Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)
Public Meeting
Wednesday, November 20, 2024
9:00am-12:00pm

"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."

In Person Meeting Locations:

SOUTH-Las Vegas
Child Care Services Center
1771 E. Flamingo Road, # 200B
Las Vegas, NV 89119

NORTH-Reno
Child Care Services Center
961 Matley Lane, #110
Reno, NV 89502

This meeting was offered also as a Virtual Meeting:

Meeting Minutes

1. **Welcome, Call to Order and Roll Call** 3 minutes

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council Chair

- Tiffany Alston called meeting to order at 9:21am
- Sabrina Jones conducted a roll call

Members in Attendance (13):

- Tiffany Alston- Seat J, University of Nevada, Sunrise Children's Foundation
- Abbey Bernhardt- Seat O, National Alliance on Mental Illness
- Jennifer Butler – Seat R, Las Vegas Urban League
- Marty Elquist- Seat N, The Children's Cabinet
- Joan Jackson – Seat D , Education Programs Professional, Nevada Department of Education
- Dr. Lori Ann Malina-Lovell – Seat E, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
- Brenda Morales-Solorzano- Seat L, Aging and Disability Services Division
- Dr. Diane Nicolet- Seat F , Washoe County School District
- Arielle Newell-Rollins – Seat Q
- Tina Springmeyer- Seat R , Washoe County School District
- Stephanie Vega – Seat I
- Carrie Paldi- Seat H, Learning Care Group
- Dr. Jenna Weglarz-Ward- Seat G, Ward University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Members Not in Attendance: (8)

- Elysa Arroyo- Seat R, Aerospace Machine & Supply
- Tami Conn – Seat B, Division of Public and Behavioral Health
- Edith Farmer – Seat A, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services
- Patrice Gardner- Seat K, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Dr. Linda Young- Seat R, The Village Foundation
- Vacant- Seat C
- Vacant- Seat M
- Vacant- Seat P

Public In Attendance: (37)

- Anna Acosta-Rogers

- Krisann Alvarez- Department of Child and Family Services, State Nevada
- Nayesdi Badillo, Family Engagement Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Kathy Bass-Yoder, Principal, Hills Preschool
- Joycelene Bumagat, Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy
- Brianna Cambra, Provider Support Director, The Children's Cabinet
- Ethel Chambers
- Mary Childrey, The Children's Cabinet
- Ashley Dines- Parent Engagement Specialist, The Children's Cabinet
- Marty Elquist, Data and Evaluation Co-Chair
- Isabel Esquiojaroso
- Lisa Ford, Chief Strategy Officer, State of Nevada
- Lela Gonzales, The Children's Cabinet
- Cate Guzy, Nevada 619 Coordinator, State of Nevada
- Angela Hamilton
- Crystal Johnson, Statewide Chief, Child Care Licensing, Division of Welfare Support Services
- Sabrina Jones, ECAC Systems Coordinator, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Sara Kharrat, QRIS Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Robin Kincaid
- Kanie Lee
- AJ Long, DRI Nv Robotics
- Karissa Machado
- Alison May
- Nina McCartney
- Meghann McQuillan- Education and Information Officer, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Jamelle Nance, Communications Co-Chair
- Smriti Neupane, NICRP
- Tiffany Olivas- ECCS 2 The Children's Cabinet
- Patti Oya Program Director, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Dana Preece, P-3 Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Mary Regan
- Sabrina Schnur
- Anna Severns, NV PreK Ready, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Maura Snyder, Division of Welfare Support Services
- Rachel Stepina, PDG B-5 Grant Manager, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Systems Consultant, The Children's Cabinet
- Anna Villatoro, Parent Engagement Specialist, The Children's Cabinet

2. Language Access Technical Assistance (Information/Discussion) 20 Minutes

The Council heard a presentation regarding Language Access Technical Assistance.

Rachel Stepina, Preschool Development Birth through Five Grant Manager (PDG B-5), Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education

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

- Rachel Stepina- Introduced Technical assistance for Language Access and its goals, asked members to submit materials in advance
- Nayesdi Badillo- Discussed most popular other languages used in NV and described how to use and get to the Interpretation Feature on Zoom

3. Public Comment #1 4 min

Public Comment 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 two minutes. Public Comment #2 will provide an opportunity for public comment on any matter within the Council's jurisdiction, control or advisory court.

- No Comment

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

The Council approved 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

- Dianne Nicolet motioned for flexible agenda
- Jennifer Butler seconds motion
- Unanimous vote, motion carries, flexible agenda approved

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 18, 2024 *(Discussion for Possible Action*) 3 min

The Council discussed and approved September 18, 2024, meeting minutes.

Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Chair

- Brenda Morales Solorzano motioned to approve September 18, 2024 meeting minutes
- Abbey Bernhardt seconds motion
- Carri Paldi Abstained, not present in September 2024
- Unanimous vote, motion carries, meeting minutes approved from September 18, 2024

6. Open Meeting Law Training *(Information/Discussion)* 60 Minutes

The Council will be informed of proper Open Meeting Law practices.

Holly Welborn & Jake Matthews, Children's Advocacy Alliance

- Tiffany Alston introduced Holly Welborn and Jake Matthews and allowed them to lead discussion.
- Holly Welborn- Executive Director of Children's Alliance Advocacy, Lawyer with Open Government law
    - Explained to committee the overview of Open Meeting Law, took questions at end, and Explained that when posting, have all locations, time and date information, where to post and how much time is allotted.

7. Nevada Department of Education Statewide Improvement Plan (STIP) Overview *(Information/ Discussion)* 10 Minutes

The Council heard an overview of Nevada Department of Education Statewide Improvement Plan

Lisa Ford, Chief Strategy Officer, Nevada Department of Education

- explained how STIP shows outcomes from the schools and the teachers and discussed the need to incorporate families.
- Denise Tanata offered assistance with First 5 NV Website, advertising STIP Survey

8. Local ECAC Celebrations and Updates *(Information Discussion)* 3 minutes/each
The Council recognized Local Early Childhood Advisory Councils. The Local ECAC'S will share their work and progress for the year 2024.

- Tifany Alston congratulated the Local ECAC's, especially Washoe County.
- Carson/Douglas ECAC – Tiffany Olivas
    - 100 attendees came to first Session
    - Childcare and ECE administrators came to their own event, more informative
- Southern Nevada ECAC – Amanda Haboush-Deloye
    - Jocelyn Bumagat - Step up for Kids, 200 attendees, 330 families
        - RJ new Youth Governor
        - Event Summary on NICRP website and in chat
    - November and December legislative meetings scheduled
- Washoe County ECAC – Kacey Edgington, Anna Severens, Dr Melissa Burnham-
    - Anna Severens collaborated with Washoe County SD, Preschool and NV PreK
        - Objectives for Local Grants- Strengthen equity transitions
        - Created Washoe County Early Learning Series, listing all parameters involved in P-3 continuum

9. Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition (*Discussion for Possible Action)* 7 min
Council reviewed the updated Vulnerable and Underserved Population Definition
Marty Elquist, Data and Evaluation Co-Chair

- Marty Elquist described importance of the definition being clear per each Subcommittee.
    - Requests-
        - Brandi Hearst and Sabrina Jones to Fix Page one at end, goes to page two
        - Add bullet points regarding Race and ethnicities, adding LGBTIQA
- Stephanie Vega- Should there be a slash Native American / Alaskan Native
- Marty Elquist-motions for addition of slash for Rural/Frontier and Native American / Alaskan Native
- Stephanie Vega- seconds the motion, with small correction at bottom that doesn't need to be capitalized.
- Motion passes, add slash to Rural/Frontier and Native American / Alaskan Native

10. Legislative Discussion (*Discussion for Possible Action)* 12 minutes
The Council to review, draft list of key recommendations for the ECAC to consider in relation to the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Systems
Denise Tanata, Policy and Finance Subcommittee Member

- Denise Tanta- explained the recommendations based off of information from Executive Leadership discussion, Making the establishment of Governors Office very clear, and to create Talking Points

11. First 5 Nevada Family Leadership Council Updates with Parent Spotlight *(Information / Discussion)* 20 minutes
The Council heard a presentation from the First 5 Nevada Family Leadership Council and a guest parent Spotlight information. Parents able to share their experiences with the Early Childhood System.
Ashley Dines and Anna Villatoro, Parent Leadership Coordinators, The Children's Cabinet
Antoinette Jacobs, Parent Presenter

- Ashley Dines shared their new Name of First 5 Nevada Family Leadership Council
- Introduced the parent speaker, Antoinnette Jacobs who shared her experience in the NV Early Childhood System.
    - Carrie Paldi- Congratulated Antoinette for being her child's advocate
    - Tiffany Alston recognized Antoinettes courage and asked for anyone with comments to place in chat and Brandi Hearst to send the kind words to Antoinette so that she can remain encouraged.

12. First 5 Nevada Family Leadership Academy Graduate Recognition *(Information)* 5 minutes
The Council recognized graduates from First 5 Nevada Family Leadership Academy.
Denise Tanata, Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems Consultant, The Children's Cabinet

- Denise Tanata- discussed changes for next sessions according to feedback from participants, congratulated Graduates.

13. Subcommittee Updates and Workplan *(Discussion for Possible Action)* 20 Minutes
Discussed updates, recommendations and workplan progress from ECAC Subcommittees and 2024 priorities.

- Executive Leadership – Tiffany Alston and Patrice Gardner, Co-Chairs
    - Tiffany Alston discussed General ECAC 2025 Meeting Schedule
    - Tiffany Alston- Working with First 5 Family Leadership for info on when thy would be able to meet: Evenings? Saturday? Day of week?
        - January meeting still same time 3rd Wednesday at 9am
    - Update: Strategic Plan -Rachel Stepina explained that the Vendor has been chosen and the letter of intent has been sent,
- Annual Report Update – Sabrina Jones described Report due date and requested survey results from recommendation survey to include your input

14. State Agency and Partner Report Summary Updates *(Information/Discussion)*
Relevant informational items from state agencies and departments on programs, services, initiatives and/or issues relevant to the ECAC Strategic Plan and work of the Council. Partners submit their reports in advance. When no update is provided in advance, listed partners can have an opportunity to share a brief update verbally if a representative is present. Summary reports are provided in the Partner Summary Report document.

- This item tabled due to time

15. Upcoming Meetings *(Informational)*
Next General ECAC Meeting is Wednesday, January 15, 2025 from 9:00am – 12:00pm
Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Chair

- This item tabled due to time

16. Public Comment #2 *(Discussion for Possible Action)*
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 the agenda as an item on which action may be taken. The Council Chair will impose a two-minute time limit.

- No comment

17. Adjournment *(Informational)*
Tiffany Alston, Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council, Chair

- Tiffany Alston adjourned meeting at 12:08pm

- **3 Action Steps**:
  - Keep items on the agenda that were tabled to make sure we discuss items
  - Brandi Hearst to send Antoinette the "thank you" and encouragement from ECAC Members in chat
  - Brandi Hearst and/or Sabrina Jones to update Vulnerable Population document.
- **1 Sentence Summary:**
  The General ECAC Committee was able to hear a presentation on STIP and learn about strategies of the Department of Education to better align Early Childhood with their future education, the Committee voted on Frontier revision for the Vulnerable population definition as well as reviewing what our policy recommendations are for Legislation Sessions.