



PRESS RELEASE
April 5, 2021

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**Nevada Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights
Announces Public Meetings Focused on Equity in Education Through
Distance Learning**

The Nevada Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will convene a series of public meetings – via webinar – examining equity in education through distance learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially among students in K-16 schools with disabilities and students of color. Members of the public will be invited to speak during an open comment session.

EVENTS: Nevada Advisory Committee Public Meetings

WHEN: Teaching During a Pandemic: The Distance Education Model

April 21, 2021 at 12:00 – 2:30 p.m. PT
Registration: <https://bit.ly/NVSAC42121>
Webex Meeting Number: 199 768 8396
Audio: (800) 360-9505

Education Equity in the Virtual Environment

May 5, 2021 at 12:00 – 2:30 p.m. PT
Registration: <https://bit.ly/NVSAC5521>
Webex Meeting Number: 199 228 2911
Audio: (800) 360-9505

Leveraging Partnerships to Improve Distance Education

May 19, 2021 at 12:00 – 2:30 p.m. PT
Registration: <https://bit.ly/NVSAC51921>
Webex Meeting Number: 199 070 2234
Audio: (800) 360-9505

Meeting materials and presentations will be available before and after the event at <http://bit.ly/NVSAC2021>. These are a continuation of public meetings exploring this topic. Please contact Ana Victoria Fortes (information above) for more details and regarding requests for accessibility.

The Committee will also accept written comments from members of the public. Please send written statements to Ana Victoria Fortes by May 17, 2021.

Vice Chair Sondra Cosgrove said: “As we face the often grave repercussions of actions required to keep our communities safe during this pandemic, we now recognize that some long-standing issues of inequity have risen to crisis levels. Vital civic systems and physical infrastructure are groaning under the constant stress of emergency conditions. Our Committee is, therefore, responding in real-time to concerns that children and families are facing possible irreparable harm. We hope to have recommendations ready to address the trauma of possibly losing the civil rights protections embedded in our education system before it can become a lasting scar.”

**Nevada Advisory Committee
Distance Learning and Equity in Education
Web Hearing Agendas**

Teaching During a Pandemic: The Distance Education Model

April 21, 2021 at 12:00 – 2:30 p.m. PT

- I. Opening Remarks (12:00 – 12:15 p.m.)
- II. Presentations and Q & A (12:15 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.)
 - Brian Zeiszler, Professor, Great Basin College
 - Silvina Jover, Social Studies Teacher, Desert Pines High School
 - Sean Parker, Executive Director, Teach for America Las Vegas
- III. Public Comment (2:10 – 2:25 p.m.)
- IV. Closing Remarks (2:25 – 3:30 p.m.)

Education Equity in the Virtual Environment

May 5, 2021 at 12:00 – 2:30 p.m. PT

- I. Opening Remarks (12:00 – 12:15 p.m.)
- II. Presentations and Q & A (12:15 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.)
 - Athar Haseebullah, Executive Director, ACLU Nevada
 - Dr. Donald Easton-Brooks, Dean of Education, University of Nevada Reno
 - Melissa Almanza, Autism Services Advocate, Autism & Behavioral Consulting Services LLC
 - Lynn Manning-John, Vice Principal, Owyhee Combined School co-presenting with Lance Wester, Principal, Schurz Elementary Middle School
- III. Public Comment (2:10 – 2:25 p.m.)
- IV. Closing Remarks (2:25 – 3:30 p.m.)

Leveraging Partnerships to Improve Distance Education

May 19, 2021 at 12:00 – 2:30 p.m. PT

- I. Opening Remarks (12:00 – 12:15 p.m.)
- II. Presentations and Q & A (12:15 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.)
 - Erin Phillips, President, Power2Parent
 - Representative, Nevada COVID-19 Response, Relief and Recovery Taskforce
- III. Public Comment (2:10 – 2:25 p.m.)
- IV. Closing Remarks (2:25 – 3:30 p.m.)