

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

OVERVIEW

The Nevada Department of Education consists of the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, who serves as the executive head of the Department. Together, the Nevada Department of Education (Department) and the State Board of Education (State Board) are responsible for the governance of state public education. The purpose of the Department and the State Board is to operate as a system of checks and balances in service to one another and the greater education community. This requires rigorous efforts to ensure alignment and clear communications to the public regarding priorities, projects, and advocacy centering the governance of state education systems. Consisting of 11 members, the State Board has authority over the following:

Authority	Task
Regulations	Adopting Crucial Regulations Governing Public Education
Courses of Study	Prescribing Statewide Content Standards and High-Quality Instructional Materials
Assessment Systems	Selecting Major Statewide Academic Assessments
Licensure Actions	Revoking or Suspending Teacher Licenses
Reports	Receiving and Disseminating Education Data
Strategic Policy	Inflection Points for Education Policy, Waivers, and Approvals

Within the framework of the Department’s priorities, the State Board has identified the five key areas through which they will focus their work:

Priorities
Universal Pre-Kindergarten <i>How do we ensure that children are set up for successful learning?</i>
3rd Grade Literacy <i>How do we ensure that all students have foundational literacy skills?</i>
8th Grade Math <i>How do we ensure that students have foundational numeracy skills?</i>
Career and Technical Education Expansion <i>How do we ensure that students have access to pathways for success?</i>
Efficiency, Alignment, and Coherence <i>How do we ensure that we are coherent and aligned within the broader policy landscape?</i>



Honorable Members of the State Board of Education

Dr. Katherine Dockweiler
President

Tim Hughes
Vice President

Dr. Tricia Braxton

Amy Carvalho
Tate Else

Danielle Ford

Tamara Hudson

Evana Lan

Susan Neal

Angela Orr

Annette Dawson Owens

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Nevada Revised Statutes

NRS 385

State Administrative
Organization

NRS 385A

Accountability of Public
Schools

NRS 388

System of Public Instruction

NRS 389

Academics and Textbooks

NRS 390

Testing of Pupils and
Graduation

NRS 391A

Training, Professional
Development and Incentives

NRS 392

Pupils

Nevada Administrative Code

NAC 387

Financial Support of School
System

NAC 388

System of Public Instruction

NAC 389

Academics and Textbooks

NAC 390

Testing of Pupils and
Graduation

EQUIPPED EDUCATORS AND LEADERS

The Department priority *Equipped Educators and Leaders* aims to attract, support, and retain strong educators and leaders to meet evolving student needs. This includes:

- Increasing the quality and quantity of new teachers and leaders prepared to serve Nevada's students
- Matching educators pay and growth opportunities to their role, skills, and impact
- Equipping teachers and leaders with the tools and training they need to provide strong, aligned instruction.

State Board priorities *Universal PreK*, *3rd Grade Literacy*, *8th Grade Math*, and *Career and Technical Education (CTE) Expansion* directly align with this priority, focusing on how to align educator preparation and teacher quality to improve student outcomes and opportunities. The State Board supports this priority through their role in evaluating licensure actions, adopting high-quality instructional materials, and governing the regulatory process alongside the Commission on Professional Standards in Education.

STRONG FOUNDATIONS

The Department priority *Strong Foundations* seeks to ensure students start strong and build the academic foundations that deeper learning depends on. This includes:

- Expanding PreK access to high-quality seats
- Supporting educators in selecting and planning high-quality instructional materials across core subjects to strengthen Tier 1 instruction
- Providing early academic interventions for students who need additional support

State Board priorities *Universal PreK*, *3rd Grade Literacy*, and *8th Grade Math* directly align with this priority, focusing support on PreK access and standards, materials, and teaching practices that support literacy and numeracy. The State Board is integral to this strategic priority in their role prescribing content standards, adopting high-quality instructional materials, selecting major academic assessments, and governing the regulatory process.

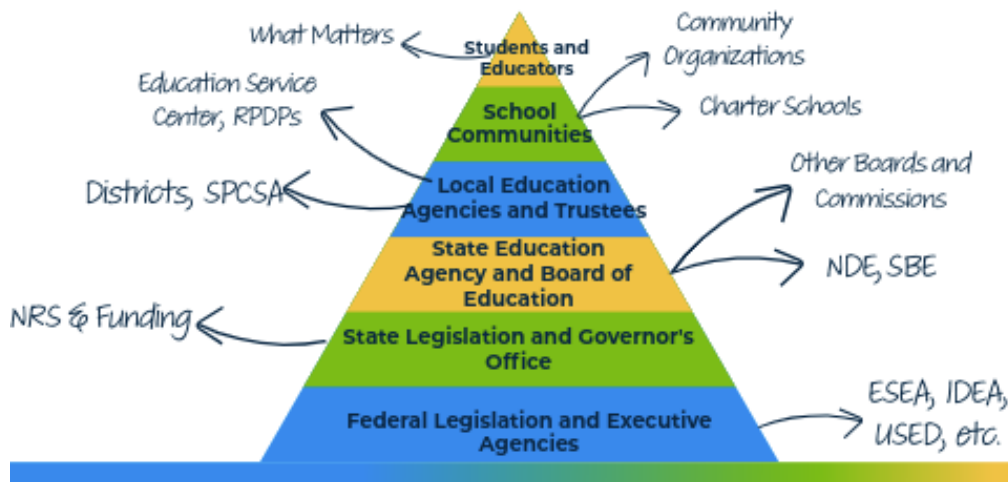
EMPOWERING PATHWAYS

The Department priority *Empowering Pathways* works to expand access to high-quality pathways that help students develop skills, explore interests, and prepare for their future. This includes:

- Ensuring every student has a yearly conversation and clear plan for graduation and beyond beginning in middle school
- Making it easier for students to access coursework and experiences aligned with high-wage, high-demand careers
- Ensuring every diploma is a pathway to postsecondary success.

The State Board priority for *CTE Expansion* directly aligns with this priority, tapping into the State Board's core tasks by prescribing graduation requirements, content standards, instructional materials, and governing the regulatory process.

Public Education Governance



INFORMED AND CONNECTED FAMILIES

The Department priority *Informed and Connected Families* works to enable families and communities to be active, informed partners in education. This includes:

- Providing clear, timely, and actionable information to families through Nevada's accountability frameworks
- Ensuring families without high-quality options have priority access to specialized offerings
- Escalating support, oversight, and options to accelerate school improvement and expand access to effective education

The State Board priority *Efficiency, Alignment, and Coherence* directly aligns with this priority, as the duties of the State Board include receiving and disseminating public reporting information, serving as a public body, hearing public comment, and transparently discussing the policy decision-making process.

ALIGNED SYSTEMS

The Department priority *Aligned Systems* seeks to define success and align expectations, resources, and supports to accelerate progress. This includes:

- Setting a shared vision for what strong schools and districts do and aligning funding, accountability, and support to match it
- Streamlining district and school planning submissions, removing redundant reporting, and modernizing processes
- Contributing capacity and targeting resources to aligned coalition efforts

The State Board priority *Efficiency, Alignment, and Coherence* directly aligns with this priority as the State Board works with the Department and across the Nevada Public Education Governance ecosystem to align coalition efforts, communicate clearly, and set a shared vision for education in Nevada.

ENGAGEMENT WITH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The State Board engages with a variety of other Boards, Commissions, and Councils, due to their overlapping and collaborative charges. Frequent collaborators include:

Commission on School Funding

Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education

Commission on Professional Standards in Education

Commission on Recruitment and Retention

Teachers and Leaders Council

Early Childhood Advisory Council

Advisory Council on Family Engagement

Special Education Advisory Council

Financial Literacy Advisory Council

Subcommittee on Holocaust and Other Genocides

Education Service Center

English Learner Advisory Council

STATE BOARD LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

The State Board created a Legislative Subcommittee with the charge to *determine engagement strategies to promote State Board involvement and alignment with State Board priorities across stakeholder groups*. This subcommittee first met on February 5, 2026.

The subcommittee consists of Dr. Tricia Braxton, Chair, Danielle Ford, and Annette Dawson Owens.

The subcommittee identified three core priorities:

Developing a briefing document for the public and stakeholders to understand the priorities, goals, and purpose of the State Board

Developing an analysis tool and rubric to analyze the alignment of legislation and policies with State Board priorities.

Designing an engagement strategy to advocate for public education in Nevada

This briefing document is responsive to the first priority of the Subcommittee.

BOARD ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION

The State Board routinely engages with the Nevada Public Education Governance ecosystem and the public by holding two periods of public comment each meeting. The Department is currently working to expand the reach of public meeting notices to public education communities, partners, and stakeholders to strengthen engagement with public boards and commissions.

Per NRS 385.040(2), each December the State Board invites representatives from across public education to discuss the goals and benchmarks of the Department to improve student achievement, the progress districts and schools have made in achieving the goals and benchmarks within their own improvement plans in alignment with State measures, and the status of any corrective actions. The State Board anticipates reviewing the structure and engagement strategies used for this meeting to better support robust and meaningful engagement with stakeholders.

Intermittently, the State Board invites members of other Boards and Commissions to present or join State Board meetings and discuss mutually affirming policies that jointly impact each Board. The State Board also receives updates from Board Members and the Department regarding progress made by other committees on significant policy decisions. The Department is working to develop a comprehensive Education Committee Policy tracker that would support greater cross-collaboration, coordination, and updates between and across committees.

The State Board anticipates further opportunities for engagement as the Legislative Subcommittee plans to develop a strategy and evaluation methodology for their engagement during the Legislative and Interim Sessions, to include opportunities to provide testimony on proposed legislation in conversation with State Board priorities, present on the priorities and progress of the State Board, and advocate for public education in Nevada.

Finally, the Department is working to implement a comprehensive stakeholder engagement and communications plan. Within this plan are dedicated stakeholder engagement forums open to elected and appointed policymakers, with open invitations sent to education-related boards, commissions, and legislators. These quarterly meetings will be an opportunity to receive policy updates from the Department regarding state education policies and efforts, to provide feedback and discuss perspectives on interventions, available data, and policy levers, and elevate problems of practice for discussion and engagement.

CONTACT THE BOARD

If you would like to collaborate with the State Board regarding policy advocacy, State Board improvement and alignment efforts, or other engagement, please reach out to Amelia Thibault or Lisa Ford at NVBoardEd@doe.nv.gov.