

Superintendent's Report



Dr. Victor Wakefield

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

January 14, 2026

Purpose

To share updates regarding the Superintendent's priorities, significant Nevada Department of Education initiatives, and regulatory updates pertaining to the authority of the Nevada State Board of Education.



Entry Plan Updates



Entry Plan Refresher - First 100 Days

Set a Shared Direction

Clarify our statewide priorities, align efforts around what works, and celebrate success.

Strengthen State Capacity

Continue making progress toward a more agile, responsive, and service-driven Department of Education.

Lead Through Partnership

Listen deeply, learn from those closest to the work, and strengthen trust across Nevada's education community.

Benchmarks:

- ✓ **March 1 (100 Days):** Complete NDE context-building, signal priorities, and deliver early wins that demonstrate clarity and momentum
- ✓ **September 1 (10 Months):** Release multi-year framework; FY 27-29 budget proposal aligned to priorities


Build trust, increase clarity, and carry forward the momentum

Listening, Learning, and Priority Setting

Superintendent Victor Wakefield


Listening and Bright Spots Tour

As part of his [entry plan priorities](#), Superintendent Wakefield will engage in a statewide Listening & Bright Spots Tour, visiting communities across Nevada to listen, learn, and elevate what's working. The tour will include district visits that reflect Nevada's geographic, cultural, and demographic diversity—ensuring that families, educators, and students across the state help shape the next chapter of public education.


DECEMBER 2025 - MARCH 2026

Guiding Questions for the Listening Tour:


**Strong Academic Foundations**
How well does our system help every student develop the academic foundations of literacy, math, science, and social studies upon which future learning is built? What bright spots can we scale?

**College, Career, and Life Success**
How well are students prepared for a productive next step (enroll, employ, enlist, etc.) on the path to high-demand, high-wage careers?

**Excellent and Empowered Educators**
How well prepared, supported, and valued is Nevada's educator workforce? How must our systems evolve to attract, develop, and retain the educators our future demands?

**Informed and Engaged Families**
How connected are families to their child's education? Do they receive clear, actionable information to support their children's success?

**Aligned and Coherent Systems**
How well are our data, funding, and accountability systems aligned to drive continuous improvement and better student outcomes statewide?

**Nevada Department of Education**
Where do you see NDE adding value today, and where are the greatest opportunities for us to strengthen our service, partnership, and impact?

Your Input Matters

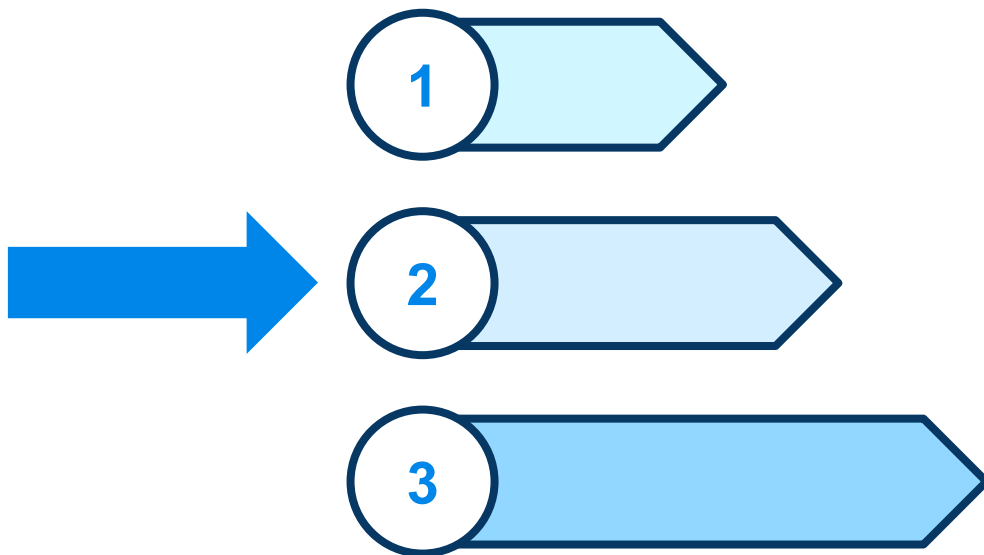
This tour is designed to listen deeply, build trust, highlight excellence, and bring forward solutions together. Use the QR code if you would like to contribute answers to the guiding questions in an asynchronous way.



Each district stop will include:

- Student and Educator Engagement**
 - School visit
 - Classroom observations
 - Student/educator conversations
- Meeting with District Trustees**
 - Introduction and discussion about district priorities
- 1:1 Time with the Superintendent**
 - Deep dive on district strengths, student outcomes, and areas for partnership

"Public education is a shared responsibility, and it belongs to all of us—educators, families, policymakers, and community partners." —Superintendent Victor Wakefield





Nevada Department of Education Updates



Senate Bill 460 (2025)

Senate Bill 460 establishes a comprehensive update to Nevada's K-12 system by prioritizing early literacy, modernizing the educator workforce, strengthening accountability, and ensuring more comprehensive district support.



Improve Early Literacy

Embeds science-of-reading in Educator Prep and PD & major early-learning investments



Modernize Educator Workforce

Expands pipelines with apprenticeships, teacher prep investments, and better data systems



Strengthen Accountability

Launches district accountability and requires academic achievement planning



Support Districts/LEAs

Establishes the Education Service Center to deliver coordinated improvement support

Literacy Initiatives Progress



Guidance

Developed a Science of Reading Professional Development Guidance Document



Approved Courses

Identified approved Science of Reading professional development courses and pathways



Professional Development

Launched Science of Reading professional development course application



Crosswalk

Created NEPF crosswalk tools



Master's-Level Credit Offering

Developed a 45-clock-hour course that meets statutory requirements and offers an opportunity for master's-level credit

District Performance Framework

- **Next Metrics Subcommittee Meeting:** Jan 20 - 21
- **Meeting Objective:** Develop theory of action and begin district indicators conversation, will include CIEE metrics sub-committee presentation
- **Survey open until Jan 23:** The purpose of this survey is to gather suggestions for strengthening Nevada's education accountability system. We want to learn from a variety of groups: educators, parents, students, employers, and school board members, among others. All responses are anonymous. Only summary information will be shared.



www.surveymonkey.com/r/3N5Z6YC

Senate Bill 460 Appropriations

FY25: \$12.6M

Including **4M** for Early Childhood Ed. Facility Expansion, **1M** for Nevada Institute on Teaching and Educator Prep, **1M** for a STEM / Literacy Pilot (K and 1-3), **1M** for Literacy Interventionists and Tutoring, etc.

FY26: \$32M

Continue/expand FY25 investments; adds **12M** for Early Childhood Literacy and Readiness Program grants and **7M** for Transportation Assistance Program related to open enrollment

Senate Bill 460 NDE Investments

Senate Bill 460 appropriates 2.5M in FY25 and 4M in FY26 for Department of Education Personnel, contracts, and operations to carry out the provisions of the act.

Across contracts, staffing, and technology, NDE has aligned around four principles:

1. Develop **practical tools** to help districts strengthen instruction and the educator workforce
2. Align accountability, funding, and support to create a **continuous improvement system**
3. Build **durable infrastructure**, not short-term fixes
4. Evolve NDE's strategy, operating model, and core systems to improve the SEA and **raise the bar for state-level supports**



SBE Regulatory Map



Upcoming Regulatory Workshops and Hearings

January 27th Workshops

- Large School Districts - Aligning with SB 460 (2025)
- Residential Treatment - Updating IEP requirements and reimbursement
- Scholarship-granting organizations – accountability and reporting per SB 460.
- English Learners - Defining terms for state accountability reporting & WIDA cut scores
- Grading Scale - Updating the uniform grading scale for dual credit courses
- Education Service Center*

Likely February Hearings (date tbd)

- Nevada Ready Pre-K allocations – definition of historically underserved
- Limiting time on assessments
- Open Enrollment (pending receipt of LCB language)
- School Calendar updates (pending receipt of LCB language)
- Educator Performance Improvement Plan regulations*
- Education Service Center*

Potential March Hearings

- January 27th Workshop Items
- Competency-based education programs
- Innovation schools
- Model plans for suicide, emergency, or crisis
- Petitions for reporting requirements per SB 460*

* Indicates NDE authority