

**STATEWIDE COUNCIL FOR THE COORDINATION OF THE REGIONAL
TRAINING PROGRAMS**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024

2:00 P.M.

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

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE MEETING

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Sarah Cunningham (Proxy – via videoconference)
2. Jennifer Black (via videoconference)
3. Denise Trakas (via videoconference)
4. Adam Young (via videoconference)
5. Pam Teel (via videoconference)

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

In Las Vegas

1. Daisy Marglin
2. Cindi Chang

In Carson City

1. Heather Crawford-Ferre

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE (via videoconference)

1. Ben Dickson (Director NWRPDP)
2. Chelli Smith (Director SNRPDP)
3. Jason Lillebo
4. Amy Prosser
5. Jarrad Barczyszyn (Assistant Director SNRPDP)
6. Annie Hicks (Director NNRPDP)
7. Desiree Gray
8. Danielle Kremp
9. Jana Marby
10. Treena Parker
11. Suzie Hinrichsen
12. Katie King
13. Jeanine Collin

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

Meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. by Chair Adam Young. Quorum was established. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Pam Teel.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

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

3. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 19, 2023, MINUTES

Chair Young asked if there was a motion to approve the October 19, 2023, meeting minutes.

Member Teel moved to approve the October 19, 2023, meeting minutes with the addition to make a change on page 8 of 9, fixing Denise Trakas to Member Trakas. Member Trakas seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4. INFORMATION, DISSCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FY24 BUDGET AMENDMENTS PURSUANT TO NRS 391.A130

Chair Young asked RPDP directors if they had anything they wanted to share with the amendments, if any of the council members had any questions for the Directors, or if there was anything they wanted on the record.

Director Annie Hicks of the NNRPD stated that their budget amendment was due to the conclusion of salary negotiations between their fiscal agent and the teachers' contract which significantly impacted the budget due to the need to increase the amount set aside for salaries and benefits.

Chair Young asked if there were any other comments. There were none.

Member Teel moved to approve the FY24 budget amendments pursuant to NRS 391A.130. Member Black seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BUDGET ENHANCEMENTS PUSUANT TO NRS 391A.130

Chair Young stated at the last meeting the RPDP budgets that were purposed were flat budgets from previous fiscal years. As Director Annie Hicks mentioned a moment before, as fiscal agents negotiate with employees for higher rates of pay, that will impact the program budget because personnel costs are going to take up a larger portion of that budget based on what those negotiations might be. If there is a flat budget then clearly there are fewer revenues to be able to conduct the types of business that is helpful for our school districts and our teachers. In discussions with several of the people on this call and as a statewide council we do not have authority to do much about that. We can add our voice as a unifying agent amongst the three RPDP's to the state education agency, legislators, Governor's office, to relay the context of the problem and how it is negatively impacting the way we want to provide learning opportunities for our teachers. He said that is the purpose of this item. Chair Young invited the RPDP representatives to briefly share some of the limitations and how this plays out and affects day-to-day business operations. His hope was that they, as a statewide council, can have some type of rallying cry, position statement, lettering of posting to present to the fiscal folks for an enhancement for the RPDP's so they can have the funds they need to complete the work in the biennium.

Director Chelli Smith of the SNRPDP said they just completed their negotiations and with that completion they saw the writing on the wall. To make those numbers work they had to cut 2 ½ positions from last year to this year. Which left them shorter than they already were. She stated that from a historical perspective around the 2008 biennial budget the RPDP in the south had 42 trainers employed. Currently, they are down to 17 full-time and 7 half-time contracted consultants. They have been cut by 50%, which impacts the amount of work they can do. She mentioned that their professional development providers are working 12-13 hours a day and it is hard to see how exhausted they are. In April when the budget enhancements need to be submitted, they will be requesting a number of positions, possibly up to ten employees just in the SNRPDP. That will come with a pretty extensive price tag but if you look at the trend historically, they are operating on 40% fewer dollars than they were at that peak time and it has never been restored. A budget enhancement was submitted in the last biennium and it was not accepted. They will move forward to try and get more support from the people that they provide services to, in order to make this happen for the good of everyone. You can only work people so hard before they venture on to different pastures. The money trend is helping but they need more boots on the ground. Number one, to do the work the kind of work that is needed and to follow up with new and exciting innovations. In the South, they are working with new teachers in order to keep them in the districts so they don't fall out, which is an extensive project right there.

Chair Young asked if there were any questions for Director Chelli Smith. There were none.

Director Hicks wanted to build on what Director Smith shared just for current context. In the Northeast due to the recent salary negotiations, over 90% of their budget goes to just salaries and benefits which has substantially impacted their ability to travel within the region to provide professional learning support in person. With an operating budget of essentially 3% they have had to make a number of changes mid-year to the work they do with their districts and their schools. She said one thing that she appreciates greatly is the support of their regional superintendents who have jumped right in to help and are understanding of the necessary changes. However, as the landscape continues to change in education, they need to consider the needs of their educators and leaders that are greater than ever. In their context, they are operating on the fewest resources both between personnel and travel costs than ever before. She said they would appreciate being considered for a budget enhancement in the upcoming biennium, and she welcomed any questions from the council.

Member Black asked if they were doing any virtual options since travel is so expensive or if they have had to cut back on those as well.

Director Hicks said they have expanded quite a number of virtual professional learning support opportunity options and they have also worked with their districts and schools to try and consolidate travel. For example, instead of traveling multiple times within a month they try to travel once or twice to try and reduce costs those ways. She also wanted to add that some superintendents within their region have helped with travel expenses when appropriate. Which has been helpful

because it has allowed them to continue doing those in person supports in the way they had intended to do at the beginning of the year and then had to figure out quickly how to adjust.

Member Teel wanted to clarify if the ask was for two different time frame enhancements: an enhancement in April for the rest of FY24 and an enhancement for the next biennium.

Director Hicks thanked her for the question. She said to clarify the NNRPDP and the NWRPDP are pursuing not an enhancement but they are requesting additional funds to cover the salaries and benefits above the original budget for the current fiscal year FY24. That request will go before the interim finance committee in February. In the meeting materials attached they would have seen two contingency fund request letters from the NE and the NW. So, yes, this is for that fiscal year. Also, collectively as an RPDP plan to request an enhancement through positions in the biennium in the legislative session in 2025.

Director Smith of the SNRPDP wanted to clarify why the SN was not requesting any kind of contingency funds. The reason was because they have already made cuts to staffing and the contingency funds have to be expended in an appropriate amount of time. They would not have the opportunity to hire people back because the budget has already been requested.

Chair Young asked if there were any other questions before they moved on to the NWRPDP. There were none.

Director Ben Dickson of the NWRPDP said he would echo what his fellow directors said concerning cuts and changes in staffing. He stated that being new to the position he did not have the historical context that they brought, however they too had to make significant cuts. Their previous director Sara Cunningham did a wonderful job of planning for cuts but they've had to make cuts on top of what they had planned for. They looked at about \$132,000.00 in salary adjustments that they had to cut out of their general budget to cover their salaries. That came in the form of cutting all their contractors. They also had to make cuts in their travel. One of the big areas they made cuts in was in the form of training materials for their participants, such as books. They did this almost as an incentive for teachers to participate. Which worked out very well, but unfortunately that was an area where they had to make cuts to cover those salaries. They will be asking for an enhancement through the IFC to cover those costs and hopefully be able to provide those materials to their participants again.

Chair Young opened the floor to the council members for any questions or comments. He then stated his hope for agenda item number five was not only to approve these enhancements that are being sought in the interim session for the northeast and the northwest but also to be a voice of support for all three directors as they build their budgets for the next legislative session. He said he knew it was a given that the council supports those things but he wanted to put that on the record. In conjunction with that with gearing up for the IFC meeting that occurs in February, he would be able to write a letter to the IFC that saying that this council has supported these enhancements in the

interim session that are being sought in the northeast and northwest just to maintain the services that they have been able to provide so that there's not a reduction in those as they go into FY24.

Member Trakas wanted to know if the council needs to approve those contingency funds since the roll of the board is also to approve budget amendments.

Director Smith SNRPDP said their understanding when they had a conversation with NDE was that they put forth through their line items and then it did not have to be approved. Obviously, it has to be approved through several other entities beyond just IFC. She believed the process was a little different. She thought the support was very helpful but she was not sure that it goes for approval.

Heather Crawford-Ferre said although it goes through an NDE process it would be prudent for the council to approve that process in addition to the letter that Chair Young has mentioned to show support for the request that was being put forward.

Member Trakas made a motion to approve the contingency funds for the two RPDP's for FY24. Member black seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair Young stated he would write a letter that discusses what their concerns are. He said they will include the letter in the materials for the IFC. He mentioned that believed they could and should do more to make the needs known as opposed to just approving budgets and dispersing administrative funds.

6. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDS

Chair Young stated the \$100,000.00 the council receives has been dispersed in various ways over the years. This year they had three entities requesting funding and they were only able to provide funds to two of them. The amount of funding they receive has remained flat at \$100,000.00 for a number of years, certainly since he has been a council member. He said the question asked at the last meeting was can the council request a budget enhancement themselves so that they can continue to support the good leadership development work that those funds are intended for?

Heather Crawford-Ferre said there were two issues; the contingency funds that are immediate relief and the budget enhancement moving forward for the next legislative session. The item which they asked for on the agenda around administrative funds would fall into the second camp. If they were seeking budget enhancement in the next legislative session that would be dedicated to administrative funds. That would go through the budget build process. The RPDP directors will be working closely with NDE as they move towards legislative build. She said she was sure that they have heard the requests from committee members and would be happy to speak with them about what types of enhancements as a committee that they would like to consider as they work on the budget enhancement request and as it goes through the process the committee would be kept apprised as things progress.

Chair Young asked the council members if the \$100,000.00 in funds that they receive was written in the code that is associated with the council. His understanding was that it was.

Heather Crawford-Ferre stated she also believed that was true but she would work to verify that.

Chair Young asked if the council was to seek more funds than the \$100,000.00 so that perhaps more than two grantees can be awarded those funds or more funds can go to one or two grantees as the cost of business has increased significantly in the last number of years. Is there a desired enhancement dollar amount that the council is seeking and what would that be?

Member Trakas asked if the council asked for additional funding for that pot of money, would they be looking at that being taken away from the enhancements that the RPDP's will be seeking? Is it the same pot of money and would the council end up competing with them on the floor services or is the idea to ask for everything and see what happens?

Chair Young said he thought that was a great question. He mentioned the way he thought about it since the council exists as their own entity it would be an addition to. Saying just because that was how he saw it did not mean others would see it the same way. However, if it were to be viewed as the council could get the enhancement or it could go to the RPDP themselves, his opinion was it would be better served by the people that are doing the work, day in and day out.

Member Teel stated she was on the council when it came to be, and originally when the additional \$100,000.00 was given to the council it was surprising for those council members that it was not just given to the RPDP to ensure that they were doing what they needed to do. To her it became a bit of an obstacle around allowing the quality work that the RPDP's were doing and use the money. It became another thing that the council had to tackle and figure out how to disperse. If she were up to her the money would go back into the pot and the RPDP would be allowed to do what they need to do with it with the quality work they are doing. That said she did also worry if they ask for an enhancement, they would be saying they really love the way they did that.

Member Black agreed. She did not want it to take away from the enhancements. She did not know how they would get an answer to that. She said she thought LION and NASA are doing great work but she did agree statewide for the specific needs of what the districts are getting from the RPDP's is more important in her opinion. She did not want it to distract from that.

Chair Young said he agreed. He then asked if there was any other discussion for item six.

Member Trakas mentioned that it would be worthwhile to get clarification on whether or not there will be two different pots, so that they have that verified information for any future discussions.

Chair Young asked Heather Crawford-Ferre to provide that clarification as they moved forward to the next meeting.

Heather Crawford-Ferre said yes, she would get clarification.

7. INFORMATION

Chair Young invited the RPDP directors to share some of the work they are doing. He then asked Director Smith to go first.

Director Smith said the Assistant Director from pretty much all the RPDP's, Jerrad Barczynsyn would start.

Jerrad Baraczszyn from the SNRPDP mentioned at the last meeting the council asked for them to share some current highlights and struggles, so they put together a brief overview of what they have been experiencing to share with the council.

Director Hicks stated that she invited two of her professional learning leaders to share some of the new initiatives that they are supporting within their region. The NNRPDP serves six districts: White Pine, Eureka, Humboldt, Elko, Lander, and Pershing counties. She said she would like to first invite Dr. Darl Kiernan to share about what they are doing to support multilingual learners within the region and secondly to invite Treena Parker to share about the work they are doing to support schools through the revised continuous improvement process.

Dr. Darl Kiernan was having technical issues. Director Hicks asked if she could invite Treena Parker to share, to give Dr. Kiernan a couple of minutes to figure out the issue.

Treena Parker Professional Learning Leader with NNRPDP said they have been involved in an exciting project for the past couple of years. When the state revised the school performance plan process to include the continuous improvement process NNRPDP supported schools in their region with the change. Successfully supporting schools to think about it as a living, guiding document that they create considering ways to make the process more meaningful for schools and hopefully lightening the load for administrators and providing an outside lenses as thinking partners in the process. Schools can partner with them in various ways, usually they are involved in the preparation. For instance, helping with the data, helping pose questions, helping schools consider the kinds of data they might use or collect if they don't have data to inform goals around the three inquiry areas: student success, adult learning, culture and connectiveness. Those are some of the things that they do to help prepare for a really successful continuous improvement process. She said schools have opportunities to partner with them and participate in the facilitation part. Sometimes they facilitate the entire process for the school, sometimes they co-facilitate the process with the administrator, and sometimes they are a thinking partner for the administrator to consider things that they can better facilitate in the process themselves. Regardless of which way they do that, it has been very successful. One of the best things about it is that they provide a direct line to schools for professional learning. It's been a really good opportunity. Last year they partnered with 11 schools, this year they partnered with 16 schools, and they hope to continue to do the work.

Dr. Kiernan wanted to take the opportunity to thank everyone for being there and letting her share three initiatives they have underway in their region for multilingual learners. The first is a region wide offering in partnership with the Nevada Department of Education's English Language Learner program. She will be piloting a section on English language development 201, and this will be a 15-hour online course. The overarching goal of the course is to compare content educators to more effectively support multilingual learners access to academic content while simultaneously developing their English language proficiency. The second initiative is a result of a request from one of their districts to provide professional learning to all of their principals, assistant principals, language acquisition specialists, and that group includes coaches and paraprofessionals. They are working in partnership with central office administration and also within that they are supporting

four schools within the district that are implementing a corrective action plan aligned with the requirements of AB2.19. Approximately 250 leaders, educators, and paraprofessionals in the district participate in the monthly offerings. Their third initiative is an elementary speaking and writing cohort and that is in partnership with the districts' EL coordinator and in that work, she provides monthly professional learning for a group of teachers and paraprofessionals. It's opt-in professional learning that occurs at a title one school and the goal of that work is to advance students' speaking and writing skills.

Director Hicks thanked Dr. Kiernan and she handed off the presentation to Director Dickson and his staff in the NWRPDP.

Director Dickson NWRPDP said they were going to highlight two of their projects. They have a number of things going on and as the PowerPoint showed they support six districts: Carson, Churchill, Douglas, Lyon, Storey, and Washoe counties. Amy Prosser will start it off by talking about early childhood education endorsement program which is a collaboration with the SNRPDP and the NWRPDP.

Amy Prosser said Suzie Hinrichsen would start them off and she would finish up.

Suzie Hinrichsen with the SNRPDP said she is the early childhood literacy trainer. In the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, she and Sara Cunningham, who was the director of the NNRPDP at the time, began collaborating to create required classes for an early childhood endorsement. The state had recently created a pathway for licensed teachers who hold a current license and have a minimum one-year experience teaching students six and under to earn the endorsement. She and Sara created a syllabus outline and course map template that would ensure consistency across the four courses that they selected from the endorsement options. Using NWRPDP funds from a state DAP grant they recruited teachers and leaders from across the state to help develop the courses. They selected 8 teachers and leaders representing five different counties to write the classes. Each was passionate about the need for qualified early childhood teachers and the use of age-appropriate development practices in early childhood. The NWRPDP hired an additional two teachers this year to help teach their classes. Once the state approved the courses they created, they were able to partner with SUU to offer the 12 graduate credits at a very reasonable cost.

Amy Prosser Pre-K through third grade literacy facilitator for the NWRPDP said after the courses were developed, they held multiple interest meetings last Spring and they had about 150 educators from around the state that attended those meetings. From the applications that came from those meetings they submitted from this year's cohort, they prioritized applicants from their rural districts as well as any teachers who were already teaching Pre-K on an emergency license. For the current school year, they have two cohorts going with 55 educators total. Six counties are represented, four from northern Nevada and two from southern Nevada and some of the participants are currently teaching Pre-K and needed their endorsement as soon as possible while others are just getting the endorsement to expand their teaching opportunities. Their participants have been very conscientious

and have had just a really great group of teachers who turned in really high-quality work, their reflections are amazing, and they expressed a lot of gratitude for provision of the endorsement. She wanted to share six examples of the comments they have received:

- 1) “This was really one of the most important classes I’ve taken in my career. I’ve really taken so much of this to heart even more than I already believed and feel very moved to make change.”
- 2) “I have learned so many benefits to play that it would be a disservice to my students if I didn’t provide this opportunity for them.”
- 3) “I want to spread my knowledge of the importance of play to my colleagues, admin, family, and friends. I want others to know just how important play is for their development.”
- 4) “I’m so excited that I now have two classes under my belt for the early childhood endorsement. I can’t wait for the next two!”
- 5) “Thank you for breathing inspiration and life into my teacher toolbox to help me advocate and be the best I can for my kids.”
- 6) “Thank you for an amazing, refreshing, mind blowing, and instruction changing course.”

Amy Prosser thanked the council for the opportunity to share.

Director Dickson said they would like to talk about multicultural education and the parent involvement of family engagement courses. He stated Dessiree Gray has been their lead in that in the NW and he welcomed her to talk about her work and what it looked like.

Dessiree Gray stated that she works for the NWRPDP and as Director Dickson mentioned she helps facilitate the parent engagement class and the multicultural education classes. The parent engagement course is a state licensure requirement. It emphasizes building relationships with parents and developing an understanding and appreciation of diverse families. Participants are always very grateful for the class. They do an application project in which they look at their evaluation protocol as well as parent teacher association standards and they put together a very usable plan that they implement at their school sites. They share all the information and documentation with each other and it’s always appreciated to have those ideas and research shared. In the fall semester they had approximately 35 professionals who successfully completed the parent involvement class. They currently have two sessions that are running. There is an elementary session with 35 teachers, a secondary session with 38 professionals, and an upcoming spring session with about 75 people. By the end of the school year, they will have helped approximately 200 teachers remove the provision from their teaching license. Right now, there is a great urgency for teachers and administrators who have this provision on their license to be able to have an affordable high-quality option so that they can get the provision removed. In addition, she helps facilitate the multicultural education class, which is also a requirement for teachers to complete after their initial license and before they can renew their license. Right now, there is a huge push for this class and they are running as many sections as possible. The course emphasizes an awareness of race and ethnicity and how it connects to so many factors. Teachers always appreciate the selection and resources for using culturally authentic materials and assessments and enjoy the collaboration between all different grade levels on how they can better support students in the

classroom. In the fall semester they ran two sections with 71 professionals. They currently have three sessions going on. There are 35 in Washoe county school district, rural districts have 31, and in charter schools they have 35. In their upcoming spring sessions, they already have 80 people who are enrolled and their hope is, by the end of the year, to have helped way over 250 teachers to renew their license. With both of the classes there is a fierce urgency that teachers feel because some teachers get it done right away, other teachers it slips their mind, and for some it's a need now kind of thing. They are definitely bursting at the seams when it comes to those two required courses. Lastly, she thanked the council for her opportunity to share and welcomed questions when the time was appropriate.

Director Dickson said Dessiree really brought up a great point, the two courses are on teachers licenses to be removed and they have seen a huge number of teachers and districts reach out to them to the point where they are running a waitlist. He said in his short time as the director it has been an eye-opening experience to see the surmountable roll the RPDP plays in supporting teachers.

Jerrad Barczyszyn Assistant Director of the SNRPDP said they are led by Director Chelli Smith and they are actively involved in all five regions: Clark, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Mineral, and Nye. They also work with the charter authority and charter schools particularly in the Las Vegas area. He stated early childhood was very important this year and he invited Suzie Hinrichsen to share and showcase somethings about the program and some of the other things they are doing in the South.

Suzie Hinrichsen stated they told the council a little bit about the early childhood education endorsement program but she also wanted to let everyone know it is a year long program. When teachers commit, they commit to a full year attending every Tuesday night. Her hope was that with the messages that were shared by Amy, those would help to show the difference they make as well as the great impact the program is having on teachers. Another thing she wanted to share with the council was about their early childhood spring conference. Last year they held one that was just for Pre-K and Kindergarten teachers. There were about 250 teachers and leaders from across the state who attended the conference. This year they invited first grade teachers as well and they expect to have 350 participants. They will have the author of *7 Mighty Moves* as a keynote speaker. The conference will have a variety of representatives; from classroom teachers, state leaders, and district leaders who will also be presenting session workshops. They have contingencies coming from many different counties not just those in southern Nevada. The cost is \$30.00 for each participant and the first 300 participants who sign up will get a free copy of the book.

Jerrad Barczyszyn said he also wanted to showcase their computer science work and mentioned again how this is a joint effort between all of the RPDPs. Jerrad mentioned their Computer Science programs are spearheaded by two people in the south, and he invited Jason Lillebo and Danielle Krempp to share.

Jason Lillebo from SNRPDP said the RPDP has been the code.org partner for Nevada since 2017. In that there have been 336 workshops that have been completed across the state with 5,635 teachers who have taken part in them. They have a statewide team of educators who provide

workshops that cover Computer Science fundamentals at the elementary level, CS discoveries from middle school, and CS principles and AP CSAs for high schoolers. The elementary workshops are a full day and include training on code.org and curriculum, as well as general Computer Science standards knowledge. For programs 6-12 grade level teachers attend a five-day summer workshop and have four quarterly academic year workshops for discoveries and principles. While for CSA they have monthly half day academic workshops. Funding support for these workshops comes from code.org, the Nevada Legislator, and a multi-year donation from Tesla. As in many other areas of Computer Science, Nevada shines nationally in their work with code.org, who has also received recognition. Just this past November SCEdCon the Computer Science conference held by code.org in Las Vegas RPDP received a special award for having the most K-5 code.org teachers in 2023.

Danielle Krempp from SNRPDP said in terms of highlights regarding their work from the past two years, they partnered with code.org to create Nevada standards aligned with K-5 curriculum. As of now, Nevada is the only one to have courses specifically for our state. They created a companion website called codenv.org to help teachers access curriculum and professional development. They have been flexible in working with various sized districts in Nevada to help meet their needs. For instance, in Clark County they worked with district level Computer Science administrators to develop a program where representatives from school sites received training and they take that training back to their colleagues. With Clark County's large size this model has helped to reach more teachers and students while extending the longevity of the funding. In smaller county's, like Lincoln for instance, they have had the opportunity to provide training for every teacher.

Jason Lillebo stated aside from their work with code.org they also team with the other two RPDPs to provide computer science endorsement coursework for teachers. They can choose from either a 9-graduate introductory endorsement or a 12-graduate credit advancement endorsement and teachers can complete the program within one school year.

Danielle Krempp said they offer K-5 PLC's three times each school year, the meetings are held virtually, and are open to teachers throughout the state. This gives teachers the chance to stay up to date with the content they provide, collaborate with other teachers, and ask questions. They offer support through observation and mentoring, one on one meetings, and designing professional development.

Jeson Lillebo said they recognize that computer science is often an unfamiliar topic for administrators and so because of that they have offered 13 half day administrator trainings since 2022 and 134 principals and assistant principals have taken part in those trainings. Their goal is to keep Nevada as one of the shining star leaders in Computer Science in the United States.

Director Hicks finished up the rest of their presentation by saying their current area of greatest need is the ability to increase the staff so they can expand the available support across the state. It has been a challenge for them to maintain the personnel levels with salary and benefits costs increasing along with travel and supply costs increasing. In spite of all those challenges they feel like they

were able to provide substantial support. She thanked the council for the opportunity to share their highlights and challenges and she opened the floor to comments or questions.

Member Teel mentioned that she believed they did a great job on the presentation.

Member Black stated that she has benefited from several RPDP sessions and she also attended the CS for leaders so she could educate herself. She said she is on board to advocate for those advancements.

Member Trakas stated that she is a cohort member in their computer science endorsement and currently partaking in several opportunities that RPDP offers. She thanked them for their hard work and for rising to the challenge.

Chair Young thanked them for all their hard work and all their time and said the council would advocate for them. He went on to say that item eight was based on a conversation he had with Superintendent Jhone Ebert inquiring about the level of awareness that the statewide council had with Portrait of a Learner. It is being lead through NDE, Knowledge Works, and Ed extraordinary.

8. INFORMATION

Jeanine Collin from Ed extraordinary began sharing the Portrait of a Learner PowerPoint. She mentioned that their work kicked off in October 2022 and they had about 200 Nevadans from across the state come together in Las Vegas to dig into the concepts of who they want and need young people to be. They posed the question, “What are the human mindsets and skills that are going to be critical in work, life, and building successful communities, and what is the role in school to help us get there?” You can find more information about their collective process with this at nvfutureoflearning.org.

Katie King from Knowledge Works continued on with the presentation saying they were excited about where they are in the work and what is coming next. They are designing their all-network convening on March 2, 2024, in Reno, NV. She invited anyone in the meeting to attend the convening so that they could observe firsthand of the work of the participants. They will be working and connecting the dots with the strands of work in real time. She said given RPDPs critical role, they hope that representation from them would be possible on the district teams, so that all the work they are doing is connected and aligned with the work they are doing. She thanked the council for their time.

Chair Young asked the council if they had any questions.

Member Teel said aligning the partnership with Future of a Learner would be huge.

Member Black agreed with Teel. They need to look at things differently in schools and she hoped this would be something that could take off and how schools are rated can be looked at differently rather than just test scores and numbers and we can prepare our students to be successful citizens.

Chair Young thanked everyone for sharing and said his district has been involved with a good portion of the work and it is very exciting. He stated, if approached correctly it will reshape what we aligned everything to in our education system. There has to be some fundamental shifts in the policy of their state if they hope to make progress towards an education system that meets the needs of students and it has to be student centered. That will take more than just high stakes testing. There is a lot of work that needs to be done and the alignment piece is critical. He wanted to reiterate the encouragement for people across agencies to engage in this and go to the convenings. He invited the people in the council and the RPDP members to attend the convenings in March. He then asked for a reminder of the date for the next meeting.

Heather Crawford-Ferre said the next scheduled meeting will be on March 28, 2024, at 2:00 pm and the following meeting will be on June 6, 2024, at 2:00 pm.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Young asked if there were any items that council members wanted to see on the next agenda.

Member Trakas said she wondered if on March 28, 2024, they could calendar out another year of meetings.

Chair Young said he thought that was a great idea to discuss at the next meeting.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

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

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Young adjourned the meeting at 3:40 pm.