



PORTRAIT OF A NEVADA LEARNER

A Nevada Department of Education initiative
in partnership with ed.Xtraordinary



What we're discovering **TOGETHER**

We're building a community-wide vision of success that will focus our education system and prepare young people to build lives and a community they love.

Nevada Department of education, in partnership with ed.Xtraordinary and the Nevada community, is rethinking and transforming what it means to do school.

There is a rapid change taking place in the world, but not in our education system. As we confront complex challenges in a globally connected world, it is important for young people to become aware of their needs, ideas, and strengths for making their communities better.

Creating a Portrait of a Learner helps define the role school can play in preparing young people with the mindsets, skills, and knowledge essential to living good lives and within a thriving community.

Representing the voices of Nevadans in shaping the future of education.

● **200 community members**

gathered in Las Vegas in Fall 2022 to explore what it means to transform learning together. Participants included district leaders, educators, family advocates, and young people across the state; as well as multiple departments within the Nevada Department of Education, state agencies, and local non-profits.

● **A pivotal conversation**

was held virtually with a panel featuring the president of the State Board of Education, a rural parent, an urban educator, and a student to consider universal questions through the lens of unique individual experiences.

● **1,400 data points**

including surveys, convening sticky notes, and virtual and in-person conversations informed the initial draft portrait.

In addition to important academic skills, what are the essential mindsets and skills needed for young people to build good lives and thriving communities?



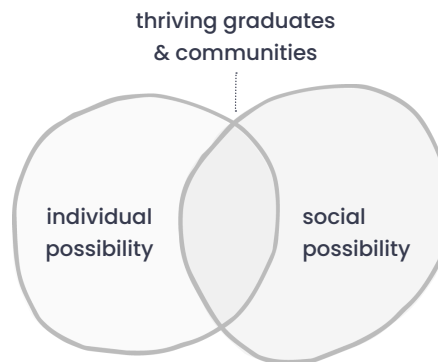
This draft portrait was created in February 2023. This is an iterative process in partnership with the Nevada community.

Across diverse perspectives, common ideas emerged for certain skills, habits, and mindsets learners should master, which could be summarized into four key themes:

- 1 Know themselves
- 2 Connect with others
- 3 Contribute their skills to the community
- 4 Thrive through life's inevitable challenges

What's the role of school in developing thriving individuals and communities?

While “getting ahead” or “getting into college or the next step in a career” were mentioned, community members more frequently talked about school as a safe environment for holistic growth and learning (**individual possibility**). Nevadans also viewed school as a place for communities to come together and for students to socialize as developed citizens (**social possibility**).



Next Steps:

Community Conversations. Continued virtual and in-person conversations invite feedback and reflection on the draft portrait.

School-level Research and Development. School teams engage in a design process to test, implement, and evolve the portrait within their learning communities.

Perspectives Panel. Facilitated by the Department of Education to support the integration of community feedback into the final portrait by June 2023.