

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
 ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2024
 4:00 PM**

| Office | Address | City | Meeting Room |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Department of Education | 2080 E. Flamingo Rd. | Las Vegas | Bighorn Conference Room |
| Department of Education | 700 E. Fifth St. | Carson City | Silver Ore Room |
| Department of Education | Virtual/ YouTube | n/a | n/a |

DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Rebecca Dirks-Garcia
 Vice Chair Tameka Henry
 Anna Marie Binder
 Brande Johnson
 Duana Malone
 Brenda Zamora
 Tom Hendrix
 Cecilia Gonzalez

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (NDE) STAFF PRESENT

Kathryn Hoyt, Education Programs Professional, Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement (EDLiFE)

Kellylynn Charles, Education Programs Professional; Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement (EDLiFE)

Tina Statucki, Contractor; Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement (EDLiFE)

Rick Derry, Administrative Assistant; Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement (EDLiFE)

Lisa Ford, Chief Strategy Officer, Nevada Department of Education

LEGAL STAFF PRESENT

Cassin Brown, Deputy Attorney General

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Rebecca Dirks-Garcia called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM. Roll call attendance was taken as reflected above and a quorum was established. Chair Dirks-Garcia led the Pledge of Allegiance and followed with a Native American land acknowledgement.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

There was no public comment in Carson City or in Las Vegas.

3. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE JULY 25, 2023, MEETING MINUTES (*Information/ Discussion/Possible Action*)

The Council reviewed meeting minutes from the July 25, 2023, meeting.

Chair Rebecca Dirks-Garcia entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Vice Chair Tameka Henry moved to approve the meeting minutes. Member Brenda Zamora seconded. Motion carried.

4. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING NEVADA FAMILY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE UPDATES (*Information/ Discussion*)

Chair Dirks-Garcia turned the discussion over to Kathryn Hoyt, Education Programs Professional, Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement (EDLiFE), for the Council to hear updates and actions relevant to the implementation of Nevada’s Family Engagement efforts. Ms. Hoyt shared that the EDLiFE office had collaborated with the Office of Early Learning and Development (OELD) to update the Nevada Family Engagement Framework. The framework had not been updated since April 2, 2021. She also mentioned the Family Engagement Advisory Committee also provided feedback for the updates. Modifications would include new multilingual resources, an updated toolkit, and specificity pertaining to roles (such as administrators, educators and families). She added that work was being done to make the framework more visually appealing. The Office hopes to have a draft created for the Council’s review by the next meeting.

Ms. Hoyt shared that the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) had partnered with Ohio State University to launch an efficacy beliefs-based survey. She explained that this survey was created for educators who had recently taken an approved Family Engagement course to measure how educators felt about the strategies learned from the course, and how they were applying those strategies in their classrooms. She noted that the survey would assist the the Department in validating which parental involvement courses were making statewide impacts. The survey was launched in October and had received 692 responses. Ohio State would close the survey once they reached 2100 responses, ensuring they had a considerable sample size to draw results. Mrs. Hoyt concluded her presentation by mentioning that a report on the findings would be shared with the council once the survey closed.

Chair Dirks-Garcia asked Ms. Hoyt when the Council would see the Family Engagement Framework updates come into effect. Ms. Hoyt responded that Anabel Sanchez, Education Programs Professional for EDLiFE would be able to give a more specific time frame but anticipated an update during the first meeting in 2025. Ms. Hoyt would keep the Council updated. Ms. Statucki added that she had been assisting with the updates of the Nevada Family Engagement Framework and she anticipated the framework would be ready for the Council’s final review at the end of January 2025.

5. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION TO SEEK FEEDBACK ON THE 2025 STATEWIDE PLAN FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF PUPILS (*Information/Discussion*)

Chair Dirks-Garcia turned the discussion over to Lisa Ford, Chief Strategy Officer, to give a presentation on the 2025 Statewide Plan for the Improvement of Pupils (also known as STIP 2030).

Lisa Ford, Chief Strategy Officer (CSO), presented on STIP 2030, a Nevada law-mandated plan (NRS 385.111-113) aimed at improving student achievement through data analysis, academic strategies, and college and career readiness. She explained that the five-year plan tracked progress toward State Board of Education goals, was revised annually, and was aligned with the Nevada Department of Education's mission.

The plan was focused on enhancing student achievement and educator effectiveness through three frameworks: Portrait of a Nevada Learner (academic growth), Acing Accountability (SB 98 resource alignment), and The Nevada Way (Governor Lombardo's workforce initiative). It targeted equitable PK-12 learning access, educator support, and strategic student investment, with performance measured annually. Ms. Ford noted ongoing data improvements in 2024, with a formal presentation expected in January 2025.

Chair Dirks-Garcia asked for clarification on what kind of feedback pertaining to the STIP 2030 that the Department was seeking from the Council. Ms. Ford explained that NDE was seeking feedback on any actions that the Council believed the Department should be taking in the advancement of student achievement outcomes. She highlighted that these could be related to school mental health, attendance, and what Council members deem important (as citizens of Nevada). She highlighted that the STIP 2030 was subject to annotation and was iterative in nature. Based on data provided and feedback from constituents, changes will be effectuated within the plan. Ultimately, the Department was seeking feedback to help create the best plan for students statewide.

Member Hendrix shared that at his previous School Board meeting, Ms. Korf, an elementary school principal, presented a program that resulted in attendance growing from 35 parents to 137 parents at the quarterly assembly. He elaborated that his principal had started an "I Am Proud" program, identifying smaller student achievements. He mentioned that students could identify their own outstanding achievements, whether it be a score on one test or an increase in attendance. These recognitions got parents coming to the quarterly assembly, where they engaged parents with interactive games that could be used at home with their students. Member Hendrix noted he was looking into creating a model for his district. Ms. Ford added that Anabel Sanchez had submitted multiple action steps around parental and family engagement for the Department, which would be included in the STIP 2030 as it continued to change.

Chair Dirks-Garcia appreciated those comments and noted how difficult it was to share best practices across the state, especially when it impacted several stakeholder groups. Ms. Ford stated that NDE was taking action in sharing best practices across the state. She discussed that the State Board of Education (SBE) would invite school districts, boards of trustees, and community organizations to share the work and strategies used in their districts and communities to support educators and students at the December meeting. The agenda would be posted by next week and the boards of trustees would be getting an invitation to attend. Additionally, the Department was looking at putting together a quarterly newsletter highlighting the great things that the Department, districts, and schools were doing across the state of Nevada in support of educators and students.

Ms. Ford shared that a draft implementation guide was in the process of being developed and that the full draft of the plan would include specific, measurable aspects for each annual performance indicator. She emphasized that the metrics would have expected annual growth. This would allow them to respond to the most recent data available and could be reported quarterly. To promote transparency, the work of the Department and the outcomes following that work would be reported on a quarterly basis to the SBE.

Member Binder inquired about what year the data that was being used was from. Ms. Ford clarified that they were working within the 2024-2025 school year. Member Binder asked about the data that is being integrated into the plan and when the meetings were held this year for the indicator groups.

Ms. Ford explained that the last set of data reported for the STIP 2030 was in March of 2024 at the SBE meeting. She also stated that the Nevada School Performance Framework data was presented in September. She clarified that at different times throughout the year, there were different legislative requirements for data reports, which are generally reported at the SBE meetings and released publicly through press releases. She added that specific data related to a district or school could be found on the [Nevada Report Card](#) website. Member Binder asked about indicator data being drafted into the previously mentioned draft implementation guide. Ms. Ford stated that there would be an overlap of data found within the STIP 2030 across different data reporting categories as well as unique data that pertains only to the STIP 2030. She noted that within the draft implementation guide the first section was data, intentionally, so that it was clear that the plan was driven by data.

Ms. Ford continued her presentation by stating that the Department was working on internal measures to develop concepts within the STIP 2030 narrative. The Department's offices and divisions were working on providing department activities for each initiative to demonstrate actions and deliverables occurring within the Department. The work would continue throughout 2024 to ensure that the most complete baseline data was published in the final version of the implementation guide. The Department would also begin compiling the anticipated data points, activities, and deliverables for the 2025 calendar year to provide insight into the projects that would be occurring.

Ms. Ford then presented a timeline for the development of the STIP 2030. She noted that the Department was continuing to collect data points and action steps to present the plan's framework to constituent groups for feedback. This was not only to ensure greater understanding of the STIP 2030, but also to ensure all voices were heard as the plan affected everyone in Nevada. The Department would hold calibration meetings once they received the final draft of the implementation guide in December of 2024. She announced that the Department was planning to present the STIP 2030 plan at the SBE meeting in January of 2025 for approval. She emphasized that the plan was due to be approved by March of 2025.

Member Zamora asked if members would be able to see the feedback from the constituents within the final draft. Ms. Ford said that she would follow up on potential implementation. She suggested that a survey could be conducted for all constituents using aspects of the STIP 2030. She explained that the comments, concerns, and identified themes could be captured in the survey, and she reiterated that she would create the survey, ensuring that it was something easily digestible.

Chair Dirks-Garcia asked how the data and targets from the STIP 2030 were being monitored for successful translation for districts and local implementation. Ms. Ford responded that the Department would have to first identify its focus of control, as well as the impacts made, and how they translated to field application in schools and classrooms. She added that during the development of such action steps, the activities engaged by the Department to measure outcomes were all identified. She also indicated that the Department monitored the STIP's effectiveness when they shared quarterly reports throughout the year, providing an opportunity for public comments and feedback. The Department would decide whether to re-examine action steps within the plan, as well as collaborate between offices, to ensure resources needed were available to make changes.

Chair Dirks-Garcia emphasized they need to look into those detailed steps and ask why actions were not happening. Ms. Ford responded that the Department is responsible for improving outcomes for students and that departmental breakdown, support redesign, and realignment of those supports would be needed to address the issue more efficiently. Data analysis of the action steps, revision, and relaunch of the plan would be completed, after the first year, 2025. She concluded that this procedure would be carried out over the course of five years.

Chair Dirks-Garcia acknowledged that this satisfactorily answered her inquiry. After no further discussion, Chair Dirks-Garcia closed the discussion on this item.

6. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT: 2024 LEGISLATIVE REPORT (*Information/Discussion/Possible Action*)

Chair Dirks-Garcia turned the discussion over to Ms. Hoyt to give the Council a presentation on the 2024 Legislative Report. Ms. Hoyt began her report by referencing [NRS 385.620](#) which stated that on or before February 1 of each year, a report needed to be submitted to the Director of the Legislative Council Bureau (LCB) for transmission to the legislature in odd numbered years, and to Legislative Commission in even numbered years.

Ms. Hoyt presented a spreadsheet of recommendations for the 2024 Legislative Report. A section had been added to include efforts made to the Nevada Family Engagement Framework as it related to early childhood. The framework included standards for supporting student success through collaboration that fostered academic and social-emotional development. Existing strategies, along with new outreach and communication approaches, focused on evidence-based methods proven effective for all families.

Ms. Hoyt then indicated that the Council had previously made recommendations for legislation and that the Council had the opportunity to discuss changes to the language, make new recommendations, and/or approve the report as is and send it off to the legislative office. She affirmed that if the Council would like to add recommendations or make changes, a motion would need to be carried out to approve each individual recommendation. The Council would also need to vote if something was added to the report.

Member Binder made a comment about the consistency of the expanded language within the two reports. Ms. Statucki provided clarification, with reference to Sections 3 and 4, explaining that those sections were focused on the revised toolkit and breaking down the toolkit into specific educator groups. She added that the framework and toolkit changes decided upon were not reflected until the Framework Advisory Committee convened this year, after February 2024. The expanded language reflected the changes of the framework itself, and the inconsistency was as a result of the revisions made later.

Chair Dirks-Garcia entertained a motion to accept the Advisory Council for Family Engagement 2024 Legislative Report. Member Binder made a motion to accept the Advisory Council for Family Engagement 2024 Legislative Report as is. Member Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

7. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR FAMILY ENGAGEMENT: 2025 LEGISLATIVE REPORT (*Information/ Discussion/Possible Action*)

Chair Dirks-Gracia turned the discussion over to Ms. Hoyt to give the Council a presentation on the 2025 Legislative Report. Ms. Hoyt began her report by explaining the difference between the two modifications that were made for the current report. The addition included funding a platform to collect and analyze family engagement data to help assess the extent to which the level of parental involvement and family engagement affects the performance, attendance, and the discipline of pupils.

Ms. Hoyt continued by stating that pursuant to [NRS 385.620\(1\)](#), Items 3 and 4 (found on page 4) included a change in language to identify target audiences for the framework and ensuring inclusivity for families, teachers, counselors, administrators, and district and state community leaders. She also noted the partnership with the Office of Safe and Respectful Learning Environment (OSRLE) to include sessions applicable to family engagement for the family engagement summit (found on page 6). Furthermore, she mentioned the report included legislative recommendations, mentioned earlier, to fund a parent engagement survey and platform.

Chair Dirks-Garcia inquired about the possibility of combining the funding for the platform with the survey from Ohio State to enhance teacher training and delivery outcomes. Ms. Hoyt indicated that Anabel Sanchez would be able to address that question, but she reiterated the usefulness of having a platform to analyze family engagement data housed in one place. Data from multiple viewpoints (i.e. families, teachers, and school providers) could be used to determine how engagement efforts affect student performance, attendance, and discipline.

Chair Dirks-Garcia entertained a motion to approve the report as is. Vice Chair Henry made a motion to approve the report. Member Zamora seconded. With no objections, motion passed.

8. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT STATEWIDE SUMMIT (*Information/ Discussion*)

Chair Dirks-Gracia turned the discussion over to Ms. Hoyt to give the Council a presentation on the Family Engagement Statewide Summit. Ms. Hoyt shared that the statewide summit was required to be held every other year. In collaboration with OSRLE, the Building Futures Conference was held in Las Vegas during July and in Reno in August. Ms. Hoyt shared that there were several sessions that supported family engagement. A session on the Safe Voice platform explained how it was used, how to create a report, and shared prevention strategies for families and attendees at the conference. She also shared that information was presented by Kellylynn Charles (from NDE) on social-emotional learning and supporting the military-connected child to increase awareness and understanding of challenges children in military connected families face. Dr. Pam Juniel and Sarah Thomas (also with NDE) provided information in relation to the McKinney-Vento continuum of service for supporting homeless and foster care students.

Ms. Hoyt shared that the Family Engagement office was collaborating with other Department offices for an upcoming family engagement summit, potentially in June of 2025. Ms. Hoyt added that they hope to include more sessions for early childhood and have families participate in the summit. She suggested that if the Council had any recommendations for sessions, keynote speakers, or knew of any organizations that should be involved to contact Anabel Sanchez or anyone in the Office.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (*Information/ Discussion*)

Chair Rebecca Dirks-Garcia discussed future agenda items. The first item was for updates to the Nevada Family Engagement Framework at the January 31, 2025, meeting (if needed). During the discussion, Chair Dirks-Garcia informed the Council that there were some terms ending and appointments would be needed to fill vacancies. There would also need to be an election for a new chair and vice chair.

Ms. Hoyt explained that since the legislative reports were approved, there would be no need to have a January meeting date. Anabel Sanchez intended to share a survey with members to solicit availability for future meeting dates and times. Ms. Hoyt added that the next meeting would likely be sometime in February. The Council would discuss elections and there could possibly be open meeting law training provided by the Deputy Attorney General (DAG).

Member Binder complimented Anabel Sanchez on her work with early childhood and parental engagement and suggested that it should be included in the agenda.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

There was no public comment in Carson City or in Las Vegas.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further objections, the meeting was adjourned at 5:28 PM.