Executive Leadership Subcommittee | Public Meeting
Tuesday, May 5, 2026, 11:00 am-12:30 pm
Virtual Location: Zoom.com

Meeting Attendance

Members Present 9 out of 9

1. Tiffany Alston, ECAC Chair and Policy and Finance Co-Chair
2. Brianna Cambra, Communication and Engagement Co-Chair
3. Marty Elquist, Data Co-Chair
4. Patrice Gardner, ECAC Vice Chair and Workforce Development Co-Chair
5. Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Data Co-Chair
6. Jamie Mendez, Workforce Development Co-Chair
7. Dr. Jamelle Nance, Communication and Engagement Co-Chair
8. Tiffany Olivas, Family Leadership and Engagement Co-Chair
9. Denise Tanata, Policy and Finance Co-Chair

Members Absent 0 out of 9

Public Attendance 9

1. Cherry Clark, Family Leadership and Engagement Subcommittee Member
2. Dr. Elizabeth Glover, Communication and Engagement Subcommittee Member
3. Brandi Hearst, ECAC Administrative Coordinator, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
4. Jerek Hough, Workforce Development Subcommittee Member
5. Sabrina Jones, ECAC System Specialist, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
6. Sabrina Petrel, Community Member
7. Maddison Proctor, Community Member
8. Rachel Stepina, Preschool Development Grant, Birth-5 Manager, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
9. Anna Villatoro, Northern Nevada ECCS Family Leadership Coordinator, The Children's Cabinet

Meeting Minutes

1. **Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call**
   - Patrice Gardner welcomed all members, and called the meeting to order at 11:02 am
   - Brandi Hearst completed roll call, noted above

2. **Public Comment #1**
   - No Public Comment made.

3. **Approval of a Flexible Agenda** *(Discussion, For Possible Action)*
   The Members voted to approve a flexible agenda
   - **Motion**: Patrice Gardner motioned to approve the April meeting minutes
   - **Second**: Tiffany Olivas seconded the motion
   - **Discussion**: None
   - **Vote**: Motion carried unanimously (All in favor, no abstentions)

4. **Approval of Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2026** *(Discussion, For Possible Action)*
   The Members voted to approve April 7, meeting minutes
   - **Motion**: Patrice Gardner motioned to approve the April meeting minutes
   - **Second**: Amanda Haboush-Deloye seconded the motion
   - **Discussion**: None
   - **Vote**: Motion carried unanimously (All in favor, no abstentions)

5. **Governors' Workforce Development Board (GWDB) Childcare Subcommittee** *(Discussion, Informational)*
   Members heard updates and progress regarding GWDB
   Marty Elquist, Data Co-Chair
   Brianna Cambra, Communication and Engagement Co-Chair
   - Brianna Cambra shared updates following the February Childcare Symposium and follow-up meetings with representatives from Las Vegas and Henderson:
     - Discussions focused on how city regulations, zoning, licensing, and planning processes affect childcare capacity-building efforts.
     - Resources and recommendations were shared with the Mayor of Las Vegas to support broader municipal discussions through the state Council of Governments.
     - The Governor's Workforce Development Board Childcare Subcommittee will continue reviewing discussion items.
     - The Children's Cabinet plans to partner with city representatives to support local planning efforts related to childcare.
     - Draft legislation and potential BDRs for the next legislative cycle are being developed with support from Denise Tanata, Marty Elquist and others.
     - A larger stakeholder reconvening is planned for October to review progress and determine advocacy priorities.
   - Denise Tanata shared that the group submitted childcare policy recommendations and a framework
     - outlining needed support for the childcare system.
     - Key recommendations included expanding childcare subsidies, reducing family co-pays,

increasing workforce support, creating childcare facilities and emergency funds, and exploring Tri-Share programs for families above income eligibility limits.
    - The proposal also included phased funding recommendations and examples from other states.
- Patrice Gardner thanked the group for their continued work supporting early childhood funding and system coordination efforts.
- Patrice Gardner and Tifffany Alston discussed attending the upcoming GWDB meeting in person and confirmed invitations had been received.
- Patrice Gardner noted that subcommittee updates will be moved earlier in future agendas to allow more time for discussion and information sharing.

6. Subcommittee Updates *(Discussion, Informational)*

Executive Leadership Subcommittee - Tiffany Alston and Patrice Gardner, Co-Chairs

- Patrice Gardner- We are continuing to work on the guidance document and requested additional member feedback before finalizing it.
- Sabrina Jones shared that the group would discuss future options for tracking ECAC workplan progress since the OnStrategy system is no longer active.
- Marty Elquist confirmed OnStrategy is funded through the CCDF budget, but budget approval is still pending later this summer.
- Rachel Stepina asked whether the tool provides enough value to justify continued investment, especially since it was built around a previous strategic plan
    - suggested creating SmartSheet tracking.
- Marty Elquist shared the OnStrategy tool that has never been used to its intended functionality. feedback received from previous strategic plans indicated that the tool is somewhat cumbersome.
    - CCDF funds are extremely limited, particularly when trying to sustain PDG efforts with those funds. If the tool is not useful, would prefer to remove it from the budget to reallocate resources elsewhere.
- Patrice Gardner and Marty Elquist suggested exploring simpler, lower-cost alternatives, including using existing Google Sheet 2026-2030 Workplans.
- Patrice Gardner and Brandi Hearst recommended Excel-based tracking
- Sabrina Jones and Patrice Gardner suggested developing an internal dashboard through NDE data support.
- Denise Tanata recommended integrating tracking directly into the new Workplan structure to avoid managing multiple systems, noting that we are using all of these systems and OnStrategy served its purpose but because we are now inputting our activities, objectives, notes and activity status, there is now a place to integrate that (tracking)into the Workplan now.
- Tiffany Olivas added to the chat that she believes we can work off of the WorkPlan that Brandi Hearst created for us (Subcommittees)
- Marty Elquist shared that it's much easier with data in Excel to do some of that combination, rather than having it in Word documents. We are way more organized in the Google Drive than we were when we needed to bring on, OnStrategy. We're in good shape to take it out of the budget. I just want confirmation before I do so that that's what leadership would like to do.
- Tiffany Alston, Patrice Gardner, and Members agreed to remove OnStrategy from the budget
    - Tiffany Alston and Patrice Gardner approved the removal of OnStrategy
- Sabrina Jones will continue exploring alternative tracking systems with Matthew Hoffman and gather additional ideas from Members, as needed.

- The Subcommittee will discuss long term progress tracking solutions during future agendas.

Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee - Marty Elquist and Patrice Gardner, Co-Chairs

- Patrice Gardner reported on the Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee:
  - The Committee held its first meeting in April and began a general review of the Bylaws using the Bylaws tracker, including the original language, suggested updates, and space for revisions.
  - The Committee made strong progress through the first section of the Bylaws and concluded the meeting with discussion regarding appointed seats, with Marty Elquist suggesting to make a crosswalk with ECAC, NRS (Nevada Revised Statutes) and Head Start Seat Requirements
    - It was discovered that seat descriptions are not matching, it became clear that there was discrepancies between the NRS and ECACs list of appointed seats within the crosswalk
      - the seats are not currently reflected correctly in the NRS, which shows an extra seat that should no longer not exist.
    - As a result, Sabrina Jones contacted Boards and Commissions to determine the process for correcting the issue and is awaiting a meeting date with Adina, from BOC, to discuss next steps.
    - Patrice Gardner explained that historical review efforts revealed the discrepancies stemmed from language in both AB114 and AB463.
      - We located archived notes, which helped confirm the legislative history and identify the language that needs to be captured in the review process.
      - We are currently developing a timeline of the related bills and legislative changes to better understand the issue and support the correction process.
      - We believe the issue may be corrected administratively through the codification process; however, if that is not possible, a formal request may need to be submitted through NDE.
      - Our last Committee meeting was canceled to allow additional time to fully address the identified statutory discrepancies before continuing the Bylaw review.
      - We hope to resume meetings by the end of the month, or in June, with the continued goal of finalizing revisions and presenting approvals at the July Executive Leadership meeting.

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

The Subcommittee reviewed new goals and objectives and will continue refining activities at the next meeting.

- Dr. Jamelle Nance shares that Subcommittee is developing a parent story telling form to collect family stories for the ECAC website and advocacy efforts.
  - Discussion focused on balancing required consent and information collection with ease of use for families.
- Brianna Cambra announced that feedback on the storytelling form will first be gathered from ECAC Executive Leadership, then from the Family Leadership and Engagement Subcommittee.

- Website development continues, including audience-specific pages for families, professionals, and policymakers.
- Requested input from each subcommittee regarding preferred communication methods and desired website messaging.

Policy and Finance - Denise Tanata and Tiffany Altson, Co-Chairs

- Denise Tanata shared a legislative update regarding the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Education hearing held on April 24, which focused on early childhood issues:
  - Presentations were provided by the Nevada Department of Education Office of Early Learning Development and aligned community partners, including the Children's Cabinet, Guinn Center, Children's Advocacy Alliance, United Way of Southern Nevada, and the Child Care Provider Action Committee.
  - Presenters coordinated their remarks to minimize duplication of information.
  - The presentations were well received and generated thoughtful questions from legislators.
  - ECAC recommendations were incorporated into the presentations, with Marty Elquist specifically including them in her remarks.
  - Continued policy discussions and future movement on these recommendations.
    - invited additional comments from attendees and presenters.
- Patrice Gardner commented that it was exciting to see early childhood issues prioritized during the meeting and praised the presenters for their work.
  - Then specifically highlighted the Parent Action Committee presentation as impactful, noting it prompted important follow-up questions and discussion among legislators.

Data Subcommittee - Marty Elquist and Amanda Haboush-Deloye, Co-Chairs

- The Subcommittee reviewed the new strategic plan and aligned ongoing activities with updated goals and objectives.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye shared that the "Parent Guide" (referring to "Understanding Early Childhood Data, A Parent's Guide") is nearly finalized and may be presented at the next ECAC meeting.
  - The Early Childhood Research Symposium was completed successfully with strong participation and discussion.
  - The Subcommittee plans to continue discussions around developing a fully functional longitudinal early childhood data system.
- Rachel Stepina emphasized the importance of participation in EC Data Labs work and ongoing collaboration across sectors.
- Marty Elquist confirmed that EC Data Labs updates remain a standing agenda item for the Data Subcommittee.

Family Leadership and Engagement - Tiffany Olivas, Chair

- Tiffany Olivas shared that the Subcommittee's first meeting is scheduled for Monday, 5/11/26.
  - The group will include both families and professionals working alongside families.
  - Recruitment efforts include a translated flyer distributed through the NDE listserv.
    - Emphasized reducing barriers to family participation through translation and interpretation support.
    - Discussed challenges sustaining translation services after PDG funding ends.
- Rachel Stepina explained current funding limitations and discussed possible use of machine translation and agency-level language access funding opportunities.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye suggested exploring automated caption translation tools as a temporary

solution.

Workforce Development - Jamie Mendez and Patrice Gardner, Co-Chairs

- Jamie Mendez shared that the Workforce Development Subcommittee has taken place and her excitement, thanked the admin team for their support
- Patrice Gardner shared she is looking forward to getting the work started.
- Denise Tanata shared we are looking to include updates from the Governors Workforce Development Board. Including policy level workforce support
    - Encouraged early discussion around workforce compensation, benefits, and sustainable policy recommendations.
- Jamie Mendez shared that the Nevada Registry is developing an Early Childhood Wage Tool through PDG B-5 funding and might be good to support the work moving forward.

7. **Executive Leadership Workplan Review** (*Discussion, For Possible Action)*
   Members will review goals & objectives at next meeting
   Tiffany Alston and Patrice Gardner, Subcommittee Co-Chairs
    - This agenda item was deferred to next meeting

8. **Discuss Agenda Items for Next Meeting** *(Discussion, For Possible Action)*
   Tiffany Alston and Patrice Gardner, Subcommittee Co-Chairs
    - Denise Tanata recommended adding a discussion on alignment across subcommittee Workplans to improve coordination from the beginning of implementation.
    - Brianna Cambra requested a June agenda item focused on the ECAC website review and feedback process.
    - Rachel Stepina requested to provide updates on PDG B-5 sustainability and closeout planning before June 30.

9. **Member Share-Outs**
   Members shared announcements
    - Amanda Haboush-Deloye announced Children's Week events scheduled for March 29–31, including a pinwheel planting event.
    - Denise Tanata shared information about an Early Childhood Education and Literacy Community Conversation hosted by United Way of Southern Nevada on June 24.
    - Brianna Cambra promoted Day Without Child Care advocacy events occurring statewide and encouraged organizations to support providers and advocacy efforts.
    - Amanda Haboush-Deloye requested social media materials to support advocacy event promotion.

10. **Public Comment**
    - No Public Comment made

11. **Schedule for Upcoming Meetings**
    - Reminder to review the meeting schedule

12. **Adjournment**
    - Patrice Gardner adjourned the meeting at 12:13 pm

Action Steps

- Executive Leadership - Discuss long-term ECAC progress tracking at a future meeting
  - Create Subcommittee / Goal Alignment one pager,
  - website review and PDG sustainability updates added to the June agenda.
- Data - Finalize and present the parent data flyer at a future ECAC meeting.

- Communication and Engagement - Review and revise the parent storytelling form for family-friendly use.
  - Conduct Subcommittee outreach calls to gather input for the new ECAC website audience pages.
- Bylaws Ad Hoc - Resolve bylaws and council seat inconsistencies with Boards and Commissions staff.
- Family Leadership and Engagement - Explore sustainable translation and interpretation options for ECAC meetings and materials.
- Workforce Development - hold discussion around workforce compensation, benefits, and sustainable policy recommendations.
  - Add GWDB updates to future agenda

Meeting Summary

The ECAC meeting focused on advancing Subcommittee Workplans, evaluating tracking and data systems, strengthening family and workforce engagement, improving communication and website development, addressing Bylaws inconsistencies, and planning for sustainability beyond PDG funding.