

# **NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STATEWIDE SCHOOL SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY October 15, 2025  
3:00 P.M.**

## **DRAFT Summary of Minutes of the Regular Meeting**

### **In Attendance via Videoconference:**

#### **Committee Members**

**Vice-Chair Ravin**

**Member Grennan**

**Member Alonzo/Proxy LaNesha Battle**

**Member Hoag**

**Member Dzyak/Proxy Rodriguez**

**Member Blackeye**

**Member Peixoto**

**Member O. Ravin**

#### **DEPARTMENT STAFF**

Jeremy Silva, Daisy Marglin – Nevada Department of Education, Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment

#### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Quorum established. Meeting called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Vice-Chair Ravin.

#### **Public Comment #1**

No public comment

#### **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Vice-Chair Ravin asked if there was a motion to approve the July 16, 2025, meeting minutes. Member Grennan made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Member Hoag seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously

#### **Student Safety Panel**

Vice-Chair Ravin asked Jeremy Silva if Chair Anderson had forwarded any documents to him so the members could discuss this agenda item. Vice-Chair Ravin mentioned to the council members who may not have remembered why Chair Anderson was so instrumental to the discussion, reason being because he was the person doing the final edits for the questions for the student panel.

Jeremy Silva said he did not have the most updated version, and he was hesitant to share it. He suggested taking the agenda items out of order to give Chair Anderson the opportunity to join the meeting in the hopes the members would be able to have a discussion on this item.

#### **Public Awareness Campaign for Education to Families on Algorithms and Radicalization**

Vice Chair Ravin asked to have a discussion on this agenda item.

Member Grennan mentioned she believed that she was the member who requested to have this an agenda item added as the council looks for possible concepts to provide in the report to the Governor. She said she

wasn't sure if the public awareness campaign for families is the best solution, however since the council had some "ah-ha" moments learning about radicalization and algorithms that are utilized to do so during the Social Media Apps and Algorithms presentation given by Dr. Camille Tastenhoye, maybe a public awareness campaign would be one way to get the information out to help educate families.

Jeremy Silva said he did not have the opportunity to watch the presentation, but he did hear great things about it, and he wanted to remind everyone that it was still available to watch on the YouTube channel. He asked if the idea was to have the public service campaign around the dangers of social media to be one of the recommendations in the governor's report at the end of next year?

Member Grennan said she thought the council believed that could be one of the possibilities. There were a couple of concepts thrown out at the last meeting. A public service campaign could just be something simple like a fact sheet provided or parent educator briefing series. Just a thought that maybe we need to evolve.

Jeremy Silva said this made him think it would be similar to what they do with the safe storage of firearms. It's required in school emergency operation plans that schools must notify families of how to safely store firearms in the home and then it's on the school to figure out how to execute that message. He asked her if she thought this suggestion would be similar to that.

Member Grennan said that was a possibility; that would be one way it could be done.

Jeremy Silva asked the council if someone could share with him how the algorithms work, since he was not able to watch the presentation.

Vice-Chair Ravin said there was evidence shared about how someone on social media would start with innocent searches and the algorithms in the social media platforms would steer the content, quite often inflammatory, quickly radicalizing the viewer. Even if a user is not intentionally immediately drawn to that kind of content the algorithm can move the radicalized content in the user's direction depending on their likes and dislikes. Controversy can quickly be fed to the user without necessarily making such inquiries. He mentioned in Dr. Camille Tastenhoye presentation there were specific examples provided related to various social media platforms. He recommended for interested parties to watch or rewatch the video as it was quite informative. He invited the council members to chime in on any details shared.

Jeremy Silva asked if a person with bad intentions could pay a social media platform to push out radicalized content to children to try to recruit them into a group? He asked if that information was discussed.

Vice-Chair Ravin said he didn't believe that was covered in the presentation, but he said that he could see how that kind of paid content could be more easily accessible.

Jeremy Silva asked, on the awareness side, the idea would be to promote knowledge of the dangers of algorithms to families.

Vice-Chair Ravin said he believed that was the general understanding from committee at time of the presentation. He entertained the idea what it would be like if there was a general warning for a user on a social media kind of like a warning on cigarettes and alcohol. A disclosure of possible risk or harm or access in content not chosen by the user, but pushed by the platform, that may show radicalized or extreme material. In addition to public education the council could suggest through the act of the legislation that those platforms may be required to push that warning out to anyone who uses them in the state of Nevada.

Jeremy Silva mentioned the committee could make any recommendation they wanted it just may not be realistic.

Vice-Chair Ravin agreed and asked if any of the committee members who closely work with the Department of Education, when they make recommendations and the Department of Education pushes for those parental notifications, how well does that work. Do we have an idea if the message reaches the intended audience, if there is any feedback on the content, does it generate further inquiries.

Jeremy Silva said when they submitted previous session's recommendations the only feedback he received came from the Superintendent at the time and she only had some clarifying questions. Then it got passed onto LCB and the Governors desk. From there we didn't get any questions back, but we did see some of the recommendations that we put out were taken into consideration.

Vice-Chair Ravin asked if those recommendations go out to only public schools or do they also go out to charter and private schools.

Jeremy Silva said when it comes to the scope of this committee and school safety, he didn't think it was written to just public or private, however the representation only covers public and charter schools. He wasn't sure if any of it would apply to a private school unless it's specifically written that way. He said he would reach out to the DAG (Deputy Attorney General) for clarification.

Vice-Chair Ravin said that it would be helpful for him personally as a parent to a student who is enrolled in a private school. He mentioned he does not recall any communications from the school regarding that subject.

Jeremy Silva explained that the emergency operation plans for storing firearms should go out to parents in private schools and he asked the Vice-Chair if he remembered received any notifications from the school regarding that information.

Vice-Chair Ravin said he didn't remember seeing any notifications about that, but he said he could have possibly missed it if they sent it by email since he sometimes receives over 200 emails a day.

Jeremy Silva said he understood that. He mentioned students receive so many things from the school and he himself didn't recall receiving anything from CCSD in regard to firearms. He said it was very likely that they did, and it was something he overlooked or didn't pay attention to.

Member Blackeye replied that CCSD sends information out to students and families about the safe storage of firearms at the time of registration.

Jeremy Silva asked Member Blackeye how that information was shared. He thought they could share the information about the dangers of social media, algorithms, and radicalization the same way. He asked if the information shared explained what the laws were around storage or how to safely store the firearm.

Member Blackeye offered to provide what they give out. He said he didn't have it in front of him, but it addressed both the law and how to safely store firearms.

Jeremy Silva suggested the mechanism for promotion could be the same even though the content is different.

Member Blackeye said if they are going to recommend that schools need to notify parents at the time of registration about the dangers of social media algorithms and radicalization it should encompass not only the cause and effects of their usage but also share what the parents' rights are as far as checking phones and accounts so that they know what to look out for and they can educate their children.

Member Grennan said she was going back through her notes from the July 16, 2025, meeting and the committee did ask about what role could state level initiatives, like this committee, could play in disseminating or implementing Dr. Camille Tastenhoyes research. Dr. Tastenhoyes suggested integration within mental health communities, public awareness campaigns, and modules or training regarding radicalization. The premise of her slideshow was really talking about how networks of radicalization have shifted from interpersonal relations to social media content where they could reach out to larger at-risk groups. Some of the cascading effects of radicalization were behavioral changes, introversion, neglecting friends and family, changing clothes, lifestyle changes, endorsing new radical beliefs, increasing time spent on certain parts of the internet that can be hard to track, and social upheaval. It could be built into a general social media campaign; an excerpt on radicalization and these are things you should be looking for. There are other opportunities to get the message out; the public awareness campaign is just one idea.

Vice-Chair Ravin mentioned he thought it would be important for parents to know that unlike 30 years ago if someone wanted to join an extremist organization, they had to leave their house, travel to another part of the world, join the movement, be trained and radicalized there. Nowadays that can happen in the palm of someone's hand in their home just by watching videos on their phone. It's important for parents to understand the consequences of social media use, potential signs of someone being affected, and how they can handle the situation if it happens. Perhaps offering support from mental health professionals or other supportive services. The idea being not to punish the individual for engaging online but helping them regaining their foot in the community.

Member Hoag said in middle school she remembered encouraging parents to participate in events where they could go to the school and learn about the dangers of social media and what to look out for. She felt promoting these events aimed at educating parents about the dangers would be very helpful.

Vice-Chair Ravin said he didn't know how many professionals were available nationwide to offer trainings to parents, but he was curious if there were any educational videos that were focused on research that could be offered and presented at the level that any parent could understand and appreciate. He suggested they could reach out to Dr. Tastenhoye to see if she would be willing to create a recording for the Department of Education that could be viewed on the website and parents could watch for themselves.

Member Grennan made a motion to include an excerpt regarding a public awareness campaign for education to families on algorithms and radicalization be presented within the Governors report. Member Battle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Building a Model for Threat Assessment Teams to Identify Radicalization Through Social Media**

Member Grennan said this was a concept she brought forth at the July meeting. She said with Dr. Tastenhoye's recommendation about mental health services within the community, public awareness campaign, and then a module on training she believed she had asked whether school threat assessment teams had any training on this or if this would be a concept that could be utilized or incorporated into training for those teams. That's what this agenda item was centered around. We talked about training them to recognize the signs, listening for certain vocabulary, and building an awareness in an area where there isn't much training. She did some research back in 2017 and there was smart training through homeland security that was offered through the University of Maryland which incorporated radicalization. She wasn't sure if social media concepts were included but she thought that could be something NSHE partnered with and there was continuing education later down the road on those concepts. Or if it was something that could be utilized as training for the threat assessment teams.

Vice-Chair Ravin asked the members if they wanted to have any further discussion on this topic.

Member Peixoto said he knew that state statutes required threat assessment screening but pertaining to suicide he wanted to know if Member Grennan thought the social media and radicalization could be something they could add to the screener.

Member Grennan said she thought the concept was something they needed to build out further. She mentioned this was just the beginning of the discussion, and they would need to develop it more and pick the correct pathway to do so. She said behavioral assessments were out of her wheelhouse since she is in emergency management. She asked the council if there was anyone that could speak more about threat assessments.

Vice-Chair Ravin suggested he could invite Dr. Grezal from the University of Pittsburg to give a 30-minute presentation to the committee since he has done a lot of work with threat assessment from a psychiatry perspective.

Member Peixoto said he would fully support that.

Member Blackeye thought it would be a good idea to invite local crisis teams to be present during the meeting so they could add invite to what we are doing locally in Nevada.

Vice-Chair Ravin thought these were great ideas. To be mindful of time they could have one or two subject matter experts who could engage the committee back and forth following the presentation and have other attendees wait until public comment to make brief statements relevant to the topic.

Member Rodriguez asked if they were looking for experts to give a briefing or give resources out for recruitment from dangerous groups.

Vice-Chair Ravin his understanding was they were looking for someone from Clark or Washoe County to educate the committee on current processes like what happens when there is a concern brought up to the school that someone may be getting radicalized through social media apps.

Member Rodriguez mentioned that he believed we had some resources at the state who could educate the committee on this issue. He said he could reach out to someone from their intact center to speak.

Vice-Chair Ravin said he liked the idea. If said if Member Rodriguez could find one to two experts, could he please convey the information to Jeremy for the purpose of future agenda planning. The council may want to consider breaking the topic up into two meetings because one meeting may not be enough time to get through everything.

Jeremy Silva asked Member Rodriguez to cc him on any correspondence, so he knows who to reach out to for the next meeting.

### **Student Safety Panel**

Jeremy Silva asked if there was a date for the student panel.

Vice-Chair Ravin said it would be helpful to have it done early, but he didn't have sufficient information to share with the group regarding the time it may take to get the panel together and Chair Anderson to identify the questions. The committee would still need to review and approve before they go to the panel.

Jeremy Silva said he wanted to confirm that they will be pushing back agenda item number four until the next meeting.

Vice-Chair Ravin said that was correct.

## **Future Agenda Items**

Vice-Chair Ravin asked if anyone had any suggestions for future agenda items.

Jeremy Silva said he would really like it if they added pupil transportation to the agenda. He said too many kids are getting hit to and from school due to e-bikes, e-scooters, buses, and walking.

Vice-Chair Ravin mentioned last week he heard on the news last week that we just surpassed last year's record of students injured in or around school zones. He mentioned they did have a presentation in the past about unsafe driving in school zones in Nevada. He asked the committee if they felt they had enough information to put it as a recommendation and put it on the agenda for the next meeting or if they needed to hear more from the experts on the topic.

Member ORavin said at his school they have increased the security for school zones. He wasn't sure how effective it had been, but he thought having more security officers could be more effective and it could be a possible recommendation. He said it could deter people from speeding if they saw more security around schools.

Jeremy Silva asked Member ORavin if he knew the range in which the school had increased security around the school.

Member ORavin said they increased it another block in both directions.

Jeremy Silva mentioned he know Member ORavin went to a private school. He asked if this would be possible for public schools.

Member Peixoto said he believed that it was up to each school district transportation department and for private schools they probably set their own rules within their administrative building.

Jeremy Silva asked Member ORavin if his school had a transportation department

Member ORavin said he wasn't sure.

Member Battle asked if it would serve the committee to invite transportation directors from bigger districts in for a conversation to get their take on what they are seeing. If we could get some input firsthand whether it be a presentation or a conversation on how we could help advocate for them.

Member Blackeye said he thought that was a great idea. He said in the south they formed a group with three components education, enforcement, and design with traffic engineers. There is also a policy group as well. So, it involves all the jurisdictions and with the special session coming up they are trying to get some measures that they feel are important for traffic safety to be considered. If the group would like to hear some of that, he recommends having Director Andrew Bennet from Clark County attend the meeting and share what the group is doing as far work going on right now and some of the recommendations he feels would be appropriate for the entire state. He heads up all the safety groups and responds to all fatal accidents in Clark County regardless of where it's at.

Vice-Chair Ravin said it would be important for the committee to get some additional information on the topic. He asked Jeremy Silva if he could find the meeting date where they had the presentation on the study with compliance on speed limits so committee members could refresh their memory.

Jeremy Silva said the previous speaker was from UNR, her name was Dr. Park, she spoke on the area of

traffic safety in February 2025. He said he would add Director Bennet to the agenda for the November meeting.

**Public Comment #2**

There was no public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT 4:04 PM**

Recording of this meeting and all other School Safety Committee Meetings can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/@NevadaSchoolSafetyCommittee>