

A Short History of Southern and Northern Nevada Earth Science Education Workshops

The Nevada Division of Minerals (NDOM) and the Nevada Mining Association (NvMA) have been involved in all aspects of mineral education programs for Nevada schools. These education programs have been very successful and well received by Nevada teachers.

Since August 1984, NDOM and NvMA have co-sponsored annual Earth Science Education Workshops for teachers from all over Nevada.

A spring workshop is held in Las Vegas, specifically designed for teachers in Southern Nevada and a summer "State-wide" workshop is held in Reno.

Teachers enrolled in the Earth Science Education Workshops can receive Professional Development (PDE) credit for the southern workshop and Nevada Department of Education recertification for the northern workshop.

Teachers attending the workshops have an opportunity to participate in "hands-on" classroom activities which can be incorporated into existing curriculum. Attendees also get the opportunity to visit geologic sites of interest or operating mines and examine mining and processing procedures. All attendees gain an appreciation for the mineral industry and the importance of minerals to society.

As of December 31, 2018, over 6,400 teachers and administrators have participated. The earth science education workshops are nationally recognized, and NDOM/NvMA staff has trained teachers and industry representatives from other states (including California, Florida, Wyoming, Minnesota, New Mexico, Indiana, and Montana) to develop similar programs. We welcome representatives from other states who would be interested in observing and possibly emulating our program.