

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
November 21, 2022
3:00 PM**

Office	Address	City	Meeting Room
Department of Education	2080 E. Flamingo Rd.	Las Vegas	Room 114
Department of Education	700 E. Fifth St.	Carson City	Board Room
Department of Education	Virtual/Livestream	N/A	Lifesize Link

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Rebecca Dirks-Garcia called the meeting to order at 3:17 pm. Chair Rebecca Dirks-Garcia requested Administrative Assistant Rick Derry to call roll. Chair Dirks-Garcia then led the pledge of allegiance and provided a native land acknowledgement statement.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Chair Rebecca Garcia
- Vice Chair Tameka Henry
- Brande Johnson
- Duana Malone
- Michelle Gorelow
- Sgt. Major Gary Schoolfield
- Stacie Wilke

PRESENTERS PRESENT:

- Jhone M. Ebert, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Nevada Department of Education

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF PRESENT:

- Alberto Quintero, Education Programs Professional, Nevada Department of Education
- Rick Derry, Administrative Assistant, Nevada Department of Education

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

No public comment submitted in Carson City, Las Vegas, or electronically.

3. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES FOR JULY 25, 2022

The Council reviewed the meeting minutes from July 25, 2022. **Vice Chair Henry motioned to approve the minutes. Seconded by Council member Wilke. With no further objections, the July 25, 2022, meeting minutes were approved.**

4. A MESSAGE FROM THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Jhone M. Ebert, Nevada State Superintendent of Public Instruction, acknowledged the work the Council has done since it formed in 2007. She thanked the Council for stepping up for the 500,000 children in Nevada during the pandemic and shared information on the student graduation rate increase. Chair Dirks-Garcia echoed the sentiment shared by Superintendent Ebert regarding the appreciation of the Council and its members. Member Wilke mentioned her appreciation for the support of the Nevada Department of Education and Superintendent Ebert's commitment to improving student outcomes. Vice Chair Henry thanked Superintendent Ebert for the work she has done for our students and her availability to answer questions and professionalism. She also shared how it is an honor to serve on the Council. Chair Dirks-Garcia also wanted to express her gratitude for ensuring family voices are included at the Nevada Department of Education. Students can't succeed without including their families.

5. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ON NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FAMILY ENGAGEMENT UPDATES

The Council heard updates from Alberto Quintero, Education Programs Professional, Nevada Department of Education regarding the 2022 Nevada Family Engagement Summit; Nevada family engagement school recognition award; the Preschool Development grant; the Statewide Family Engagement Center grant; and the Full-Service Community Schools grant.

- 2022 Nevada Family Engagement Summit: Mr. Quintero gave an overview of the 2022 Nevada Family Engagement Summit. It was the second time the event was held virtually. There is hope that the next summit will include some in-person engagement. The keynote speaker for the summit was Dr. Rosemarie Allen. Recordings of the workshops can be found on the Department's YouTube channel. Chair Garcia presented at the summit (3 unique sessions). A summit report will be shared with the Council at the next Council meeting.
- Nevada family engagement school recognition award: Mr. Quintero shared about the idea of developing a statewide school recognition award for family engagement, similar to the Nevada Purple Star Schools award. This idea was inspired by a conversation with Mr. Quintero's counterpart in the Colorado Department of Education. Currently, this process is in the early development process and more updates regarding the award will be provided to the Council at future meetings. Chair Dirks-Garcia mentioned the National PTA School of Excellence as an award that is similar to the idea proposed. Looking at that award's process and criteria can be helpful in developing the statewide school recognition award for family engagement in Nevada. Chair Dirks-Garcia wants to make sure that family voices are taken into consideration in the award application process and that families agree with the school receiving the award and/or designation.
- Preschool Development grant: Mr. Quintero shared the Department is waiting on an announcement from the U.S. Department of Education if Nevada was granted the grant. Family engagement was a key component of the grant application.
- Statewide Family Engagement Center grant: Mr. Quintero shared information on the Statewide Family Engagement Center grant the Public Education Foundation applied to. Although scoring well overall, the Public Education Grant did not receive the grant award. There is intent to apply to the grant again once it is available. Some components of the grant will still be implemented. A potential focus of the center may be student chronic absenteeism.
- Full-Service Community Schools grant: Mr. Quintero informed the Council that the grant awardees will be announced on December 31, 2022, according to the U.S. Department of Education. The University of Nevada, Reno and University of Nevada, Las Vegas collaborated to submit a grant application.

6. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON FAMILY ENGAGEMENT POLICIES

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 385.620(1), the Council shall review the policy of parental involvement adopted by the State Board and the policy of parental involvement and family engagement adopted by the board of trustees of each school district. Mr. Quintero shared informed the Council that the State Board's policy of parental involvement and family engagement includes the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships. Those standards were recently updated and may necessitate a review of the policy to ensure it still aligns with the Family-School Partnership Standards. Chair Dirks-Garcia shared that the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships were updated but mainly refined without major changes. The Chair recommended a November 17 webinar recording by the PTA on the newly updated standards for more context.

7. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 385.620(10), the Council, on or before February 1 of each year, must submit a report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmission to the Legislature in odd-numbered years and to the Legislative Commission in even-numbered years, describing the activities of the Advisory Council and any recommendations for legislation. Mr. Quintero shared a draft of the report (included in the meeting materials) and emphasized that the report can include a legislative recommendation. In the past, the legislative recommendation has had an impact on Nevada policy and laws.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Council will review the legislative report as a part of their future scheduled meetings. December's meeting may be rescheduled due to holidays and Council member availability.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

No public comment submitted in Carson City, Las Vegas, or electronically.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.