

Overview: Teach Plus Nevada

The mission of Teach Plus is to empower excellent, experienced, and diverse teachers to take leadership over key policy and practice issues that affect their students' success. Teach Plus is guided by our Student Opportunity Mandate: All students should have the opportunity to achieve their potential in an education system defined by its commitment to equity, its responsiveness to individual needs, and its ability to prepare students for postsecondary success.

The Challenge

As a result of the teaching and learning experiences of students, families, and teachers during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) is re-examining and reassessing how best to meet the diverse and changing needs of every learner. Additionally, in collaboration with ed.Xtraordinary (Teach for America, Las Vegas), NDE is embarking upon an initiative to build a shared vision for the future of learning in Nevada. How can the design process of the Portrait of a Nevada Learner (The Portrait) and its continued evolution effectively develop opportunities for stakeholder voice and represent the diverse communities across the state?

"This truly is about collaborating with everyone, and I mean everyone, our students, our parents, our community as a whole...to take this moment in time to shift and transform our system to ensure that we have a more inclusive learning environment for each and every one of our students."

Jhone Ebert, NV State Superintendent of Public Instruction

The Solution

The [Portrait of a Nevada Learner design process](#) offers education stakeholders across the state the opportunity to weigh in on how NDE pursues implementation of curriculum and assessment prioritizing academic and [durable skills](#) development for our students. Below are recommendations from Teach Plus Nevada Policy Fellows on how the state and districts should engage with the Portrait of a Nevada Learner process.

- **Gather data from key participants across the state to inform the effectiveness and evolution of the Portrait of a Nevada Learner:** Identify stakeholder groups who can effectively represent the participants in the Nevada education system.
- **Support education and community partners engaging in the design process to test, implement, and evolve the Portrait Competencies within their learning communities:** Engage with schools, districts, and stakeholders who are piloting The Portrait process to compile and analyze data throughout the process.
- **Align The Portrait with teacher and leadership expectations and high-quality, culturally responsive curriculum:** Align/crosswalk the Portrait of a Nevada Learner domain competencies with the [NEPF](#) (Nevada Educator Performance Framework) and student learning goals (SLG) and growth learning objectives (GLO) processes. Prioritize relevant, meaningful learning and leadership resources that represent and reflect Nevada's diverse communities.

By investing resources in The Portrait process recommendations above and effectively communicating and collaborating with working partners and stakeholders across Nevada, we will successfully reflect the needs of students, teachers, and communities in our state.