

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
ENGLISH LEARNER ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 13, 2026
2:00 PM**

Office	Address	City	Meeting
Department of Education	2080 E. Flamingo	Las Vegas	Board Room
Department of Education	700 E. Fifth St.	Carson	Silver Ore
Department of Education	Virtual	n/a	Livestream

SUMMARY MINUTES

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Torrey Palmer (Deputy Superintendent, NDE)
Sarah Russell (Title III State Director, NDE)
Janna Moyer (NDE)
Paola Zepher (Elementary Dual Language Principal)
Dr. Tanya Scott (Carson City School District)
Erick Casallas (Clark County School District)
Dr. Lidia Sedano (State Charter School Authority)
Dr. Silvina Jover (Clark County School District)
David Lamb (Nye County School District)
Vanessa Mari (Nevada State University)

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT EXCUSED

Dr. Alain Bengochea (UNLV)
Lelsy Stewart (Elko County School District)
Diana Walker (Northwest Regional Professional Development)

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

Amelia Thibault, Legislative Liaison
Kelly Hoffman, Secretary

LEGAL COUNCIL PRESENT

None

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE

None

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at 2:01 p.m. by Chairperson Erick Casallas. Staff person Kelly Hoffman conducted the roll call. Quorum was established.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

- a. **Las Vegas:** No public comments were submitted.
- b. **Carson City / Online:** No public comments were submitted.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Member Moyer moved to approve the June 25th, 2026, Council Meeting Minutes. Member Jover seconded. Vote passed unanimously.

4. PROPOSED POLICY PERSPECTIVES REVIEW

The Council dedicated the majority of the meeting to discussing the English Learner Advisory Council Policy Prospectus V3, grouping the items as follows:

1. Prospectus items 4, 6 & 8: Bilingual Education Expansion and Educator

Pipeline/Endorsements: The Council discussed expanding dual-language program funding to equitably support both English Learner (EL) and non-EL students, alongside strategies to financially support bilingual and ELAD endorsements for current staff and new licensure candidates.

Consensus: Staff will draft multiple strategic pathways for the Council to review at the next meeting, including options for new policy language for pipeline grants, potential Pupil-Centered Funding Plan (PCFP) funding mechanisms, and phased timelines for integrating endorsement requirements into educator preparation programs.

2. Prospectus item 5: Support for Mandatory English Learner Professional Development Council members addressed the funding limitations for AB 335 professional development, exploring alternative ideas such as utilizing substitute teacher pay to allow for training during contract hours and implementing a more rigorous vetting process for PD providers.

Consensus: The Staff will compile a list of strategic options for the Council to consider, which will include potential recommendations to the Commission on School Funding to investigate how EL-weighted funding is utilized.

3. Prospectus item 7: Comprehensive Data Dashboard The Council highlighted the necessity for longitudinal tracking of long-term English learners and the public integration of PCFP expenditure data.

Consensus: To avoid duplicative efforts and ensure funding efficiency, the Council agreed to support NDE's ongoing Data Management System project rather than proposing a separate dashboard, and will compile a list of specific EL metrics they wish to see integrated into the state's existing platform.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

No public comments were received in Las Vegas, Carson City, or online.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Member Jover moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Zepher seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 3:58 p.m.