

STATE OF NEVADA

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DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
OFFICE OF NEVADA BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COUNCILS STANDARDS
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS

PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE & BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Meeting Date & Time

Wednesday, August 26, 2026
6:00 p.m.

Meeting Location

Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners
2651 N. Green Valley Parkway, Suite 104
Henderson, NV 89014

Video Conferencing/ Teleconferencing Available

To access by phone, +1(646) 568-7788

To access by video webinar,

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86873820478>

Webinar/Meeting ID#: 868 7382 0478

Webinar/Meeting Passcode: 635968

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Public Comment by pre-submitted email/written form and Live Public Comment by teleconference is available after roll call (beginning of meeting and prior to adjournment (end of meeting). Live Public Comment is limited to three (3) minutes for each individual.

Members of the public may submit public comment on the [Board's Public Comment Form](https://airtable.com/appfGwRTKTKXt9KyD/pagPtMzv8nZZOR7GB/form) (<https://airtable.com/appfGwRTKTKXt9KyD/pagPtMzv8nZZOR7GB/form>) or by **e-mail at address nsbde@dental.nv.gov**.

Public comment submissions received by the Board on or before **Tuesday, August 25, 2026, by 12:00 p.m.** may be entered into the record during the meeting. Any other written public comment submissions received prior to the adjournment of the meeting will be included in the permanent record.

The Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners may: 1) address agenda items out of sequence to accommodate persons appearing before the Board or to aid the efficiency or effectiveness of the meeting; 2) combine items for consideration by the public body; 3) pull or remove items from the agenda at any time. The Board may convene in closed session to consider the character, alleged misconduct, professional competence or physical or mental health of a person. See NRS 241.030. Prior to the commencement and conclusion of a contested case or a quasi-judicial proceeding that may affect the due process rights of an individual the board may refuse to consider public comment. See NRS 233B.126.

Persons/facilities who want to be on the mailing list must submit a written request every six (6) months to the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners at the address listed in the previous paragraph. With regard to any board meeting or telephone conference, it is possible that an amended agenda will be published adding new items to the original agenda. Amended Nevada notices will be posted in compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify the Board, at (702) 486-7044, no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Requests for special arrangements made after this time frame cannot be guaranteed.

Pursuant to NRS 241.020(2) you may contact at (702) 486-7044, to request supporting materials for the public body or you may download the supporting materials for the public body from the Board's website at <http://dental.nv.gov>. In addition, the supporting materials for the public body are available at the Board's office located at 2651 N. Green Valley Pkwy, Ste. 104, Henderson, NV 89014.

Note: Asterisks (*) "For Possible Action" denotes items on which the Board may take action.

Note: Action by the Board on an item may be to approve, deny, amend, or table it.

1. Call to Order

a. Roll Call/Quorum

Board Members Present: Dr. West, Dr. Branco, Dr. Kim, Dr. Hock, Ms. McIntyre, Ms. Arias, Ms. Petrilla, Dr. Streifel, Dr. Hoban, Dr. Landron, Dr. Hock

Board Members Absent: Mr. Pontoni

Board Staff Present: Director Higginbotham, General Counsel Barraclough, A. Cymerman, S. Barjon, D. Johnson, M. Kelley, R. Vanleer, and M. Watson

2. Public Comment (Live public comment by teleconference and pre-submitted email/written form): The public comment period is limited to matters specifically noticed on the agenda. No action may be taken upon the matter raised during the public comment unless the matter itself has been specifically included on the agenda as an action item. Comments by the public may be limited to three (3) minutes as a reasonable time, place and manner restriction, but may not be limited to based upon viewpoint. The Chairperson may allow additional time at his/her discretion.

Members of the public may submit public comment via the online Public Comment Form or via email to nsbde@dental.nv.gov. Written submissions received by the Board on or before **Tuesday, August 25, 2026, by 12:00 p.m.** may be entered into the record during the meeting. Any other written public comment submissions received prior to the adjournment of the meeting will be included in the permanent record.

In accordance with Attorney General Opinion No. 00-047, as restated in the Attorney General's Open Meeting Law Manual, the Chair may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of, the Nevada State Board of Dental Examiners, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational, or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

NA

3. President's Report: (For Possible Action)

a. Request to Remove Agenda Item(s) (For Possible Action)

NA

b. Approve Agenda (For Possible Action)

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. McIntyre, and it was seconded by Ms. Petrilla.

No discussion. All members voted 'AYE'.

4. Secretary-Treasurer's Report: (For Possible Action)

a. Approval/Rejection of Minutes – NRS 631.190 (For Possible Action)

- i. July 29, 2026 – Board Meeting**
- ii. August 13, 2026 – Board Meeting**

A motion to group and approve the past board meeting minutes was made by Dr. West and it was seconded by Ms. McIntyre.

No discussion. All members voted 'AYE'.

5. Executive Team Report: (For Possible Action)

a. Legal Actions/Litigation Update (For Informational Purposes Only)

General Counsel Barraclough reported that there is one remaining pending litigation matter. The matter remains with the courts, awaiting a decision on a motion for sanctions, as well as an objection filed by the plaintiff.

Dr. West asked whether there was an estimated timeframe for when the pending motions might be resolved.

General Counsel Barraclough confirmed there is no definitive timeframe, as the matters are before different federal judges. She expects the magistrate judge's response sooner and hopes to have an update by year-end.

b. Review, Discussion, and Possible Approval/Rejection of the Licensing Report Update (For Possible Action)

- i. Dentists and Dental Hygienists**

Dr. Streifel reported that the Board had approved 35 dental (DDS) licenses, 35

dental hygiene licenses, and one reinstatement.

ii. Public Health Programs

Dr. West reported that an emergency kit was not present during the initial inspection and remained unavailable during the subsequent re-inspection.

Dr. West explained that public health dental programs may operate from either fixed or mobile locations. He noted that mobile hygiene programs are less common and require additional oversight to ensure services are directed toward underserved populations. He stated that Heavenly Smiles mission is consistent with the objectives of a public health program and indicated support for approval, provided the program satisfies standards comparable to those previously applied to Dr. Lorber's program and demonstrates that services are provided solely for public health purposes rather than as a for-profit operation.

Dr. Branco agreed that the circumstances were unusual and warranted additional review. Ms. Arias noted that the increased level of scrutiny and more consistent application of requirements may be contributing to confusion or concerns among program participants.

Dr. West reported that Executive Director Higginbotham had identified numerous 2022 records that appeared to have been deleted, either intentionally or inadvertently, resulting in gaps in the available historical information.

Dr. West recommended approval subject to conditions subsequent. The proposed conditions would require Ms. Crosswhite to provide services only at qualifying locations, including HUD-designated qualified census tracts, census tracts meeting applicable English-language proficiency criteria, qualifying public schools, or qualifying tribal lands. She would also be required to submit proposed service locations to the Board at least one month in advance. In addition, at least 70% of patients served would be required to qualify as low-income, with compliance demonstrated through Medicaid billing records submitted every six months or documentation from the State Dental Officer. Failure to meet these conditions would result in revocation of the program's approval.

A motion to approve Heavenly Smiles as a public health program but subject to the

conditions subsequent was made by Dr. West and it was seconded by Dr. Hoban.

No discussion. All members voted 'AYE'.

- c. Review, Discussion and Possible Approval/Rejection of Remand(s) – NRS 631.3635; NRS 622A.170; NRS 622.330; NRS 631.190 (For Possible Action)**

i. Review Panel 1

1. Case # 0017
2. Case # 2498
3. Case # 2502
4. Case # 2559
5. Case # 2588
6. Case # 2615
7. Case # 2629
8. Case # 2635
9. Case # 2643
10. Case # 2653
11. Case # 2659
12. Case # 2662
13. Case # 2569

A motion to group and approve the remands from Review Panel 1 was made by Dr. Streifel and it was seconded by Dr. Landron.

No discussion. All members voted 'AYE'.

ii. Review Panel 2

1. Case # 2497
2. Case # 2576
3. Case # 2579
4. Case # 2590
5. Case # 2591

A motion to group and approve the remands from Review Panel 2 was made by Dr.

West and it was seconded by Dr. Kim.

No discussion. All members voted 'AYE'.

iii. Review Panel 3

1. Case #2660
2. Case #2661
3. Case #2666

A motion to group and approve the remands from Review Panel 3 was made by Ms. McIntyre and it was seconded by Dr. Landron.

No discussion. All members voted 'AYE'.

- d. Review, Discussion and Possible Approval/Rejection of Remand(s) with Letters of Concern – NRS 631.3635; NRS 622A.170; NRS 622.330; NRS 631.190 (For Possible Action)**

i. Review Panel 1

1. Case # 0014
2. Case # 2388
3. Case # 2532
4. Case # 2545
5. Case # 2606

A motion to group and approve the remands with letters of concern from Review Panel 1 was made by Dr. Hoban and it was seconded by Dr. Streifel.

No discussion. All members voted 'AYE'.

ii. Review Panel 2

1. Case #2446
2. Case # 2575

A motion to group and approve the remands with letters of concern from Review Panel 2 was made by Ms. McIntyre and it was seconded by Dr. Hoban.

No discussion. All members voted ‘AYE’.

iii. Review Panel 3

1. Case #0001

A motion to group and approve the remands with letters of concern from Review Panel 3 was made by Dr. Hoban and it was seconded by Dr. Landron.

No discussion. All members voted ‘AYE’.

**e. Review, Discussion and Possible Approval/Rejection of Authorized Investigation(s) –
NRS 631.190 (For Possible Action)**

i. Dr. Z

A motion to approve the authorized investigation was made by Dr. Landron, and it was seconded by Dr. Streifel.

No discussion. All members voted ‘AYE’.

ii. Dr. Y

A motion to approve the authorized investigation was made by Dr. Hoban, and it was seconded by Dr. Hock.

No discussion. All members voted ‘AYE’.

iii. Dr. X

A motion to approve the authorized investigation was made by Ms. Arias, and it was seconded by Dr. Hoban.

No discussion. All members voted ‘AYE’.

6. New Business: (For Possible Action)

- a. Discussion of Legacy Inspection Address Data Cleanup and Compliance Review Project – NRS 631.190 (For Informational Purposes Only)

- i. Contacting Locations Not Identified on the Legacy Inspection Address Report

Director Higginbotham explained that the Board is initiating a data-cleanup project to review historical infection control inspection records and cross-reference them with dental office addresses reported through licensing and renewal processes. The goal is to identify locations that have not been documented as inspected, publicly share the historical inspection list, and provide information to help offices achieve compliance. The project will focus on record accuracy, education, and voluntary compliance, while allowing licensees to submit documentation of prior inspections to help complete the Board's records.

- b. Review, Discussion, and Possible Approval/Rejection of Adding “Audio and Video Redaction Fee” to the Administrative Cost Schedule - NAC 631.190 (For Possible Action)

Director Higginbotham explained that the Board recently identified an additional cost associated with translating and transcribing audio or video files submitted in languages other than English. These costs would apply only to complaints that result in disciplinary action and for which administrative costs are assessed; they would not be charged for complaints that do not reach that threshold. The fee is \$3 per minute for baseline audio and video redaction and translation services.

A motion to approve adding the audio and video redaction fee was made by Dr. West, and it was seconded by Ms. McIntyre.

No discussion. All members voted ‘AYE’.

- c. Review, Discussion, and Possible Approval/Rejection of Temporary Anesthesia Permit – NAC 631.2234; NRS 631.190 (For Possible Action)
 - i. Dr. Anjali Sorathia, DMD – Moderate Sedation (Pediatric)
 - ii. Dr. Madeline Sullivan, DDS– Moderate Sedation (13+)

A motion to group and approve the temporary anesthesia permits was made by Dr. Branco, and it was seconded by Dr. Hock.

No discussion. All members voted ‘AYE’.

- d. Review, Discussion, and Possible Approval/Rejection of 90-Day Temporary Anesthesia Permit Extension – NAC 631.2234; NRS 631.190 (For Possible Action)**

- i. James Burnham, DDS – Moderate Sedation**

A motion to approve the 90-day temporary anesthesia permit extension was made by Dr. Branco, and it was seconded by Dr. Hock.

No discussion. All members voted ‘AYE’.

- ii. Paul Mirdamadi, DDS – General Anesthesia**

Dr. Branco noted that the required inspection had not been completed due to the applicant's travel schedule. He moved to grant one additional 90-day temporary anesthesia permit, subject to the applicant making arrangements for the Board to conduct the inspection. Failure to accommodate the inspection would result in termination of the application.

A motion to approve the 90-day temporary anesthesia permit extension was made by Dr. Branco, and it was seconded by Dr. Hock.

No discussion. All members voted ‘AYE’.

- e. Review, Discussion, and Possible Approval/Rejection of Petition Review – NRS 631.190 (For Possible Action)**

- i. Dr. Ammara Yasin – Eligibility for Licensure Petition**
 - ii. Dr. Spyridon Varthis – Eligibility for Licensure Petition**

Dr. Streifel stated that neither individual graduated from a CODA-approved dental school. He noted that, pursuant to statute, applicants must graduate from a CODA-approved dental school. Therefore, the applications for licensure could not be approved at this time.

A motion to reject the petition review for Dr. Ammara Yasin and Dr. Spyridon Varthis was made by Dr. Streifel, and it was seconded by Dr. West.

Following discussion, the motion was amended and carried.

Dr. Branco raised the question of whether the committee should take into consideration that Dr. Spyridon Varthis completed a residency program in the U.S. at a CODA-approved school.

General Counsel Barraclough stated that the statute is vague regarding the definition of a CODA-approved dental program. The board has historically interpreted it as a DDS or DMD program. She recommended tabling the applicant's matter until the next meeting, when she can provide further legal analysis on the definition and potential liability.

Dr. West clarified that Dr. Ammara Yasin's application would be rejected and Dr. Spyridon Varthis's application would be tabled pending further legal guidance on the distinction between a CODA-approved dental program and a CODA-approved dental school. The matter will be revisited after legal counsel provides clarification.

- f. Review, Discussion, and Possible Approval/Rejection of Reinstatement of an Inactive or Other Nonpracticing Status of a License –NRS 631.190; NAC 631.335(b); NAC631.170(b) (For Possible Action)**
 - i. Jennell Kimsey, RDH (3560)**

The Board discussed whether the hygienist should complete a skills assessment before reinstatement due to a four-year gap in practice since 2022. The Board generally uses a two-year absence as the point at which a skills assessment may be required.

Members emphasized consistency and fairness, noting that similar cases have historically required clinical assessments. Staff confirmed that a standardized assessment program is available through UNLV, although the assessment fee was not known.

The Board indicated that an assessment would be appropriate if the hygienist had not practiced in any capacity during the four-year period, including through another state license, other employment, or fill-in work. The assessment was also viewed as potentially helpful in preparing the hygienist to return to practice.

A motion to approve the reinstatement, contingent upon successful completion of the skills assessment prior to the license becoming active was made by Dr. West, and it was seconded by Ms. McIntyre.

No discussion. All members voted 'AYE'.

- 7. Public Comment (Live public comment by teleconference):** This public comment period is for any matter that is within the jurisdiction of the public body. No action may be taken upon the matter raised during public comment unless the matter itself has been specifically included on the agenda as an action item. Comments by the public may be limited to three (3) minutes as a reasonable time, place and manner restriction but may not be limited based upon viewpoint. The Chairperson may allow additional time at his/her discretion.

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Janet Crosswhite stated she was unaware of the meeting and therefore unable to attend. She requested information and a copy of the meeting audio regarding the discussion of their public health-endorsed program. She also expressed concerns regarding communication and the handling of the program, stating that she has the required medical kits and has followed established procedures since receiving approval. She clarified that she cannot administer certain medications and does currently have funding for an AED but confirmed that an AED is available at the school and that she will provide a photograph upon their next visit. Ms. Crosswhite reaffirmed their willingness to comply with all requirements and referenced their 32 years of experience in dentistry.

General Counsel Barraclough stated that a copy of the meeting audio would be provided to Ms. Crosswhite. She summarized the Board's action, explaining that the conditions of Ms. Crosswhite's approval were intended to be consistent with those of another similar public health program. Ms. Barraclough stated that, due to the mobile nature of Ms. Crosswhite's program, the conditions require services to be provided in historically underserved ZIP codes, monthly reporting of service locations, and documentation that at least 70% of the patient population meets the

low-income household criteria. She stated that a letter would be provided to Ms. Crosswhite outlining the conditions and the required information and reporting timelines.

Samantha Madera requested clarification regarding Item 6A and whether the list of offices would include those not accounted for in inspections or those that have been inspected. Ms. Madera identified herself as an infection control consultant and owner of Thrive Professional Solutions and expressed interest in providing services to offices that may need assistance.

Executive Director Higginbotham stated that the Board plans to send an email to all licensees introducing the project, outlining next steps, and providing FAQs. He noted that the FAQ will explain how licensees can submit documentation if their address is not included on the list so it can be added.

8. Announcements:

Dr. West thanked the staff and Board members in attendance for their participation and acknowledged those unable to attend. Dr. West recognized that the process would be lengthy and expressed hope that it would ultimately result in a mutually satisfactory solution.

9. Adjournment: (For Possible Action)

Note: To minimize computer resource and data storage drains, only the copies of the applications (redacted to exclude personal identifying or personal health information) are included with this agenda. However, the Board acknowledges that some records attached to the applications (aside from any included proprietary information, but including such things as permits, licenses, route maps, etc.) are generally public records. The Board will make available copies of the non-confidential documents attached to the applications to any member of the public upon request.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. McIntyre and it was seconded by Ms. Arias.

No discussion. All members voted 'AYE'.