

Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council

Executive Leadership Subcommittee Public Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 6, 2026, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting ID: 874 7306 4118, Passcode: 931429

Attendance

Members' Present (8 of 11)

- Patrice Gardner - Nevada ECAC Vice Chair / Executive Leadership Co-Chair
- Marty Elquist - Data Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye - Data Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Dr. Jerek Hough - Workforce Development Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Dr. Jamelle Nance - Communication & Engagement Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Tiffany Olivas - Family Leadership & Engagement Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Denise Tanata - Policy & Finance Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Zepporah Cousins- Lee - Family Leadership & Engagement Subcommittee Co-Chair

Members Absent (3 of 11)

- Tiffany Alston - Nevada ECAC Chair / Executive Leadership Co-Chair
- Jamie Mendez - Workforce Development Subcommittee Co-Chair
- Brianna Cambra - Communication & Engagement Subcommittee Co-Chair

Public Participants

- Sabrina Jones - ECAC Systems Coordinator, Office of Early Learning and Development, Nevada Department of Education
- Kathy Yoderbass – ECAC Appointment member
- Maddie Proctor – Community Member
- Elisa Cafferata – Public Participant
- Ana Adkins - Public Participant
- Sabrina Petrel – Public Participant

Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

- Patrice Gardner called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. Roll call was conducted and quorum was confirmed. Amanda Haboush-Deloye joined shortly after roll call.

2. Public Comment #1

- Denise Tanata requested that meeting-material links on the Nevada ECAC website open documents in a new browser tab to make it easier for users to move between meeting materials. No additional public comment was offered.

3. Approval of Flexible Agenda (For Possible Action)

- Denise Tanata moved to approve a flexible agenda.
- Tiffany Olivas seconded the motion
- No additional discussion was offered.
- The motion passed with no opposition or abstentions stated.

4. Approval of September 1, 2026, Meeting Minutes (For Possible Action)

- Amanda Haboush-Deloye moved to approve September 1, 2026, meeting minutes as presented.
- Zepporah Cousins seconded the motion.
- No additional discussion was offered.
- The motion passed with no opposition or abstentions stated.

5. ECAC 2026 Policy Priorities and Recommendations (Review, Discussion, and Public Comment)

- Denise Tanata reported that the Policy & Finance Subcommittee is developing recommendations for the 2026 Annual Report to the Governor and Nevada Legislature, due December 1, 2026. A survey was developed using Strategic Plan goals and objectives as potential policy-priority topics. Respondents will rank priorities and may submit additional recommendations.
- The survey is intended for ECAC appointed members, Subcommittee members, regular ECAC participants, and engaged partners rather than broad general-public distribution.
- Sabrina Jones reported that the survey was ready for distribution. Policy & Finance will review survey results at its October 22 meeting and prepare draft recommendations for Executive Leadership review in November and subsequent General ECAC consideration.

6. Subcommittee Updates and Alignment Opportunities (Information, Discussion, and Alignment)

- Sabrina Jones reviewed the ECAC Master Work Plan, which consolidates the six Subcommittee work plans into one tool while preserving each Subcommittee's original activities. The tool is designed to support filtering by Subcommittee, status, goal, objective, lead, next steps, and expected outcomes and to help identify collaboration, overlap, and possible duplication.
- Members reviewed the Alignment Opportunities and duplication-review sections.
- Denise Tanata identified a potential Policy & Finance alignment with the early childhood organization collaboration/coordination activity, particularly to better understand and coordinate with the policy priorities of related organizations.
- Members were asked to review the Master Work Plan more deeply before the next meeting and consider whether proposed alignments are practical, whether additional connections are missing, and whether activities should remain separate or be coordinated. The item will continue as a standing alignment discussion.

7. ECAC Historical Timeline and Archive - Feedback and Next Steps (Information and Discussion)

- Patrice Gardner and Sabrina Jones reviewed revisions made in response to September feedback. Updates included an at-a-glance infographic, clarification that Local ECACs are independent regional/community councils rather than formal State ECAC Subcommittees, direct source links, a running history of bylaw revisions, restructuring information, and a new section describing funding and grant support connected to ECAC work.
- Amanda Haboush-Deloye noted that at least some Local ECACs predated the State ECAC and offered to provide historical wording and information.

- Members also identified source links that require correction and discussed additional funding history that may need to be captured, including early Head Start support, prior ECCS funding, HRSA ECCS support, local ECAC funding, and current CCDF support for the ECAC Systems Coordinator position.
- Members agreed to conduct one final review after revisions are incorporated.
- Sabrina Jones will circulate an editable version for additional comments, with a target feedback date around October 16. The revised timeline is expected to return in November for possible recommendation to the General ECAC.

8. Legislative Updates and Partner Coordination (Information and Discussion)

- Denise Tanata reported that Policy & Finance has started a 2027 bill draft request tracker to identify legislation potentially relevant to ECAC work. The tracker will continue to be updated as additional information and bill language become available.
- Members discussed posting the tracker in the Legislative Updates section of the ECAC website with explanatory language noting that bill draft request information is preliminary. Related partner tracking resources may also be linked to provide a broader view.
- Denise Tanata offered to draft brief website language and supporting information.

9. Governor's Workforce Development Board Child Care Subcommittee Update (Information and Discussion)

- Brianna Cambra was not present. Members reported that a Child Care Subcommittee meeting was being scheduled, with a virtual participation option under consideration. Additional information had recently been distributed. The Subcommittee will revisit this item in November when more information may be available.

10. Member Updates and Share-Out (Information and Discussion)

- Dr. Jamelle Nance shared Communication & Engagement updates, including the launch of the Nevada ECAC Facebook page and continued improvements to the ECAC website. Members and partners were encouraged to submit social media ideas, partner information, and community events that could be amplified through ECAC communication channels.

11. Discuss Items for the Next Meeting and Future Agenda Item Requests (Discussion)

- Members discussed November agenda planning. Policy recommendations for the 2026 Annual Report were confirmed as a November item.
- Patrice Gardner asked Members to send additional agenda requests to Sabrina Jones for coordination with the Co-Chairs.

12. Upcoming Meeting Schedule (Review and Discussion)

- Patrice Gardner reminded Member that the November General ECAC meeting will return to a daytime schedule. ECAC member orientation was also scheduled for October 21, 2026, 2pm to 4pm
- Patrice Gardner reminded members to review the upcoming October and November meeting schedule listed on the agenda

13. Public Comment #2

- No public comment was offered.

14. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Meeting Summary

- The Executive Leadership Subcommittee approved a flexible agenda and the September 1, 2026, meeting minutes; reviewed the ECAC 2026 policy-priority survey process; reviewed the Master Work Plan and cross-subcommittee alignment opportunities; continued development of the ECAC Historical Timeline and Archive; reviewed legislative tracking and partner coordination; and identified follow-up items for the November meeting.

Action Steps and Follow-Up Items

- Sabrina Jones: Distribute the 2026 policy-priorities survey to ECAC members, Subcommittee members, regular participants, and engaged partners; coordinate results for Policy & Finance review on October 22.
- Review survey feedback October 22 and prepare draft 2026 policy recommendations for Executive Leadership consideration November 3 and General ECAC review.
- Members are to review the Master Work Plan before the November meeting; identify duplicated activities, missed alignments, and opportunities for coordinated work.
- Circulate an editable ECAC Historical Timeline and Archive for additional corrections and comments, targeting approximately October 16
- Amanda Haboush Deloye: Share available historical information and wording about Local ECACs that predate the State ECAC.
- For the Historical Document Incorporate verified source-link, Local ECAC history, bylaws, restructuring, and funding-history edits into the timeline for November review.
- Denise Tanata: Draft introductory/explanatory language for the preliminary 2027 bill draft request tracker and coordinate potential website posting and partner-tracker links.
- Members and community partners: Send relevant events, partner information, and social media ideas for ECAC Facebook.
- ECAC website support / Sabrina Jones: Follow up on Denise Tanata's request that meeting-material links open in a new browser tab.