

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
COMMISSION ON INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION
August 25, 2025
8:30 AM**

Office	Address	Meeting Room
Southwest Career & Technical Academy	7050 W Shelbourne Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89133	Ballroom
Virtual	Virtual	Virtual Link

Draft Summary Minutes of the Commission Meeting

Commission Members Present

Senator Carrie Buck
Dr. Steve Canavero
Patty Charlton
Teresa Dastrup
Senator Marilyn Dondero-Loop
Rebecca Garcia
Tim Hughes
Sandra Kupfer
Chancellor Matthew McNair
Sean Parker
Nicole Rourke
Senator Dr. Angela Taylor
Joyce Woodhouse
Adam Young
Peter Zierhut

Commission Members Absent Excused

Aaron Frantz
Dr. Mariluz Garcia
Assemblymember Tanya Flanagan
Assemblymember Torres-Fossett
Assemblymember Gregory Koenig
Anthony Nunez
Melinda Riemersma
Maite Salazar

Department Staff Present

Dr. Steve Canavero, Interim Superintendent of Public Instruction
Lisa Ford, Interim Deputy Superintendent for the Student Achievement Division

Audience in Attendance

None

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Joyce Woodhouse. Quorum was established.

2. Public Comment #1

There were no public comments provided.

3. Welcome and Introductions of Members *(Information and Discussion)*

Interim Superintendent, Dr. Steve Canavero welcomed the members of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education to the meeting. During his introduction, he introduced new members and then asked each of the members in attendance to introduce themselves and the organization they represented.

4. Election of New Chair and Vice Chair *(Information, Discussion, and Possible Action)*

Interim Superintendent Steve Canavero opened the item and called for the election of a new Chair and Vice Chair to lead the Commission for the upcoming two-year term.

Dr. Canavero first called for nominations for Chair of the Commission. Senator Joyce Woodhouse was nominated to serve as Chair. There being no further nominations, a motion was made and seconded to elect Senator Woodhouse as Chair.

The motion passed unanimously, and Senator Joyce Woodhouse was elected Chair of the Commission.

Dr. Canavero then called for nominations for Vice Chair.

Patty Charlton was nominated to serve as Vice Chair. There being no further nominations, a motion was made and seconded to elect Patty Charlton as Vice Chair.

The motion passed unanimously, and Patty Charlton was elected Vice Chair of the Commission.

5. Where We Have Been, Where Are, Where We Are Going *(Information, Discussion, and for Possible Action)*

Commissioners received a presentation and engaged in discussion focused on the Commission's progress to date, goals and milestones for the next two years, and the broader policy landscape shaping the work ahead. Ms. Case and Mr. Driskell provided an overview of the Commission's progress over the past year, highlighting the development of the *CIEE Roadmap* and the evolution of the Commission's three focus areas: Teaching and Learning, Next Generation Career Pathways, and Measuring What Matters. They outlined the milestones achieved and shared observations on how Nevada's efforts align with national best practices in education system design.

Senator Dondero Loop reflected on the current policy landscape, noting legislative priorities and opportunities to strengthen coherence between the Commission's work and upcoming policy considerations. Dr. Canavero provided context on how the Department of Education's priorities intersect with the Commission's goals, emphasizing the importance of coordination with the Council for Fiscal Administration and alignment with the Statewide Plan for the Improvement of Pupils (STIP).

Commissioners discussed the importance of maintaining focus on coherence, equity, and measurable outcomes across initiatives. Members affirmed the goals and milestones for the next two years and expressed support for continued collaboration among the Commission, NCEE, and NDE to ensure progress

toward a cohesive statewide education strategy.

6. Revisiting Roadmap and Affirming Priority Policy Opportunities (*Information, Discussion, and for Possible Action*)

Ms. Case and Mr. Driskell provided an overview of the progress made on the *CIEE Roadmap*, revisiting its central goals and identifying areas where early progress has been most evident. They led Commissioners through a review of the roadmap's framework, emphasizing how initiatives, policy levers, and stakeholder roles intersect to support systemic improvement in Nevada's education system.

Commissioners discussed the alignment between current initiatives and emerging policy priorities, noting the importance of sequencing actions to ensure coherence and sustainability. Through this discussion, members affirmed the *initiators* (lead entities responsible for advancing each area of work) and *collaborators* (supporting partners and stakeholders).

The group also engaged in an exercise to map the priority order of policy opportunities for the upcoming biennium, identifying areas requiring immediate attention and those to be developed in later stages. Commissioners emphasized the need for continued coordination between the Commission, NCEE, and the Nevada Department of Education to ensure alignment with statewide goals and legislative timelines.

Consensus was reached on the general order of priority for near-term focus areas.

7. Making Connections: Aligning to the Metrics Subcommittee Charge (*Information, Discussion, and for Possible Action*)

Dr. Canavero opened the discussion by emphasizing the importance of coherence between the Commission's policy priorities and the measures used to evaluate progress. He noted that establishing clear, shared metrics is essential to ensuring accountability and communicating impact to stakeholders.

Ms. Case and Mr. Driskell facilitated a structured conversation connecting the four focus areas of the *CIEE Roadmap*—*Teaching and Learning*, *Next Generation Career Pathways*, *Measuring What Matters*, and *System Coherence*—to the charge of the Metrics Subcommittee. Commissioners examined how each focus area contributes to measurable student outcomes and system-level improvement.

Through discussion, Commissioners identified key intersections between policy initiatives and performance metrics, highlighting the need for common definitions of success, consistent data sources, and aligned reporting structures. Members expressed support for the Metrics Subcommittee's role in refining indicators that reflect both student outcomes and system health.

Consensus was reached on the importance of using the Metrics Subcommittee as a central coordinating mechanism for cross-initiative evaluation and reporting.

8. Adjournment

Chair Woodhouse adjourned the meeting at 4:00 PM.