

# Nevada Commission for Persons Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Education Subcommittee

## MEETING NOTICE

**Date:** February 3, 2026

**Time:** 4:00 PM

**Pursuant to NRS 241.020(3)(a), as amended by Assembly Bill 253 of the 81st Legislative Session, this meeting will be held using remote technology only. The meeting can be listened to via telephone or viewed live over the internet.**

**Join Online:**

Meeting Link: TEAMS Meeting

## DRAFT MINUTES

**Items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson's discretion.**

**1. Roll Call & Opening Statement:**

**Members:** Eric Wilcox, Ph.D., Chair; David Kelsey, Ph.D.; Felicia Rutledge, Ph.D.

**Resigned:** Kimberly Bauer-Schaub, Ph.D. 1/23/2026

**Staff:** Obioma Officer, Executive Director; Wendy Thornley, Administrative Assistant III; Amanda Mata, Administrative Assistant III.

**Guests: CART:** Becky Van Auken; **Interpreters:** Jamie Jaramillo & Sonya Stark  
Shawn McCusker, Becky Van Auken, Laura Fussell, Valarie Martinez, Kathryn Culhane, Beth Jones, Reanna D Stroup, MacKenzie Wilson, Mackenzie.

**2. Public Comment:** No public comment

**3. For Possible Action:** Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve November 4, 2025, draft minutes by Eric Wilcox, Chair.

Felicia Rutledge motioned to approve the draft minutes, Eric Wilcox seconded. Members voted and the motion carried.

**4. For Information Only:** Information and initiation of recruitment of new members as many of the current members are newly appointed commission members. Congratulations to our newly appointed Commission member: Dr. David Kelsey. Being that our bylaws do state that we can only have a maximum of 2 Commission

members per subcommittee, 1 Commissioner has stepped down to increase general community perspective and engagement by Eric Wilcox, Chair.

Please email [NVDeafCommission@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:NVDeafCommission@adsd.nv.gov) for those interested in joining a Subcommittee for the Deaf Commission.

- 5. For Information Only:** Presentation by the Nevada Department of Education (DOE) and Discussion on the implementation of NRS 388.5155 to 388.5195, which outlines critical steps to support language development in children who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind or visually impaired (not to exclude Deaf Blind) in response to NV Commission for Persons who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing approved letter to DOE by Eric Wilcox, Chair.

There has been no response from the Nevada Department of Education, but the subcommittee will continue to reach out.

- 6. For Possible Action:** Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve recommendations presented by Lead-K on effective implementations of the Lead-K Law in surrounding states in efforts to best approach the Commission's advocacy to support the Nevada Department of Education (DOE) as they continue their efforts of implementation of the Law by Eric Wilcox, Chair.

Eric Wilcox has not been able to set up a meeting with Lead-K, but will continue to reach out.

- 7. For Possible Action:** Assign and Vote on a Subcommittee member to surmise following recommended outcomes:
- Lead-K on effective implementations of the Lead-K Law in surrounding states in efforts to best approach the Commission's advocacy
  - Nevada Department of Education (DOE) efforts of implementation of the Law

Assignment: Surmise the above recommended outcomes and provide current recommendations to Committee for further review and revisions during May 5, 2026, Subcommittee meeting by Eric Wilcox, Chair.

Felicia Rutledge volunteered to take Nevada Department of Education (DOE) efforts of implementation of the law. Eric Wilcox volunteered to take Lead-K on effective implementations of the Lead-K Law in surrounding states in efforts to best approach the Commission's advocacy. Felicia and Eric will report on the topics at the next May, 5 2026 Subcommittee meeting.

- 8. For Information Only:** Discussion and Outcomes of the Following Actions Regarding the Approved Education Survey for Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the State of Nevada, to include discussion of interpreter recruitment outcomes for the survey questions interpreted, and updates on current survey status and/or adjustments needed (i.e. dissemination outcomes, number of responses, additional efforts needed, etc.) By Eric Wilcox, Chair.

Eric Wilcox has reached out to CSN but has not received a response. The subcommittee is asking for help from the public to volunteers to help interpret the survey.

David Kelsey will reach out to some of his contacts in the ASL community to see if they are willing to assist.

Reanna Stroup, general public has offered to help, this will also help her with college course credit. The committee was in agreeance to let Reanna help but since this would be for a class project, the committee had concerns on how the survey information would be distributed or used and/or if the already pre-approved questions would need to be changed. Reanna needs approval from her instructor before proceeding and then will follow up with Eric Wilcox.

**9. For Possible Action:** Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve Tentative Agenda Items for the Next meeting, May 5, 2026 by Obioma Officer, Executive Director.

Adding discussion on the initiative through the Legislative Subcommittee to Assist asking the legislature to consider a bill to establish a school for the Deaf in Nevada. No objections from the members.

**10. Public Comment:** Kathryn "Kate" Culhane is interested in joining the subcommittee and will reach out to Obioma to begin the process.

Dolores Hauk suggested reaching out to another Deaf school in other states that may be able to help promote advocacy and give advice with the process of starting a school for the Deaf in Nevada.

**11. Adjournment:** 5:08 pm

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Supporting Materials:** Supporting public materials for this meeting will be available during the meeting, and on the ADSD website: [Education](#) Meeting materials can also be obtained via the Administrative Support Staff listed below.

**Translation Requests:** To request document translation or interpreter, please contact the Administrative Support Staff listed below. Si quiere este documento traducido, por favor escriba a [wthornley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:wthornley@adsd.nv.gov)

**Accommodation Requests:** ADSD program applicants, participants, and board/committee members who require an accommodation may make a request for an ADA accommodation to:

- ADSD Administrative Support in writing (listed below); or,
- Via the [ADSD ADA Inquiry Form](#) located on the ADSD webpage at [ADSD.nv.gov](http://ADSD.nv.gov).

To acquire necessary aids or services, ADSD requires reasonable advance notice, based on the time needed to arrange the requested accommodation (e.g., scheduling interpreters).

**Administrative Support Staff Contact:**

Wendy Thornley  
1550 East College Parkway  
Carson City, NV 89706  
[wthornley@adsd.nv.gov](mailto:wthornley@adsd.nv.gov)

## **AGENDA POSTING LOCATIONS:**

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following locations:

- 1550 E College Parkway, Carson City, NV 89706
- Aging and Disability Services Division webpage: [Nevada Commission for Persons Who Are Deaf Hard of Hearing or Speech Impaired](#)
- Nevada Public Notices webpage: <https://notice.nv.gov/>