



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

<i>Name of Organization:</i>	Nevada Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Education Subcommittee
<i>Date and Time of Meeting:</i>	Tuesday, October 4, 2022 4:00 PM
<i>Place of Meeting:</i>	Virtual: Zoom Meeting Materials can be found here: Home (nv.gov)

NOTE: Items on this agenda may be taken in a different order than listed. Two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration. An item may be removed from this agenda or discussion relating to an item on this agenda may be delayed at any time.

Minutes of this meeting will be produced in summary format. Please provide the Commission administrative support with electronic or written copies of testimony and visual presentations if you wish to have complete versions included as exhibits with the minutes.

1. Roll Call & Opening Statement:
Eric Wilcox, Chair
 - Members: Eric Wilcox, Felicia Rutledge, Shawna Goldhammer, Maureen Fradianni, Megan Johnson
 - Accommodations: Jamie Jaramillo; interpreter, Tory Jaramillo; interpreter, Becky Van Auken; Captioner
 - Staff: Obioma Officer; Executive Director, Lisa Torres; Community Engagement Manager, Lorraine Belt-Dolan; Administrative Assistant
 - Guests: Cheyenne Pasquale, Danielle Knoepfel, Kristi Notestein, Laura Fink, Carie Hornby Daniels
2. Public Comment:(No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. Comments will be limited to five minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)
 - No Public Comment
2. Approval of Minutes of the April 5, 2022, meeting: (For Possible Action)
Eric Wilcox, Chair
 - Shawna Goldhammer made a motion to approve the minutes, Megan Johnson and Felicia Rutledge seconded, and motion carried.
3. Commission Directive Topis(s):
Eric Wilcox, Chair

- Follow-Up to Public Comment made during Interim Session Committee Meeting on Education:
 - Discussion of Communication Plans in Individual Education Plans Historical Efforts and Updates for Future Efforts/Recommendations for Action (For Possible Action)
 1. Communication plans are an appendix on the IEP that spells out how they are going to address special considerations for Deaf and hard of hearing children that are in the IDEA law. About two years ago the full commission voted and approved passing along as a recommendation to the state and the districts a document produced in the state of Ohio which is a communication plan that could be used as an appendix to the IEP for a Deaf and hard of hearing child and that document includes not just the plan but a bunch of supporting materials on how to use the communication plan.
 2. The question is how we go about advocacy for communication plans as an appendix for these IEP's. One recommendation is a meeting with the Nevada department of Education and ask questions, like What do you do to support the deaf and hard of hearing students here in Nevada?
 3. Going to the teachers that are supposed to implement the IEP's as opposed to starting at the top where they may not know what an IEP is or haven't met any deaf children.
 4. Discussion was had around the idea of a statewide audit of the IEP's and communications plans and language acquisition for Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
 - Discussion and Updates on Emergency Alert System/Protocol for School Settings for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Students and Staff Safety Recommendations for Action (For Possible Action)
 1. Erin Wilcox of Nevada Hands and Voices is currently working on a pilot project with Hidden Valley elementary school in Washoe County on this topic.
 2. Currently there is no system in place for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing children in the Clark County School District and parents are concerned after the last massacre in Texas.
4. Community/Committee Concern Topic(s) if any presented from previous meeting needing address (if not already addressed in Commission Directive):
Eric Wilcox, Chair
- a. Discussion and Approval of Steps to Address Shortage of Teachers of the Deaf, Streamline Path to Licensure of Teacher of the Deaf in Nevada, and Expanding Expertise in both American Sign Language and Listening and Spoken Language Education in Schools (For Possible Action)
 1. One suggestion was to look at the state to separate the licensure, I'm licensed, I have the skills to teach American Sign Language or whatever this group decides versus its' a very different model to be a teacher that works with students that use listening and spoken language.
 2. Another suggestion is to add mentoring like what the CAS does with interpreters as part of the alternate licensing route.
5. Executive Director Directive(s)/Maintenance Need(s):
Obioma Officer, Executive Director
Aging and Disability Services Division – Communication Access Services Team
- a. Discuss and Make Recommendations to the CAS Program for a Possible school District Language Acquisition Incubator Program (For Possible Action)
 1. Cheyenne Pasquale represented CAS. One of the challenges that has been experienced throughout the state regarding language acquisition in educational settings. The CAS program has done a lot of different things to try and do what they can, the interpreting mentoring program is doing a lot of work with educational interpreters.

2. We'd like to offer a competitive Notice of Funding Opportunity that is open to the school districts of Nevada to apply for capacity projects that would give them one-time funding to meet language acquisition requirements. We're coming to the subcommittee to get ideas on what that might look like. This would be a one-time funding to build an infrastructure for growth or incubator and would be competitive between the school districts, we wouldn't necessarily be able to fund every school district.
 3. One possibility is targeting the specific NRS's that deal with language acquisitions and projects that help meet those needs. School districts could give us an idea for a project that they want like acquiring sky high curriculum to look at those language and be able to differentiate between American Sign Language and listening and spoken language to get the milestones to make sure that we meet them.
 4. Another idea brought up was support for the families, maybe a program to teach ASL to families so they can communicate. This has not been a consistent option for families.
 5. One point brought up is that this may be something better offered to NEIS program as language acquisition is to be taken care of by the age 6.
6. Discussion and Approval of Recommendations to the Commission related to items brought forth in this meeting: (For Possible Action)
- Eric Wilcox, Chair
- Teacher of the Deaf item, Obioma and Eric getting a meeting with a member of the board and Megan and Shawna fleshing out what mentorship might look like.
 - Clarification on SB203 have they responded to us, check in with Cat Rexing on progress.
7. Review, Discuss Tentative Agenda Items for January 3, 2023, meeting @ 4 PM (tentative date & time):
- Eric Wilcox, Chair
- Results from the meeting with NDE, what information we can collect from that and if we can get the money can we do an audit and how do we go about that.
 - If anyone has any other agenda items they can email Eric for consideration.
8. Public Comment:(No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. Comments will be limited to five minutes per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)
- Dr Danielle Knoepfel offered support for the commission in her contact information is dknoepfel@cox.net or knoepde@nv.ccsd.net
9. Adjournment: 6:00 PM
- Eric Wilcox, Chair

Accommodation Requests and Meeting Materials:

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify Lorraine Belt-Dolan in writing at 3320 W. Sahara, Suite 100, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102, email lorrainebelt@adsd.nv.gov, or NVDeafCommission@adsd.nv.gov 5 business days prior to the meeting.

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Office at 3208 Goni Road, Building I, Suite 181, Carson City, NV. 89706. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at www.adsd.nv.gov and Nevada Public Notices website at www.notice.nv.gov

Supporting public material provided to Commission members for this meeting may be requested from Lorraine Belt-Dolan, Commission Administrative Support, ADSD at (702)486-4307 and is/will be available at the meeting locations and ADSD website at [Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired \(nv.gov\)](http://www.nv.gov)