

Summer E. Stephens, Ed.D

LEADERSHIP STRENGTHS

Ability to listen and value all perspectives, build unity, and use gathered information to set a vision and direction that captures group will and fosters engagement and commitment

Comprehensive knowledge and experience with creating personalized learning systems through cultural shifts, structural and curricular redesign including proficiency-based learning opportunities for students and staff, district communication with community, and program budgeting in challenging economic times

Ability to organize various individuals to collaborate and plan strategically to improve a system, from academics to engagement, teacher performance to site planning

Expertise in leading and aligning all administrative services and operations to support learning including, but not limited to, transportation, business services, human resources, operations and facilities, custodial services, and school safety

ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS & CERTIFICATIONS

2010 Doctor of Education, Educational Administration, University of Nebraska—Lincoln, NE

2009 Specialization in Education Administration and Supervision, University of Nebraska—Lincoln, NE

2002 Master of Education in Educational Leadership, Doane College, Lincoln, NE

1999 Bachelor of Arts, English/Language Arts with 7-12 Certification, Doane College, Crete, NE
Graduated Summa Cum Laude

Nebraska Standard Administrative Certificate (Superintendent PK-12, Principal PK-12, English/Language Arts 7-12)

Certified Public Labor Relations Professional 2019-current

Nevada Standard Certificate (School Administrator K-12, English 7-12)

Wyoming Standard Certificate (Superintendent K-12, Principal K-12, English Endorsement 6-12)

California Administrative Services Credential-Clear & California Teaching Credential

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018-present	Superintendent of Schools & CTE Administrator Churchill County School District, Fallon, NV
	Lead strategic design and accreditation processes for the district, including goals of designing student-driven systems, engaging in effective and efficient system processes, development of a framework of instruction, and development of the whole child
	Develop comprehensive personalized learning, curriculum, assessment, and grading/reporting practices
	Lead and monitor effectiveness of federal programs, special education services, professional development, and community engagement strategies
	Maximize (and reduce when needed) expenditures for a strategically developed budget (\$32,000,000 General Fund plus 30 grants) and develop and implement long-range facility planning
	Coach and mentor principals and district directors and supervisors utilizing best practices
2012-2018	Superintendent of Schools and Director of Curriculum Weston County School District #7, Upton, WY
2006-2012	District Administrator—Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Beatrice Public Schools, Beatrice, NE
2005-2006	Professional Development Consultant Educational Service Unit #2, Fremont, NE
2000-2005	Teacher and Secondary English Curriculum Coordinator Norris High School, Norris Public Schools District 160, Firth, NE
1999-2000	Teacher and Student Assistance Team Coordinator Bellevue East High School, Bellevue Public Schools, Bellevue, NE

HONORS/AWARDS/LEADERSHIP ROLES

2023	Nevada Superintendent of the Year—AASA
2023	National Association of Federal Education Program Administrators Award
2023	Nevada Society of Innovators and Digital Educators Administrator of the Year
2023	Nevada State Board of Education Subcommittee Chair—RFP State Assessment Design and Selection
2022-2023	Nevada State Board of Education--Member
2022	Nevada Association of School Superintendents-President
2021	Nevada Association of School Superintendents-Vice President
2020	Nevada Association of School Superintendents-Secretary
2020	Modern Teacher Change Management District Leader of the Year Finalist
2020	Association of Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Administrator of the Year—Related and New Services
2014	Phi Delta Kappa 2014-2015 Emerging Leader
2011	Phi Delta Kappan Outstanding Dissertation Award Finalist

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/EDUCATION COMMITTEES

2023	Southern Utah University Social Emotional Development Program (4 courses)
2022-2023	Modern Teacher National Conference of Digital Convergence and Personalized Learning
2022	Infinite Campus Yearly Training Series (District Student Information System)
2022	Clarity Catalyst personal development courses with ChurchillCSD Staff
2023	Digital Learning Annual Conference—Digital Learning Collaborative
2022-present	Road to Awesome Leadership Coaching (August 1-2, Monthly)
2022-present	Nevada District Performance Plan Work Group
2022	School Safety Specialist Training with POOL/PACT and Nevada Department of Education
2022	National Public Employee Labor Relations Training and Certification
2022	Nevada Portrait of a Graduate Convening/Work Group
2022	Nevada Association of School Boards sessions on new accountability models, school safety
2022	Nevada Association of School Superintendents Summer Academy
2022	InspirED 2.0 Fellowship focusing on Innovative Learning
2021-present	Nevada Continuous Improvement Plan Strategy Committee with UPD
2020-present	Cognia School Improvement Team Reviewer
2020	Blue Ribbon Commission-Nevada Department of Education
2019-present	NevadaTEACH Advisory Board-University of Nevada-Reno
2019-2022	Nevada Competency-Based Education Network (member, chair)
2018-present	Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission—Nevada Council
2012-present	National Conference on Education—American Association of School Administrators
2018	Leadership in Blended and Online Learning Facilitator Training
2016-2018	Task Force for Wyoming State OpenEdResources repository
2017	Wyoming Virtual Education Task Force
2016	Future Ready Schools Superintendents’ Forum @ the United States Department of Ed.
2016-2018	Wyoming K-20 Learning Management System implementation committee
2015-2017	AASA Personalized Learning Cohort National Certification
2016	Technology in Education Customized Learning Summit
2015	AASA Personalized Learning Summit
2013-2015	AASA National Superintendent Certification Program—Cohort #1

Additional trainings in Wyoming Professional Judgement Panel for School Accountability, Guided Pathways to Success, Complete College America National Bootcamp, Creating Data-Informed Individualized Learner Plans, AdvancED NCE Team Chair, Cambridge Model Strategic Planning, Marzano Teacher Evaluation Training, Nebraska Standards Development Team NeSA Test Development team, Nebraska State Accountability training, McREL Qualities of Effective Teaching Workshop, Assessment Literacy.

COMPETITIVE GRANTS AWARDED

2022-present	Nevada Legislature AB459 Competitive American Rescue Plan Grant	\$1,493,706
2022-present	Nevada College and Career Readiness Competitive Grant 2022	\$246,251
2022-present	Teaching and Training Rural Initiative Competitive Grant 2022	\$116,019
2022-present	Trauma-Informed Care for Student Mental Health Competitive	\$360,000
2020-present	Churchill County Mental Health and Social Worker Competitive Grant	\$100,000
2020-2022	Nevada Safe School Professional/Social Worker Competitive Grant	\$225,000
2020-2022	Nevada School Resource Officer Competitive Grant	\$309,000
2020-2022	Pennington Foundation School Safety Grants	\$71,908 and \$175,664
2020	Federal School Violence Prevention and Staff Training Competitive Grant	\$5,500
2019-2020	Nevada School Safety Competitive Grant Round 1 and Round 2	\$993,222
2019-present	Title I, 1003(a) Competitive Grant 2019-current	\$1,224,000
2019-2022	Nevada State Career and Technical Education Competitive Grant	\$175,078
2019	Carl Perkins Reserve Competitive Grant 2019	\$79,000
2019	Nevada College and Career Readiness Competitive Advanced Placement	\$29,000
2019	Nevada Computer Science Development Competitive Grant	\$8,725
2019	Nevada Competitive Dual Enrollment and Work-based Learning	\$102,470
2019	Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment for Career and Technical Education	\$29,989
2016	Wyoming School Safety Grant	\$80,000

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Panelist. Digital Learning Collaborative Conference 2023. "Painting a Portrait: Develop a Learner Centered System" and Supporting Learner Centered Experiences" with Dr. Pam Moran, Mike Smith, and Jeanine Collins – February 2023.

Show Guest. Nevada Newsmakers with Rachel Dahl, guest host. January 6, 2023.
<http://www.nevadanewsmakers.com/>

Panelist. "Developing the state Portrait of a Learner." Building Nevada's Future of Learning, Together Convening. October 25, 2022.

Panelist. SxSW 2022: "All In: Transforming Education in Nevada!" with Senator Mo Denis, Superintendent Jhone Ebert and KnowledgeWorks - Apr 2022 to Apr 2022.

Series Presenter. "System-wide Competency-Based Learning" and "From Soup to Nuts: Getting Started with Competency-Based Learning." Nevada Association of School Administrators Center for Educational Excellence, April 2021 to Present.

Guest with Tom VanderArk: "Change in Churchill County" on Getting Smart Vodcast. <https://gettingsmart.libsyn.com/309-summer-stephens-and-nate-waite-on-change-in-churchill-county-school-district> - Feb 2022.

Author-S. Stephens (2015, May 11). Conversations on the common core [blog]. Retrieved from <http://pdkintl.org/blogs/learning-on-the-edge/conversations-common-core/>.

Guest-Stephens, S. (2015, April 23). Get it right podcasts: Summer Stephens. Learning First Alliance. Podcast <http://www.learningfirst.org/get-it-right-podcasts-summer-stephens>.

Presenter. (2015) Educators Rising (Phi Delta Kappa student organization). "Educators for the Future."

Stephens, S.E. (2010). 7th-12th Grade English/Language Arts Teachers and their classroom grading practices: Investigating the use of standards-based grading in Nebraska's rural classrooms (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from ProQuest/UMI. (AAT 3427314).

Settell, K.S. & Stephens, S.E. (2002). Vocabulary instruction: An inquiry into strategies and best practice to enhance students' vocabularies (Unpublished Thesis). Doane College, Nebraska.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND LEADERSHIP

NASS—Nevada Association of School Superintendents (Current Past President)

AASA—The School Superintendent's Association

NASB—Nevada Association of School Boards

NSBA—National School Boards Association

PDK—Phi Delta Kappa

Previous member of the Nebraska-ASCD Executive Board Member (NASCD), Nebraska Council of School Administrators (NCSA), Nebraska Association of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (NACIA), Nebraska Association for the Gifted Board Member (NAG), Complete College Wyoming Board (CCW), Wyoming Association of School Administrators (WASA)

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

2020-present United Way of Northern Nevada and the Sierra Board of Directors (Vice Chair)

2020-present Churchill Economic Development Authority Business Council Board

2019-present Western Nevada College Rural Advisory Committee

2019-2022 Lead On (Student Development) Board of Directors

2019-2020 Maine Street Fallon Inaugural Board—Vice President

2017 Upton 2017 Citizen of the Year—Upton Chamber of Commerce

2015 Upton 2015 Citizen of the Year—Weston County Gazette

2013-2018 Weston County Children's Center—Board of Directors

2012-2018 Upton Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

2013-2018 Upton Chamber of Commerce—Festival of Tables Chair

2008-2011 Girl Scout Leader (Daisy/Brownie Troops)