

STATEWIDE COUNCIL FOR THE COORDINATION OF THE REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026

4:00 P.M.

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

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBERS' PRESENT

1. Joe Girdner (via videoconference)
2. Lori Wilson (via videoconference)
3. Clayton Anderson (via videoconference)
4. Matt Cameron (via videoconference)

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

In Las Vegas

1. Lisa Ford
2. Jennese Black
3. Emily Kaziu

In Carson City

1. Amanda Hughes

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE (via videoconference)

1. Annie Hicks (Director NNRDPDP)
2. Ben Dickson (Director NWRPDP)
3. Jerrad Barczynsyn (Director SNRPDP)
4. Nicole Jawhari (Assistant Director SNRPDP)
5. Dr. Greta Peay (Deputy Executive Director - NASA)
6. Dr. Brian Myli (LION)
7. Christena Georgas-Burns
8. Dr. Michele Robinson (LION)
9. Jeffrey Geihs (Executive Director - NASA)
10. Jason Stricker (iTeach)
11. Mike Smith (Teaching Channel)
12. Dr. Torrey Palmer (Deputy Superintendent)

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. by Chair Clayton Anderson. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jennese Black.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

There was no in-person public comment in Carson City or Las Vegas and no public comment via email.

3. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING A FLEXIBLE AGENDA

Chair Anderson asked if there was a motion action regarding a flexible agenda.

Member Cameron made a motion to approve a flexible agenda. Member Ford seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 29, 2026, MEETING MINUTES

Chair Anderson asked if there was a motion to approve the January 29, 2026, meeting minutes.

Member Girdner made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Member Cameron seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BUDGET AMENDMENTS PURSUANT TO NRS 391A.190

Chair Anderson asked RPDP Directors to present anything related to budget amendments pursuant to NRS 391A.190.

Ben Dickson (NWRPDP) proposed two budget amendments. The first amendment applies to the remainder of FY 2026 and addresses staffing changes related to salaries. Member Dickson noted that additional staff are needed. The second amendment applies to FY 2027 and relocates funds to support the Director's salary. Ben explained that a new NWRPDP Director will be hired, and there will be an overlap period to allow for onboarding.

Annie Hicks (NNRPDP) proposed one budget amendment for the remainder of FY 2026 to account for adjustments to salaries and benefits.

Jerrad Barczyszyn (SNRPDP) stated that they do not have any budget amendments to submit for FY 2026 or FY 2027.

There were no further questions or discussion. Chair Anderson asked if there was a motion and a second to approve proposed budget amendments. Member Girdner made motion, Member Ford seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND UPDATE ABOUT PROGRESS TOWARDS SB460 INITIATIVES

Chair Anderson asked RPDP Directors to present updates and progress regarding SB460.

Annie Hicks (NNRPDP) shared that they will be working alongside districts and state public charter schools served within their region to support Science of Reading initiatives. The Science of Reading requires all K-3 educators, paraprofessionals, administrators and supervisors of K-3 administrators to complete at least fifteen hours of professional development on the Science of Reading within the next two years as a component of their work within their specific school setting. Each regional RPDP has been working specifically with their districts to create a plan, or to support that district in submitting their own plan to the Nevada Department of Education for approval.

Hicks shared that at this time, all districts and state public charter schools who have reached out for support from RPDP have a plan in place. RPDP are in the process of preparing to launch that support in the 2026-2027 school year.

Annie Hicks also shared that RPDP, in partnership with the Nevada Department of Education, is actively working on the Nevada Educator Performance Framework (NEPF) Administrator Certification Course Development Project and is anticipated for it to launch next year. This project contains two specific courses that meet the requirements set forth in SB460 and related statutes. The first course will be a seven-module course that is designed for administrators who evaluate educators. The second course will be a seven-module series that meets the requirements for principal supervisors.

Each regional RPDP Director has also been coordinating within their region to determine cohort options, dates and times for each district to be able to send their administrators to these required professional development sessions and courses.

There were no further questions or discussion.

7. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND ACTION REGARDING 2026-2027 RPDP ADMIN FUNDS PROPOSALS PURSUANT TO NRS 391.A190

Chair Anderson asked Jennese Black to introduce organizations present regarding 2026-2027 RPDP administrator fund proposals.

Jennese Black explained that the administrator funds were recently moved to a NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) process, requiring an application through the Nevada Department of Education. Three organizations submitted applications, which were reviewed and scored according to policies and procedures. Based on those scores, recommendations were made for funding allocations.

For FY 2027, \$100,000 in competitive state grant funds is available (July 1, 2026–June 30, 2027). The grant review committee recommended the following:

- Leadership Institute of Nevada (LION): Recommended for full funding of \$50,000 for the Nevada Administrative Professional Learning Series. Reviewers highlighted strong alignment with state mandates and a well defined professional learning agenda. Some reviewers asked for more detail and depth.
- iTeach: Recommended for partial funding of \$30,000 for a statewide virtual/hybrid Administrative Learning Program. Reviewers noted good alignment with standards but cited limited Nevada specific planning details.
- Nevada Association of School Administrators (NASA): Recommended for partial funding at \$20,000 for its fully virtual Leadership Institute. Reviewers cited clear audience identification but noted insufficient instructional detail and assessment planning.

Ms. Black explained that after all three presentations, the Council will make final funding allocation recommendations. Black asked LION to start.

Dr. Brian Myli (LION) introduced himself and his colleague Dr. Michele Robinson. Dr. Myli reiterated that LION's RPDP grant proposal is \$50,000, serving up to three hundred participants over four convenings. LION is requesting funds for two summit workshops--one that will take place in Las Vegas, partnering with SNRPDP, and one in Elko, partnering with NNRPDP. LION is also requesting funds for two alumni convenings that will take place in Las Vegas, NV and Reno, NV.

Dr. Myli started his presentation by explaining the proposed summit workshops. Workshops will be focused on effective communication with educators, featuring Jennifer Abrams. The workshops are designed to strengthen administrators' ability to communicate a coherent instructional vision and conduct legally defensible evaluation conversations. The morning will begin with an overview of Nevada Educator Performance Framework (NEPF) and SB460 compliance requirements, followed by a calibration lab focused on scoring. After lunch, participants will engage in a hands-on practicum for conducting hard conversations, using scripted, NEPF-aligned postobservation feedback. The day will conclude with sitebased communication action planning, during which attendees will complete an action plan and submit postobservation feedback samples.

Dr. Myli then transitioned his presentation to speak about the two alumni convenings. The first convening will take place in Las Vegas and will be focused on student engagement at an age of various technology, featuring Dr. Jonathan Haidt. The second convening will take place in Reno, NV and will be focused on gender gaps in learning, featuring Dr. Diane Halpern.

Dr. Myli showed how both workshops and convenings are aligned with NEPF administrative standards and SB460. He also provided a timeline; indicating they would use the summer of 2026 to do their planning and design. They will also be using a third party to conduct assessments and evaluations. Outcome targets and statewide impact statistics are provided in the presentation, as well as an allocated budget overview. Most of the requested funds will go toward speakers and facilitation fees.

Dr. Myli concluded his presentation by asking for any questions or discussion from the Council. Although there were no questions, Chair Anderson noted the proposal contained thoughtful topics and had clear structure. Chair Anderson introduced speaker representing iTeach.

Jason Stricker, Chief Policy Officer at K-12 Coalition, an umbrella organization to iTeach, introduced himself as well as Mike Smith, President of Teaching Channel, which is another umbrella organization. Mr. Stricker shared iTeach's mission and work, explaining that they are a national organization but work very closely with six counties in Nevada.

Mr. Stricker started his presentation by proposing a three-tier model that serves administrators statewide. They will be served by regional virtual cohorts, hybrid statewide summits, and a year-round teaching channel platform with asynchronous access to NEPF-aligned videos, peer feedback and tools, and monthly data reporting to the Nevada Department of Education.

iTeach proposed providing three regional cohorts that would go through four sessions. The first session would focus on conditions for successful improvement and conditions for successful teaching and learning. It would end with an action plan and a gap analysis to set up administrators to successfully focus on what they need to identify as they do their observations in classrooms. The second and third sessions focus on calibration and observing good practice. Stricker noted that iTeach has developed statewide frameworks like this for multiple states across the nation. The fourth session will be focused on problem of instructional practice. After administrators conduct their observations, what is it that they're still struggling with and how do they engage others on their instructional leadership team to be good observers? Stricker explained these training courses will be able to accommodate up to three hundred people across the state and are broken into three regions of Nevada.

Mr. Stricker continues his presentation by transitioning to explaining the proposed statewide summit. This statewide summit brings educators from all seventeen counties together in an in-person convening and builds on shared practices. Problems of instructional practice will be highlighted in the statewide summit in order to identify actions and strategies that educators can walk away with because of in-person collaboration.

Stricker then talks about the teaching channel platform, the third element in iTeach's proposal. This teaching channel provides two capabilities; exemplar videos and observation and calibration tools. Stricker explains that having these resources housed in one ongoing place helps educators beyond the other two training elements proposed. The proposed plan's alignment to NEPT and SB460 are outlined in the presentation, highlighting structural systems, human capital and evaluations, and metacognitive strategies.

Mr. Stricker proposed a timeline that would consist of four phases. Design would be completed over the summer of 2026, and implementation would be during the 2026-2027 school year. Stricker pointed out that this timeline is like efforts they've successfully conducted in Maryland and Mississippi. Statewide impact statistics are provided in the presentation, as well as an allocated budget overview. Most of the requested funds will go toward professional services.

Mr. Stricker concluded the presentation by asking for questions or discussion from the Council. Although there were no questions, Chair Anderson noted the proposal was very thorough. Chair Anderson introduced speaker representing NASA.

Dr. Greta Peay, Deputy Executive Director (NASA), informed the Council that Dr. Jeffrey Geihs, Executive Director (NASA) would share a couple of comments before presenting NASA's proposal.

Dr. Jeffrey Geihs explains the history of the leadership academy, which began in 2019 when the RPD Council asked them to create a program with only three weeks' notice. The academy initially received full funding for several years, operating in person before shifting to virtual during COVID. Afterward, the Council asked that it remain virtual because it successfully reached educators statewide, especially in rural areas. So far, the program has served 1,047 participants across ten cohorts, with many testimonials from educators who advanced into leadership, administrative, and even superintendent roles. Dr. Geihs concludes his comment by requesting additional funding, noting they will offer forty-five-hours/three-credit program, while in the past they were able to offer 90-hour programs. Dr. Geihs then introduced Dr. Greta Peay to share the proposal.

Dr. Greta Peay begins the presentation by explaining the Virtual Leadership Institute and the focus being on NEPF-aligned system transformation, sustainability of structural systems, curriculum, instruction, and assessment. The institute is a forty-five-hour institute that has a set timeline in place. Attendees will attend twelve sessions that will also give an opportunity for licensure and renewal. Dr. Peay explains that NASA uses several departments within NDE to offer this institute. Topics and research included are aligned with SB460, with a proposed budget included.

Dr. Peay concluded the presentation by asking for any questions or discussion from the Council. Although there were no questions, Chair Anderson thanked Dr. Geihs and Dr. Peay for their support for administrators across the state of Nevada.

Jennese Black asked the Council to move forward with voting on their final recommendations. She noted that the Nevada Department of Education had already submitted its recommendations based solely on reviewer scores and respondent input. She also clarified that the Council could choose to vote on each organization individually or amend the recommendations in whatever way they believe would best support Nevada's administrators.

Chair Anderson clarified that there is \$100,000 available, and the recommended proposed funds could be issued to the three organizations that submitted an application. \$50,000 to LION, \$30,000 to iTeach, and \$20,000 to NASA. These are only recommendations as to how the money could be allocated, and

the Council has the authority to allocate funds to the applicants they determine will best carry out their scope of work. Chair Anderson asked if there was any discussion or motions to be made from anyone in the Council.

Lisa Ford motioned for the Council to accept the recommendations for funding the grant awards as they were recommended (\$50,000 to LION, \$30,000 to iTeach, and \$20,000 to NASA). Member Girdner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Jennese Black informed the Council that the next meeting will take place on June 5, 2026. Black asked to be informed of any quorum issues that may arise over the summer. For the June 5th meeting, presentations from LION and NASA are required for their year-end reviews, and these must be ADA compliant for Council consideration. RPDP councils are also welcome to prepare their own one-year review materials for this biennium. Any needed budget amendments or changes should be brought forward at that meeting. Member Black also mentioned that Member Dickson can involve someone else in the discussion, depending on his role transition status. LION, iTeach, and NADA will be listed at the next meeting, along with the final allocation memo and next steps in that process.

Chair Anderson asked if there were any discussion or questions regarding future agenda items. Jerrad Barczyszyn recommended looking at everyone's calendar and scheduling upcoming meetings in early fall to help Directors with early amendments. The Council members agreed.

Chair Anderson also mentioned that there will most likely be changes in Superintendent representation in multiple regional councils. Those new appointments will be prepared and solidified soon for upcoming meetings. Chair Anderson recommended having those changes on the agenda for the next meeting. The Council Members agreed.

Member Black then introduced Nevada Department of Education's new Deputy Superintendent over the Student Achievement Division, Dr. Torrey Palmer. The Council welcomed her. Chair Anderson asked if there were any more comments or questions.

Dr. Jeffrey Geihs mentioned that NDE requested a NASA representative to be on the RPDP Council, however, have not heard back from anyone regarding the appointment. Lisa Ford responded that she is working with the Governor's Office for the final appointment, and that a letter should be forthcoming soon.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

There was no in-person public comment in Carson City or Las Vegas and no public comment via email.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm.