

Danielle Ford for Governor | 2026 Media Issue Brief

Candidate: Danielle Ford

Office: Governor of Nevada

Election: 2026 General Election

Party Affiliation: Nonpartisan / No Political Party

Current Elected Office: Nevada State Board of Education

Former Elected Office: Clark County School District Trustee

Campaign Website: DanielleForNevada.com

Danielle Ford is not affiliated with the Democratic or Republican Party.

Candidate Overview

Danielle Ford is a Nevada-first nonpartisan candidate for Governor of Nevada in 2026.

She currently serves as an elected member of the Nevada State Board of Education and previously served as a Clark County School District Trustee. Danielle is running without a political party affiliation because she believes Nevada's challenges are too connected to be solved through party loyalty, donor networks, or national talking points.

Her campaign is focused on practical systems repair: making government more transparent, improving the systems families rely on, protecting constitutional rights, following public money, and making decisions based on Nevada's needs.

Core Priorities

1. People Over Politics

Danielle believes government should serve people before parties, donors, vendors, or institutions protecting themselves.

Her approach is to judge ideas by whether they solve the problem, not which political side they came from. She supports more transparency in campaign finance, more meaningful choices for voters, and public access to information about all legally qualified candidates.

Danielle also believes Nevada's growing number of nonpartisan voters should not be treated as an afterthought in a system built around two party primaries.

Core position: Public decisions should be based on Nevada's needs, not party instructions.

2. Education

Danielle's public service began in education, but her education platform is not limited to schools alone. She believes schools are often expected to absorb failures from other systems: housing, hunger, healthcare, mental health, transportation, family support, and public safety.

Danielle supports stronger funding for students with disabilities, English learners, educators, paraprofessionals, school nurses, counselors, social workers, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, custodians, and other school support staff.

She supports public education, real family options, and public accountability for every public dollar.

Core position: Nevada should fund the students we have, not the system we wish we had.

3. Affordability & Opportunity

Danielle believes Nevada cannot call growth successful if the people who live and work here cannot afford to stay.

Affordability is connected to housing, wages, utilities, insurance, food, childcare, transportation, water, energy, infrastructure, small business, and economic development. Danielle supports increasing attainable housing, protecting pathways to homeownership, scrutinizing corporate housing concentration, supporting small businesses, preparing workers for AI-driven changes, and requiring public benefit from major economic-development deals.

Core position: Growth should make Nevada more livable, not less.

4. Health & Care Systems

Danielle believes families should not have to become unpaid case managers during the hardest moments of their lives.

Her health and care platform includes healthcare access, Medicaid, mental health care, addiction treatment, disability services, long-term care, rehabilitation, caregiving, safe staffing, nutrition, family stability, and crisis prevention.

She believes Nevada must stop treating care work as invisible labor when the entire system depends on it.

Core position: Care should begin before crisis becomes the only door left open.

5. Safer Communities

Danielle supports accountability for serious harm, protection for victims, and strong public safety systems.

She also believes police cannot be expected to solve every failure that begins somewhere else. Mental health, addiction, homelessness, family instability, school failure, and lack of treatment often show up later as public safety problems. By then, officers are left responding to crises that should have been addressed earlier.

Danielle supports law enforcement while also strengthening mental health care, addiction treatment, crisis response, youth intervention, victim services, corrections oversight, and prevention.

Core position: Safer communities require both accountability and functioning systems around public safety.

6. Government That Works

Danielle believes government should not ask the public for trust it has not earned.

Her government-accountability platform focuses on public records, open meetings, procurement, competitive bidding, no-bid contracts, vendor influence, whistleblower protection, campaign finance, public communication, AI procurement, and measurable outcomes.

Danielle believes public money belongs to the public. Nevada should close loopholes that avoid real competition, scrutinize major contracts, disclose who benefits, and tie public spending to measurable results.

Core position: Accountability is not obstruction. It is part of governing well.

Specific Issue Positions

Abortion and Reproductive Rights

Danielle supports reproductive freedom and believes deeply personal medical decisions should be made by patients and their doctors, not politicians.

She supports Nevada's current legal framework protecting abortion access through 24 weeks, with later care available when medically necessary to preserve the life or health of the pregnant patient. She also supports protecting access to contraception, miscarriage care, fertility care, and emergency medical treatment.

Nevada law generally permits abortion through 24 weeks, and after 24 weeks when a physician has reasonable cause to believe the abortion is necessary to preserve the life or health of the pregnant person.

Danielle's position: Personal medical decisions should stay between patients and doctors, not be controlled by politicians.

Voter ID and Proof of Citizenship

Danielle believes only eligible U.S. citizens should vote. She supports secure elections, accurate voter rolls, identity verification, penalties for fraud, and transparent audits.

But she does not support turning voter registration into a paperwork trap for eligible citizens. Many lawful voters can face barriers because of name changes, missing documents, transportation, cost, age, disability, tribal access issues, or corrected records.

Any ID or document requirement must be constitutional, funded, accessible, carefully phased in, and designed so eligible voters are not blocked from participating.

Danielle's position: Nevada should protect election integrity and voter access at the same time.

Gun Safety and Constitutional Rights

Danielle supports lawful gun ownership and respects responsible gun owners who train, store, and carry safely.

She also believes gun rights come with public responsibility. Nevada should enforce background checks, strengthen crisis intervention, support training and safe storage, and keep weapons that are already heavily restricted under state and federal law out of the wrong hands.

Nevada law includes firearm-related provisions including background-check requirements for certain transfers, concealed-carry permitting, and high-risk protection orders. Machine guns are separately restricted under state and federal law.

Danielle's position: Safety and constitutional rights should not be treated as opposites.

Taxes, Revenue, and the State Budget

Danielle does not believe new taxes should be the first answer to every budget problem.

Before asking Nevadans to pay more, the state should take a harder look at public contracts, procurement loopholes, no-bid arrangements, tax abatements, vendor influence, administrative waste, and whether public dollars are producing public value.

Danielle is also open to studying a state lottery if it is transparent, voter-approved where required, and structured so the public can clearly see who benefits and where the money goes. Nevada's Constitution currently restricts lotteries, so any serious proposal would need to address the legal process honestly.

Danielle's position: Public money belongs to the public, and budgets should serve people, not insiders.

NV Energy and Utility Rates

Danielle believes Nevadans deserve clearer explanations, stronger ratepayer protection, and more scrutiny of long-term energy decisions.

The Governor does not directly set electric rates. Those decisions go through Nevada's utility-regulation process. But a Governor can appoint leaders, demand transparency, support consumer protection, question long-term infrastructure costs, and push for policies that keep energy reliable and affordable.

NV Energy is a regulated utility, and utility matters are overseen through Nevada's Public Utilities Commission process. Nevada has also debated energy-choice proposals in prior elections.

Danielle's position: Nevadans should not need to be energy experts to understand why their bills are going up or who benefits from major utility decisions.

Water and the Colorado River

Danielle believes Nevada's water future requires honesty, innovation, conservation, and long-term planning.

Water decisions cannot be separated from growth, housing, agriculture, tribal and rural communities, data centers, energy development, and the Colorado River. Nevada cannot solve the Colorado River alone, but it can be more disciplined about what kind of growth it encourages and what public benefits are promised in exchange for public resources.

Danielle's position: Nevada should protect its water future by tying growth and economic-development decisions to transparent water planning and realistic long-term costs.

Data Centers and AI Infrastructure

Danielle supports innovation, but she does not support giving away public benefits before Nevada fully understands the public costs.

Before expanding data center tax abatements or infrastructure commitments, Nevada should require clear public information about water use, energy demand, grid impacts, backup power, emissions, infrastructure costs, permanent Nevada jobs, ratepayer impacts, and enforceable public benefits.

Nevada law allows data center companies to apply for partial abatements from certain taxes, and GOED describes data center abatements as available for qualifying companies that locate or expand in Nevada.

Danielle's position: If technology companies want public support, they should be willing to provide public answers.

ICE, Immigration, and State Data Privacy

Danielle believes Nevada must follow the law, protect due process, and keep public safety focused on serious harm.

Immigration enforcement is primarily federal, but Nevada still has responsibility for how state agencies, schools, data systems, and local partnerships operate within the law. Danielle does not believe undocumented status alone should be treated the same as violent crime or organized criminal activity.

She supports clear state policies on data sharing, warrants, subpoenas, due process, school safety, and public accountability. Schools should remain focused on educating children, and families should not be afraid to send their children to school.

Danielle's position: Nevada can respect the law, protect constitutional rights, and focus enforcement priorities on serious harm.

Read by Grade 3 and Literacy

Danielle believes every child should be reading well by third grade. She does not believe mandatory retention should be treated as the main solution when the system failed to intervene early enough.

Holding a child back affects more than reading. It can affect math, science, art, confidence, friendships, social development, and long-term engagement in school. Danielle supports earlier screening, reading specialists and interventionists, tutoring, family book access, community reading programs, libraries, after-school and summer support, special education screening, English learner support, and standards-aligned educational content wherever families can access it.

Nevada's Department of Education states that AB 289 removed the Grade 3 mandatory retention requirement from Read by Grade 3.

Danielle's position: Children should not pay the price for adult systems waiting too long to respond.

Education Funding, Special Education, and English Learners

Danielle believes school funding should reflect the real cost of serving students well.

That means Nevada must take special education, English learner support, staffing, transportation, paraprofessionals, school support staff, and student safety seriously. Funding averages are not enough if classrooms do not have the people and services students actually need.

Danielle supports stronger support for special education classrooms, safe staffing conditions, better family communication, language access, and programs that help English learners learn English while continuing to grow academically.

Danielle's position: Nevada should fund the students we have, not the system we wish we had.

Public Safety, Mental Health, and Addiction

Danielle supports accountability for serious harm, protection for victims, and strong public safety systems.

She also believes police cannot be expected to solve every failure that begins somewhere else. Mental health, addiction, homelessness, family instability, school failure, and lack of treatment often show up later as public safety problems. By then, officers are left responding to crises that should have been addressed earlier.

Danielle supports law enforcement while also strengthening mental health care, addiction treatment, crisis response, youth intervention, victim services, corrections oversight, and prevention.

Danielle's position: Supporting police means building the systems around them so they are not expected to solve every failure alone.

Housing and Affordability

Danielle believes Nevada cannot call growth successful if the people who live and work here cannot afford to stay.

Housing affordability is connected to wages, rent, utilities, insurance, transportation, childcare, land use, infrastructure, water, and corporate concentration. Danielle supports increasing attainable housing, protecting pathways to homeownership, scrutinizing corporate ownership and build-to-rent practices, improving consumer protection, and making sure growth pays attention to roads, schools, utilities, and community impact.

Danielle's position: Nevada should not build an economy where working families are priced out of the state they helped build.

Campaign Finance, Candidate Transparency, and Open Primaries

Danielle believes voters deserve more choices and more transparency.

Political money should not be the gatekeeper for who gets heard, who gets taken seriously, or who appears in voter information. Danielle supports stronger campaign finance transparency, legally durable reforms that reduce the influence of money, and public access to information about all legally qualified candidates.

She also supports reforms that give nonpartisan voters more meaningful participation. Nevada's growing number of nonpartisan voters should not be treated as an afterthought in a system built around two party primaries.

Danielle's position: Voters deserve information about all legally qualified candidates, not just the candidates with the most money or party infrastructure.

AI in Schools, Surveillance, and Pricing Algorithms

Danielle uses and teaches AI, and she believes technology can help solve real problems. But she also believes Nevada needs guardrails before harm becomes normal.

AI and automated systems can affect students, workers, consumers, patients, renters, drivers, and families without people realizing a machine helped shape the outcome. Danielle supports transparency, privacy protections, human review, bias testing, student data safeguards, procurement standards, retention limits, and public accountability before government agencies adopt powerful surveillance or automated decision systems.

Federal FERPA protections govern many student education records, and automated license plate reader systems have raised national concerns around retention, sharing, misuse, false alerts, and oversight.

Danielle's position: Innovation should serve people. It should not create systems no one can question, audit, or control.

Summary for Voter Guides and Candidate Comparisons

Danielle Ford is a nonpartisan candidate for Governor of Nevada running on a systems-repair platform.

Danielle's campaign does not fit neatly into one party platform. She supports reproductive freedom, public education, due process, voter access, and stronger care systems. She also supports lawful gun ownership, public safety accountability, secure elections, no new taxes as a first resort, contract scrutiny, procurement reform, and stronger oversight of public spending.

Her nonpartisan position is not that "both sides are the same." Her position is that Nevada's problems are connected, and government should make decisions based on people, evidence, public accountability, and Nevada's long-term future.