

Frequently Asked Questions

For Teachers - Learn more about the Portrait of a Nevada Learner

Why have a Portrait of a Learner in Nevada?

The Portrait of a Nevada Learner is a statewide vision describing the mindsets, skills, and competencies all students need to thrive in school, career, and life. It was developed collaboratively with educators, students, families, and community members across all 17 Nevada districts. Nevada is adopting the Portrait to help redefine student success for a rapidly changing world. The Portrait expands success beyond academics by emphasizing communication, collaboration, identity development, resilience, creativity, and civic engagement. It guides schools and districts in designing learning experiences that are more personalized, future-ready, and connected to real-world contexts.

How was Nevada's Portrait of a Learner developed?

The development of Nevada's Portrait of a Learner was a statewide effort that included surveys, interviews, design sprints, and convenings. Over 1,400 data points were collected from diverse stakeholders, including educators, students, and community leaders. The final version was shaped with input from all 17 district leadership teams and was completed in June 2023. This collaborative process ensured that the Portrait reflects the values and aspirations of Nevada's communities.

What is the Portrait of a Learner NOT?

The Portrait is not a new curriculum, an additional set of standards, or a replacement for what teachers already do well. Instead, it is a shared vision that guides educators in integrating the development of transferable skills into daily instruction across content areas and programs.

What are the key parts of the Portrait of a Nevada Learner?

Nevada's Portrait is organized into four domains that support holistic student growth:

- **EMPOWERING** – How will I grow in my learning?
- **CONNECTING** – How do I build and sustain relationships and community?
- **IMPACTING** – How will I contribute to make an impact?
- **THRIVING** – How will I thrive?

These domains represent the durable skills and dispositions students need to successfully navigate life, learning, work, and community.

How does the Portrait of a Learner impact classroom instruction?

The Portrait shifts classroom instruction toward durable skills, real-world application, and reflection. It encourages project-based and performance-based learning that builds student agency, connects learning to authentic contexts, and develops communication, collaboration, and purpose.