes.

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

- Laura Brown motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes with edits
- Darby Porter seconded the motion
- Members voted unanimously, motion carries

5. 2026 Schedule Change (*Discussion for Possible Action*) 2 min

Subcommittee reviewed 2026 meeting schedule discussing rescheduled items.

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

- Dr. Nance explained to members that the March meeting has been moved to April and then May will continue the normal schedule.
- Brianna Cambra also added that the reason we rescheduled March is because of Spring Breaks during the same week.

6. Head Start Updates (*Discussion, Informational*) 10 min

Subcommittee Members to hear updates on Head Start in April

- This item tabled until April Meeting

7. Workplan Review and Discussion (*Discussion for Possible Action*) 20 min

Subcommittee discussed ideas regarding creation of a Family Share Form

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

- Brianna Cambra shared with Members that there is not consistent follow up after families and parents share their stories, sharing the idea to have a Parent Story to narrow down the message and share out through the website or social media posts.
- Family Share Form would include a space for:
 - Picture of family or parent(s)
 - 2 Sentences highlighting their story
 - 1 sentence showing how ECAC supports them or is working towards something to support them
- Tiffany Olivas described the history of Parent Spotlight, adding the Family Share Form will show them we are taking their ideas and experiences and making positive changes state wide.

- Dr. Nance thanked Brianna Cambra for bringing this idea to the Members.
- Jennese Black offers to help with creating the Family Share Form
- Brianna Cambra asked members what information would be important, comments in the chat showed some suggestions:
 - Child Age for parents to relate
 - Regional location
- Dr. Nance mentioned the idea of making forms similar to that of Family Leadership for families to easily understand, asking Denise Tanata if she would like to help or share formatting ideas make our similar, so families are familiar with the layout.
- Denise Tanata shared that there are quotes and short forms on their SharePoint and also mentioned including the reaching out to those who participate in Parent Spotlight's to see how their experience was and get their feedback. She also shared that they would publish their stories in a newsletter, getting the details firsthand by conducting an interview which mentioned that having the families review available questions and choose what they were comfortable answering or sharing information about, then had familiar faces (such as the family leaders) asking families the questions they chose to talk about, helped the parents feel comfortable speaking with
- Dr. Nance expressed that this was a really great point for helping the families to feel comfortable in sharing.

8. Policy Priority Collaboration (Discussion for Possible Action) 10 min

Members reviewed their role in sharing key messaging and how to collaborate with the Strategic Planning Ad Hoc in sharing the Policy Priorities.

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

- Brianna Cambra discussed Purdue and Marrion looking into website updates and when a family logs onto that website, such as:
 - How can they easily navigate the website
 - What messaging will they see
- Brianna Cambra then reminds Members the website activities on the workplan are continuing no matter what comes of the strategic plan
- Dr Nance shared Sabrina Jones left a comment in the Chat discussing a draft document being worked on with activity recommendation to support the strategic plan alignment.

9. Agenda Items for April 28, 2026 Meeting (Discussion for Possible Action) 10 minutes

The Subcommittee added agenda items

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

- Subcommittee agreed on adding the following:
 - Add agenda item 5, add 15-20 minutes Presentation from Patrice Gardner and Tiffany Alston on Headstart and their experiences, including families and the best ways to engage them, what works, what doesn't, etc.
 - Update on Family Share Template from agenda item #7
 - Workplan activity carry over recommendations
 - Patrice Gardner also suggested adding time to discuss among Member who can take minutes and other administrative support
 - From Agenda item 10, below: New Standing Item to be added titled "Outreach Tracking Document Review"

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

Members of this Subcommittee made announcements

- Sabrina Jones shared that the ECAC Executive Leadership team is presenting some general information to the k-12 Education Community during the Nevada Early Learning Institute (ELI) presentation on 2.5.26 , adding that the Event Outreach Form has been completed for this event

- Dr. Nance asked members if the Outreach form should be a standing so that we aware of events taking place and nothing gets missed.
- Brianna Cambra stated that she agree this should be a standing item and that this wouldn't remove responsibility from Executive Leadership to approve events, it would only allow for this Subcommittee to review what takes place and recommend if the event is worth the efforts of participating in the future of not.
 - Outreach now a standing item
- Laura Brown announced Acelero Head Start hosting "Acelero Strong Start Altus Site Community Health Fair " ' from 9:00 am-12:00 pm on April 27, 2026.

11. Public Comment #2 (Discussion for Possible Action) 6 minutes

Public comment not given this agenda item.

- No comment made

12. Upcoming Meetings (Informational) 0 minutes

Systems Alignment: 1.28.26, @1:00 pm

Executive Leadership: 2.03.26, @ 11:00 am

Policy and Finance: 2.17.26 @3:30 pm

Data and Evaluation: 2.19.26, @1:00 pm

General ECAC: 3.18.26, 9:00 am

13. Adjournment

- Dr. Nance adjourned the meeting at 12:23 pm

Action Steps

- Members who volunteered to help with the Family Share template will meet with Co-Chairs to collaborate and create template to share at April's meeting
- Brandi Hearst to add Outreach and Event Tracking as a standing item to the agenda
- Interested members to complete the Call-To-Action Form if they would like to volunteer their time and skills to Policy Priority Interim Sessions

One Sentence Summary:

Subcommittee Members discussed the Family Share idea and its importance, reviewed the policy priorities, and recommendations, and were given the link to complete the Call to Action form, and also discussed the upcoming schedule change in March.