

Focus on the Future for Kids community updates

Wednesday, September 1, 2021

FOR FORWARDED MESSAGE TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Dear Partners,

Our Focus on the Future for Kids Community Advisory Committee has completed their synthesis process, and we are pleased to share our draft Focus on the Future for Kids community themes and CCSD's community-informed spending priorities. Please see below for the message that was sent to community groups that helped gather input.

We ask for your support as we collect community feedback by:

- Forwarding this email to your stakeholders,
- Sharing the draft community themes and community-informed spending priorities on social media using the content below, and/or
- Completing the feedback survey yourself.

MESSAGE TO GO TO ENGAGED COMMUNITY GROUPS

Dear Community Partners,

Over the past few weeks, you held conversations with your stakeholders, sent out surveys, and asked your partners what they wanted to see in our CCSD schools and how we can use federal funds to jumpstart that vision. We are pleased to share the results of this process with you in the draft Focus on the Future for Kids community themes and CCSD's community-informed spending priorities.

DRAFT THEMES AND SPENDING PRIORITIES button

We welcome your feedback on the draft themes and spending priorities and invite you to share the brief feedback survey with your stakeholders. All survey responses are due by 5 pm on September 7, 2021.

TAKE THE SURVEY button

The finalized priorities will be shared with the Board of School Trustees on September 9th and will include the feedback we received through the survey. The final spending plan will be submitted to the Nevada Department of Education on September 10th. Then, Superintendent Jara and others involved in this process will host Town Halls (virtual and in-person) to share where we landed and next steps.

Please share with your stakeholders!

We encourage everyone to share their feedback on the draft vision and priorities using the brief feedback survey. Below is some suggested content to use on social media and in emails to your stakeholders:

- Thank you for sharing what you want to see in our schools through the Focus on the Future for Kids Community Input Process! See the draft community themes and CCSD's community-informed spending priorities and share your feedback at future.ccsd.net.
- The draft Focus on the Future for Kids community themes and CCSD's community-informed spending priorities are LIVE! Share your feedback at future.ccsd.net. Feedback surveys are due September 7.
- We asked for your input on what you want to see in our schools and how we can use federal funds to support that vision, and you answered! See the draft Focus on the Future for Kids community themes and CCSD's community-informed spending priorities at future.ccsd.net.

CCSD and Nevada elected officials ask for your feedback

CCSD and Nevada elected officials are asking for your feedback on our draft community vision and funding priorities. [Watch the PSA here](#) and share with your stakeholders to encourage them to submit their feedback.

Thank you to our Community Advisory Committee!

Dedicated community members committed their time to synthesizing community input from the Focus on the Future for Kids Community Input Process. We are grateful for their time and effort to support the creation of our community vision. Thank you to our CAC members:

Region 1:

Yohara Delgado

Brandarius Johnson (elected co-facilitator of the group)

Jodi Thornley (elected co-facilitator of the group)

Region 2:

Laura Carroll (elected co-recorder)

AJ Holly Huth (elected co-recorder)

Farahida Jamaluddin

Region 3:

Brenda Guigui

Scott Vyka

Dr. Tonya Walls

Thank you for engaging in the Focus on the Future for Kids Community Input Process. We appreciate your dedication to our public school students.

With gratitude,

The Focus on the Future for Kids Planning Team

Wednesday, August 25, 2021

FOR FORWARDED MESSAGE TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Dear Partners,

We are in the final stages of developing our shared community vision for our schools and funding priorities for approximately \$770 million in American Rescue Plan funds through the Focus on the Future for Kids Community Input Process. Our Community Advisory Committee is in the process of reviewing the input we received from the community, and we look forward to sharing their synthesis next week. Please see the message below, which was sent to our engaged community partners.

MESSAGE TO GO TO ENGAGED COMMUNITY GROUPS

Dear Community Partners,

Thank you for submitting input during the Focus on the Future for Kids Community Input Process!

The Community Advisory Committee is hard at work synthesizing the input we received from the community to develop high-level themes. These themes will inform a **draft** community vision and funding priorities that will be released on Wednesday, September 1, along with your submitted community input reports.

You and your stakeholders will be able to complete a survey sharing your feedback on the draft vision and priorities. All responses must be submitted by Tuesday, September 7 to be included in the final review. We will email you links to the survey next week, and we encourage you to share with your stakeholders.

Community Advisory Committee Update

Community Advisory Committee members are identifying common high-level themes and priorities that your stakeholders identified as the most important when creating our shared community vision for our schools. These themes will inform a draft community vision to be released next week, along with funding priorities identified by our community.

Our Community Advisory Committee is made up of community members who are dedicated to driving our community's vision of the education our kids deserve and ensuring public and private investments are directed where they are needed most. Meet our CAC members:

Region 1:

Yohara Delgado is a parent of a CCSD elementary student who is active at her child's school because she believes that education is a "team sport," including parents, teachers, the community, and the entire district. She applied for the Community Advisory Committee because she is worried that the Hispanic community's needs are not always addressed, and she especially saw inequities during the pandemic when families struggled to connect to digital learning at home. She resides in Las Vegas.

Brandarius Johnson (elected co-facilitator of the group) is a Las Vegas native and graduate of Cimarron-Memorial High School, class of 2010. He earned a degree in sociology and now is a community-based advocate for improved mental health among our youth. He also advocates for improved student-family-community engagement to support student success. He resides in Las Vegas.

Jodi Thornley (elected co-facilitator of the group) is a parent of four CCSD graduates, including two with disabilities. She is a longtime education advocate for students from rural areas, as well as students with disabilities. She applied to serve on the Community Advisory Committee because of her concerns about students struggling during the pandemic, including students who faced barriers to connecting to digital learning, students who felt isolated, and the interruption of therapies provided to students with disabilities. She resides in Mesquite.

Region 2:

Laura Carroll (elected co-recorder) is a parent of two CCSD students who applied for the Community Advisory Committee because of her passion for ensuring inclusive and equitable education and promoting learning opportunities for all. She is currently earning a degree at ASU studying sustainability and has experience in analyzing stakeholder engagement in discussions of complex problems. She resides in Las Vegas.

AJ Holly Huth (elected co-facilitator) is an advocate for LGBTQ+ youth who applied for the Community Advisory Committee because she was worried about the strain and isolation in underserved communities during shutdowns. She has partnered with multiple youth-serving community organizations including The LGBTQ Center of Southern Nevada, Project 150, Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth, and Nevada Partners to address issues of housing insecurity, mental health, substance abuse, and more among our youth. She resides in Las Vegas.

Farahida Jamaluddin is the parent of a CCSD student and an advocate for students with special needs who would benefit from additional resources. She is also interested in expanding enrichment and extracurricular programs, services for gifted students, and resources for students learning a second language. She joined the Community Advisory Committee because she wanted to collaborate to utilize upcoming federal funds to expand educational opportunities through CCSD and ensure students are well rounded and equipped for success upon graduation. She resides in Las Vegas.

Region 3:

Brenda Guigui is a mother and active community member who has worked to amplify the voices of others to engage with issues related to CCSD. She has worked with stakeholders from around the community to provide resources to communities of color through school drives, food banks, and legal services. She was motivated to apply for the Community Advisory Committee because she saw underserved communities struggle with internet connection at home and online school programs while school buildings were closed. She resides in Las Vegas.

Scott Vyka is a CCSD parent who is studying to become a teacher in the K-12 public school system. He applied for the Community Advisory Committee because he saw gaps in the "haves and have nots" during the pandemic and is specifically concerned about creating a fair educational system that gives each and every child the best education possible. He resides in Henderson.

Dr. Tonya Walls is a multicultural practitioner who believes every student has the right to an equal education. She has served as a multicultural curriculum transformation professional developer and the Founding Executive Director for a nonprofit organization focused on preparing educators to use culturally responsive strategies and approaches in their work with youth, adults, communities, and professional peers. She resides in Henderson.

As always, please feel free to contact us with any questions or feedback about the process at engageCCSD@nv.ccsd.net.

With gratitude,
The Focus on the Future for Kids Planning Team

Thursday, August 19, 2021

FOR FORWARDED MESSAGE TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Dear Partners,

Over the past month, more than 60 community organizations, plus a variety of individuals across our community, asked their stakeholders what they wanted to see in our CCSD schools and how we can use federal funds to jumpstart that vision.

The deadline to submit input for the Focus on our Future community input initiative has passed and our Community Advisory Committee has started synthesizing the input received. Please see the message below, which was sent to our engaged community partners with the next steps in the process.

MESSAGE TO GO TO ENGAGED COMMUNITY GROUPS

Dear Community Partners,

Thank you for submitting community input on what you want to see in our schools and how we can use federal funds to jumpstart that vision!

The deadline to submit community input as part of the Focus on the Future for Kids Community Input Process has passed and the submission process is now closed. We are so grateful for the many groups and individuals who participated in the process and held conversations with their stakeholders, including:

100 Black Men of Las Vegas

10,000 Kids Partnership

Africa's Cry

Black Leadership Summit

Boulder City

CCSD Trustees Linda Cavazos, Irene Cepeda, Evelyn Garcia Morales, and Lisa Guzman

Clark County

Clark County Black Caucus

Clark County Children's Mental Health Consortium

Clark County Commissioner William McCurdy II

Clark County Department of Family Services

City of Henderson

City of North Las Vegas

Code Switch

Communities in Schools of Nevada

CORE, powered by the Rogers Foundation

Department of Juvenile Justice Services

DISCOVERY Children's Museum

Dr. Paula McDonald

Educate Nevada Now, powered by the Rogers Foundation

Education Support Employees Association

Girl Scouts of Southern Nevada

Green Our Planet

Infinity Diversity Matters, LLC

INVEST

Junior Achievement of Southern Nevada, Inc.

La Luz del Mundo

Las Vegas Alliance of Black School Educators

Las Vegas City Councilwoman Olivia Diaz

Leaders in Training

Make it Work Nevada

Mi Familia Vota Education Fund

Ministers Alliance of Southern Nevada

Moapa Band of Paiutes
Moapa Valley Community Educational Advisory Board
Moapa Valley High School SOT
My Brothers Keeper
Mystic Dream
NAACP #1111
National Action Network - LV
National Coalition of 100 Black Women
Nevada Assembly
Nevada Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents
Nevada Freedmen Association
Nevada Institute for Children's Research and Policy - Prevent Child Abuse Nevada
Nevada Legislature - Senator Dina Neal
Nevada PEP
Nevadans for the Common Good
The Obodo Collective, Inc.
Parent Leadership Team of Nevada powered by Opportunity 180
Phoebe Wang
Pilates & Co., LLC
Rise Up Nevada
Teach For America
Teach Plus Nevada
The Center - Serving the LGBTQ Community of Nevada
The Village Foundation, LJP
Virgin Valley Community Education Advisory Board
Vote Nevada
West Las Vegas Promise Neighborhood Education Group
Workforce Connections
YMCA of Southern Nevada

What's next in the Focus on the Future for Kids Community Input Process?

The Focus on the Future for Kids Community Advisory Committee is synthesizing the input you provided to identify common themes that arose throughout your conversations. The Community Advisory Committee is made up of nine representatives, with three individuals from each of the CCSD regions including:

Region 1

Yohara Delgado
Brandarius Johnson
Jodi Thornley

Region 2

Laura Carroll
AJ Holly Huth
Farahida Jamaluddin

Region 3
Brenda Guigui
Scott Vyka
Tonya Walls

We'll continue to keep you updated as the CAC compiles high-level themes. Learn more about the synthesis process and see our timeline [here](#).

As always, please feel free to contact us with any questions or feedback about the process at engageCCSD@nv.ccsd.net. Thank you for your support of the Focus on the Future for Kids Community Input Process!

With gratitude,
The Focus on the Future for Kids Planning Team

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

FOR FORWARDED MESSAGE TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Dear Partners,

We are in the home stretch for collecting community input as part of the Focus on the Future for Kids Community Input Process. Please see the message below which was shared with groups who signed up to hold community input sessions.

MESSAGE TO GO TO ENGAGED COMMUNITY GROUPS

Dear Community Partners,

Thank you for all of your work collecting input on what our community wants to see in our CCSD schools and how we can use federal funds to jumpstart that vision. We are in the home stretch for collecting community input!

Input deadline extended to August 18!

Did you hold a community input session with people who you serve? Don't forget to submit your input report! In order for your input to be included in our synthesis process, we'll need your form by 11:59 pm on Wednesday, August 18. You may submit your report online or via email.

Remember that you can hold one-on-one conversations with your stakeholders and submit a report for that conversation if you are unable to hold a group meeting.

[Submit your report online](#)

[Submit your report via email](#)

Need a refresher on how to submit a report? See the full instructions in our [toolkit](#).

Thank You for Sharing Input!

Thank you to the groups who have held community meetings or shared input so far!

These groups represent a diverse cross-section of our community, including:

100 Black Men of Las Vegas
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Nevada
CCSD Trustees Linda Cavazos, Irene Cepeda, and Evelyn Garcia Morales
Clark County Black Caucus
Clark County Commissioner William McCurdy II
Communities in Schools of Nevada
CORE, powered by the Rogers Foundation
Department of Juvenile Justice Services
Green Our Planet
Jobs for America's Graduates
Junior Achievement of Southern Nevada
Las Vegas City Councilwoman Olivia Diaz
Leaders in Training
Mi Familia Vota Education Fund
Moapa Valley Community Educational Advisory Board
Moapa Valley High School SOT
Mystic Dream
Nevada Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents
Nevada Legislature - Dina Neal
Nevada Partners
Nevada PEP
Opportunity 180 - Parent Leadership Team
Teach for America
Virgin Valley Community Education Advisory Board (VVCEAB)
Workforce Connections

Synthesizing input

Over the next few weeks we'll keep you updated on our work to synthesize community input you have helped to gather! Click [here](#) for a refresher on our timeline.

Focus on the Future highlighted in the RJ

Jan Jones Blackhurst, chairwoman of the Board of the Public Education Foundation, wrote about Focus on the Future for Kids [here](#).

As always, please feel free to contact us with any questions or feedback about the process at engageCCSD@nv.ccsd.net.

With gratitude,
The Focus on the Future for Kids Planning Team

Friday, August 6, 2021

FOR FORWARDED MESSAGE TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Friends,

Please see the note below, which was sent to community groups participating in the Focus on the Future for Kids community input process to establish a shared vision for our CCSD schools and plan for spending upcoming federal funds to jumpstart that vision.

MESSAGE TO GO TO ENGAGED COMMUNITY GROUPS

Dear Community Partners,

We are quickly approaching our August 13 deadline for community input on Focus on the Future for Kids. **If you've already held your community input session, please [submit your input report here!](#)**

We will be producing a report with common themes from all of the input sessions. In addition, the input report you submit will be posted [on our website](#) so every attendee knows that their voice was heard.

Announcing the Community Advisory Committee:

Our Community Advisory Committee will synthesize the community input received to develop the list of common themes from your input reports. Three community members from each CCSD Region were selected, with a goal of convening a representative cross-section of our diverse community. We are pleased to announce the community members who will serve on the Community Advisory Committee:

Laura Carroll
Yohara Delgado
Brenda Guigui
Holly Huth
Farahida Jamaluddin
Brandarius Johnson
Jodi Thornley
Scott Vyka
Tonya Walls

For more information on the process for synthesizing information, [click here](#).

Upcoming community-wide input event:

We have one final community-wide input session hosted by the Focus on the Future for Kids planning team. Those interested in participating can [fill out this form](#) for more information:

Tuesday, August 10

5:30 to 7 pm

Town Hall with City of Henderson - 300 S. Racetrack Road

Let us know if you are hosting a community input session by clicking [here](#).

If you're planning your input session, working on your input report, or completing any steps in between, our [toolkit](#) is full of resources to help you engage with your community and collect important input. As always, please let us know if you have any questions by emailing engageCCSD@nv.ccsd.net.

With gratitude,
The Focus on the Future for Kids Planning Team
(and then logos)

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

FOR FORWARDED MESSAGE TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Friends,

As we approach the school year, we want to keep you up-to-date on the Clark County School District's efforts to gather community input to establish a shared vision for our schools and plan for spending upcoming federal funds to jumpstart that vision.

Please see the note below, which was sent to community groups that have indicated interest in participating in the Focus on the Future for Kids community input process.

MESSAGE TO GO TO ENGAGED COMMUNITY GROUPS

Dear community partners,

We're getting closer to our August 13 deadline to receive community input on our two questions:

What do you want to see in our CCSD schools?

How can we use upcoming federal funds to achieve that community vision?

Thank you to groups who have let us know when and where they are hosting community input sessions as part of Focus on the Future for Kids. **If you haven't let us know about your scheduled community input session, please click [here](#).**

If you've already held your community input session, please [submit your input report here](#). Our input review process is on an accelerated timeline to ensure we can provide a draft plan for community feedback by September 1 and submit a finalized spending plan to the Nevada Department of Education by September 10. All input reports must be submitted by August 13 to be included!

A note about masks:

We have asked you to hold community input meetings in a format that best works for the people you serve. **Due to the rising numbers of diagnosed COVID infections, we encourage you to ask your participants to wear masks during in-person meetings.** Thank you for your consideration,

Upcoming community wide input events:

Our community partners are choosing to hold in-person sessions, virtual sessions and even online surveys. That's great news! Our [toolkit](#) is designed to let you design your own process that's best for your community.

Don't forget we also have a list of [community-wide input sessions](#) to be hosted by the Focus on the Future for Kids planning team. Those interested in participating can [fill out this form](#) for more information:

Wednesday, July 28

5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Virtual session to be held in English

Thursday, July 29

5:30 to 7 p.m.

Town Hall with City of North Las Vegas

2250 Las Vegas Boulevard North

Monday, August 2

5 to 6:30 p.m.

Town Hall with Boulder City

700 Wyoming Street

Tuesday, August 3

5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Virtual session to be held in Spanish

Wednesday, August 4
5:30 to 7 p.m.
Town Hall with Clark County
500 S. Grand Central Parkway

Thursday, August 5
5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Virtual session to be held in English

As always, please let us know if you have any questions by emailing engageCCSD@nv.ccsd.net.

With gratitude,
The Focus on the Future for Kids Planning Team
(and then logos)

Tuesday, July 20, 2021

FOR FORWARDED MESSAGE TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Dear friends,

Focus on the Future for Kids is starting to gather public input on a vision for our schools and recommendations on how to spend the \$770 million that the Clark County School District (CCSD) will receive from the American Rescue Plan to jumpstart that vision.

See below for an update that we are sending to the community groups partnering with us to gather community input.

MESSAGE TO GO TO ENGAGED COMMUNITY GROUPS

Dear community partners,

We're so proud to partner with [more than 100 community organizations](#) to gather input on a community vision for our Clark County School District schools!

We're counting on our partner organizations to help us create a shared vision for our schools and help decide how to use \$770 million in upcoming federal funds to realize that vision.

Tell us about your community input sessions by [filling out this form!](#)

Apply for our Community Advisory Committee to help synthesize input and make recommendations [here](#)! The deadline is July 26.

A common request we are hearing: Can I ask my own questions at community input meetings?

Our [toolkit](#) is designed to help you gather input from the community. You are welcome to ask whatever questions you think will best create a conversation.

No matter what conversation you help guide, we're asking that you fill out this common [form](#) to synthesize the input you hear. The form will ask you:

- What are the high-level themes you heard about what your participants want to see in our schools?
- How do your participants think CCSD can utilize the American Rescue Plan funds to jumpstart that vision?

New community-wide input sessions!

CCSD is also hosting or supporting several community-wide sessions to ensure every member of the community has an opportunity to participate in the Focus on the Future community input process. You can find a list of those meetings [here](#).

As always, please let us know if you have any questions by emailing engageCCSD@nv.ccsd.net.

With gratitude,
The Focus on the Future for Kids Planning Team
(and then logos)

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

FOR FORWARDED MESSAGE TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Partners,

The Focus on the Future for Kids initiative is off and running, with groups holding community input sessions to ask:

1. What do we want to see in our Clark County School District schools?

2. How can we use upcoming federal funds to jumpstart that shared community vision?

See below for an update that we are sending to groups holding community input sessions. If you would like to host or participate in a session please email engageCCSD@nv.ccsd.net for more information!

MESSAGE TO GO TO ENGAGED COMMUNITY GROUPS

Dear community partners,

We're excited to hear that several of our community partners have already scheduled community input sessions as part of the Focus on the Future for Kids community input process!

As a reminder, please submit all input from community sessions through [this form](#) by August 13.

Once that input is received, a Community Advisory Committee representing our diverse community will help synthesize the input and create high-level themes that emerge from the input we received.

- Ready to schedule a community input meeting? **Access our toolkit [here](#).**
- Have a community input session scheduled? **Let us know [here](#).**
- Do you need any support for your community input session? **Ask us [here](#).**
- Are you ready to tell us what you heard during your community input session? **Fill out this form [here](#).**
- **Toolkit Update:** Applications for the Community Advisory Committee now open. All community residents who do not also hold a public office and are not employed by CCSD are eligible to apply to serve on the CAC. Applications are due on July 26. You can apply for the Community Advisory Committee [here](#).
 - Learn more about how community input will be synthesized and incorporated into CCSD's plan for allocating American Rescue Plan funds [here](#).
- **Toolkit Update:** We have completed a video that you can share with participants in your community input sessions either before your session or at the beginning of the session. **Watch it [here](#).**

As always, please let us know if you have any questions by emailing engageCCSD@nv.ccsd.net.

With gratitude,
The Planning Team
(and then logos)