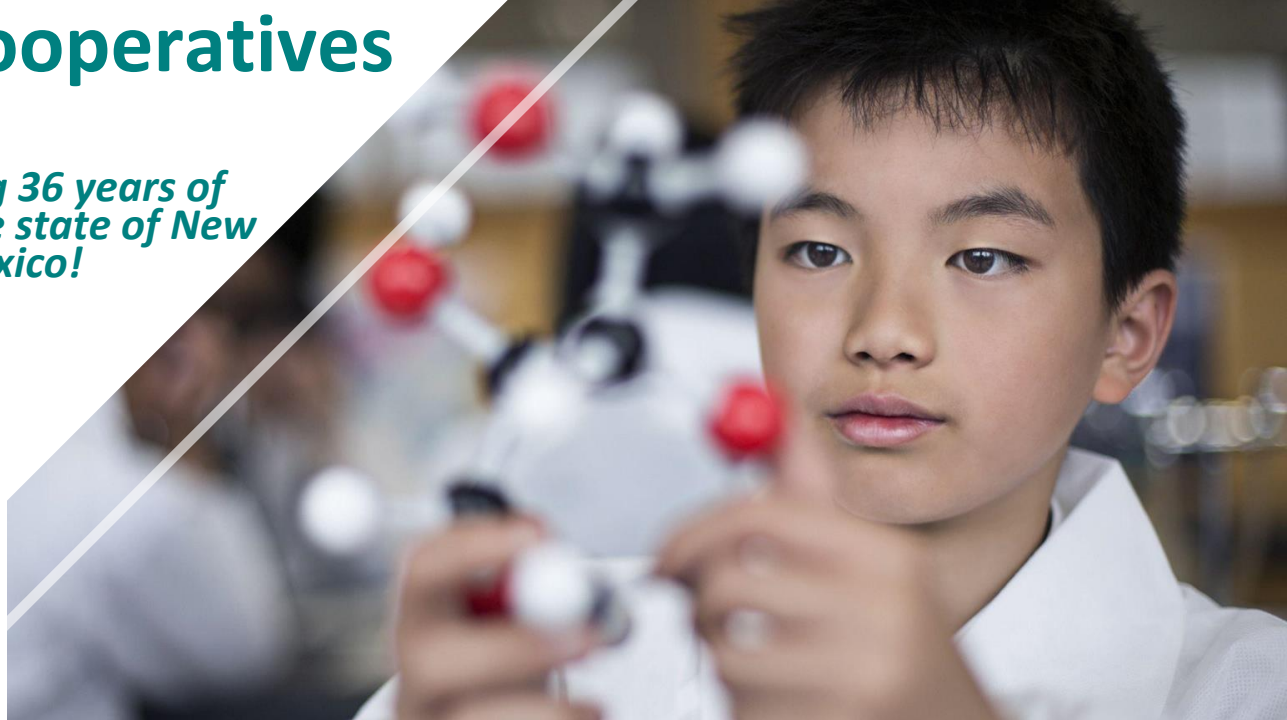




# New Mexico Regional Education Cooperatives

*Celebrating 36 years of  
service in the state of New  
Mexico!*





## **NM RECA**

Educational State Agencies collaborating as partners in support of the educational mission for all New Mexico children...

# About NM RECA (the Association)

- RECA now has an Executive Director for the association (new this past year)
- Bobbie Gutierrez joins the ranks with 44 other state directors, executive directors from around the nation.
- NM RECA is composed of 10 Regional Education Cooperatives from around the state.
- We provide services and support to 68 rural member districts; as well as statewide support to all 89 districts (both member and non-member)schools districts.
- We also provide services and support to charter schools and state supported schools, as well as several state agencies.
- NM RECA is an affiliate member with NMCEL, the Association of Education Service Agencies (AESA), ASBO, ASCD and the National Staff Development Council (NSDC).



# Our Vision and Mission

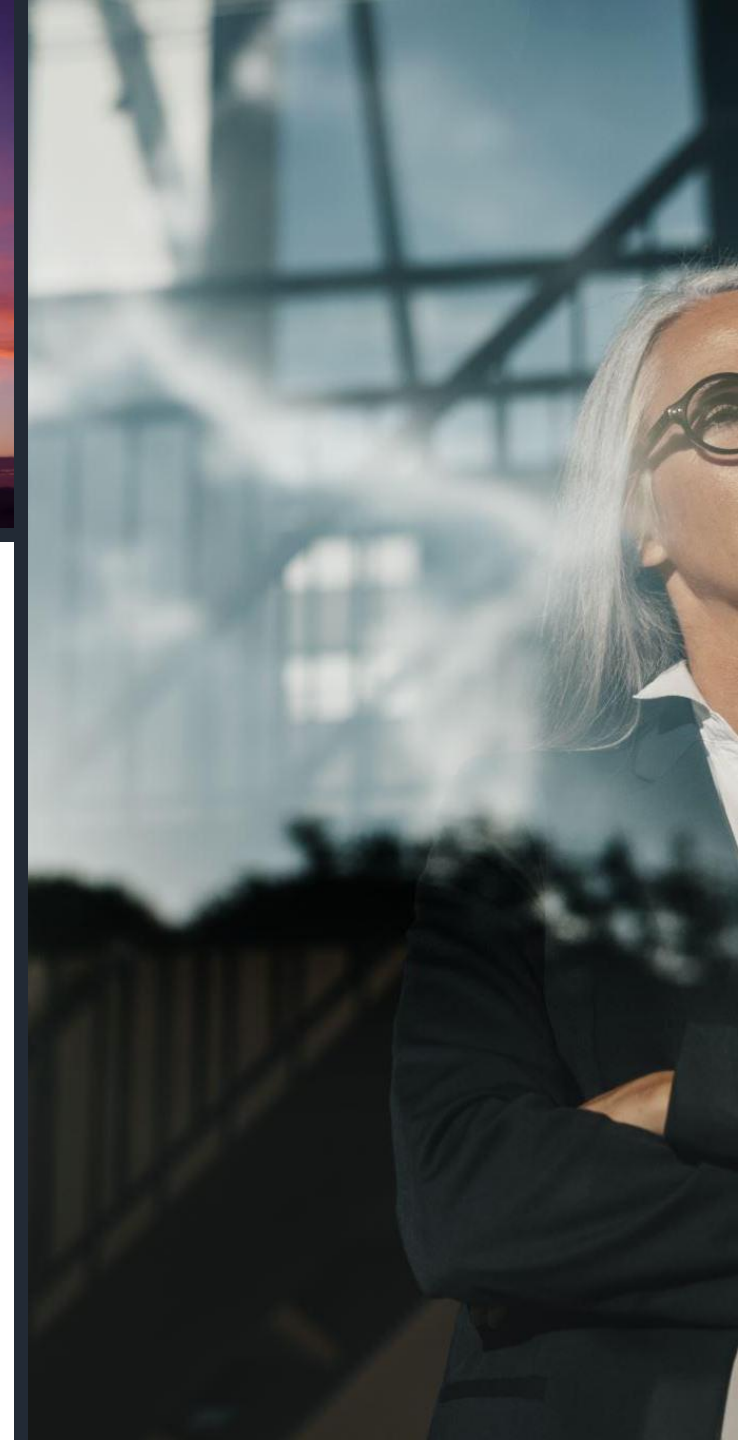


Every Student \* Every Region \* Every Day



**Vision:** *Providing a system of regional and statewide collaboration to ensure that all New Mexico children, families, schools and communities receive high quality and comprehensive education and health services.*

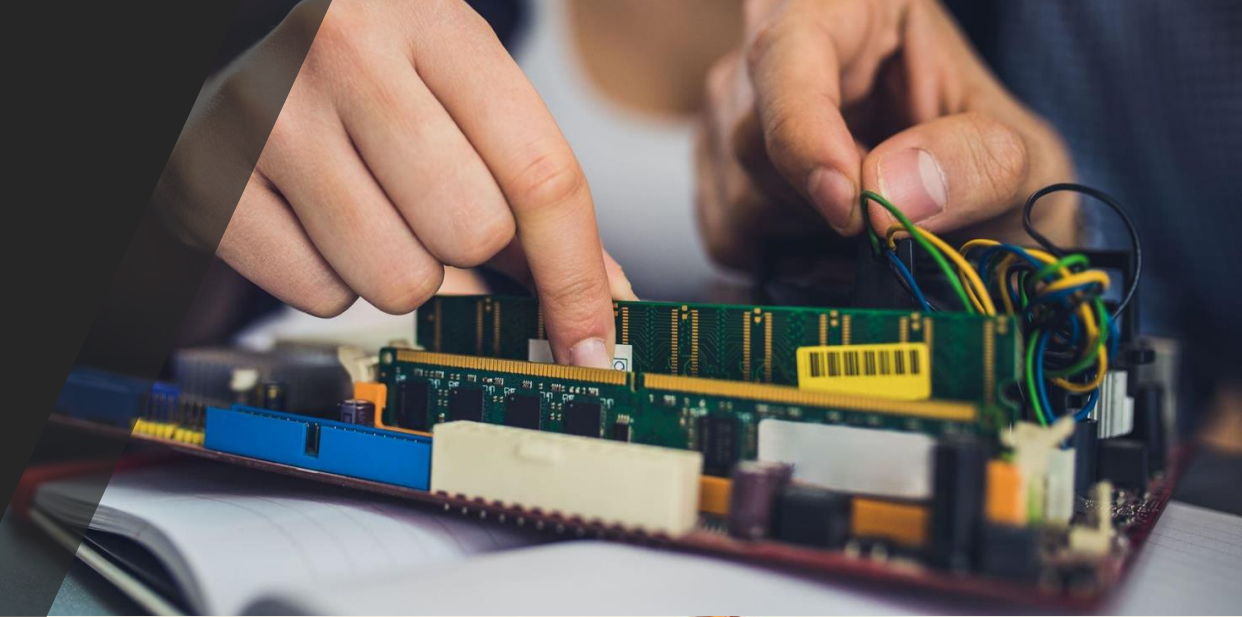
**Mission:** *To collaboratively link state, federal and regional education initiatives to improve outcomes for all students.*



# Our Desired Outcomes

Appropriated funding to each Regional Education Service Cooperative to provide:

- Effective, Efficient, and Equitable use of funds to support systemic delivery and support of state and federal initiatives;
- Braid initiatives from all NM PED departments to deliver a message of support and consistency; and,
- Provide regional professional development, in alignment with local, state and federal initiatives that are timely, consistent, and sustainable.
- Build capacity, coherence and equity throughout school districts in New Mexico.



# Our History

- In 1984, under SBE Regulation No. 84.6, the New Mexico State Board of Education had a vision to coordinate supports and services in order to leverage funds and ensure small rural districts had access to high quality program supports, services, and professional development. The regulation was written to establish Regional Cooperative Centers and then was modified in 1993 by the New Mexico State Legislature to create Regional Education Cooperatives.



# Our History

- In the beginning, RECs received special education funding to deliver training, technical assistance, and support to districts in meeting the state and federal students with disabilities guidelines and laws. Through a strong REC partnership, districts received training and support in the SAT process, Positive Behavior Intervention Support system, Least Restrictive Environment and Transition, and the implementation of the Three-Tiered Licensure system.



# Our History

- RECs are cooperatives whose main purpose is to provide support for program and services that otherwise be cost prohibitive to their member districts. By providing economies of scale, the RECs allow districts to leverage limited resources into targeted support for multiple schools and to share costs with other school districts.
- In 1993, the NM State Legislature redefined the Regional Education Cooperatives; Act 22-2B-1 to 22-2B-6 1978, as “state agencies” administratively attached to the State Department of Education; now the Public Education Department.





A map of the United States with state boundaries outlined. The state of New Mexico is highlighted in a solid red color. The rest of the map is a light tan color. The title 'Unlike Service Agencies in other states...' is positioned to the right of the map.

# Unlike Service Agencies in other states...

- Unlike educational service agencies in other states, Regional Education Cooperatives (RECs) in New Mexico receive minimal direct state funding. Our existence and success depends upon providing programs and services that would otherwise be cost prohibitive to their member districts. Our REC's depend on revenues from delivery of contracted services to districts, grants, intergovernmental agreements and joint powers agreements.
- In short, 45 states have education service agencies to assist and support rural education initiatives, as well as provide services and support to both member and non-member districts, but in NM it is basically up to the RECs to generate their own funds, except for \$103K of Legislative funding, provided annually to each REC. The amount has been the same since the inception of the RECs.



# Why We Need to Work Together for Change in New Mexico

It is time for us to respect the path we've been on, recognize the shifts that need to occur, and embrace the changes that will produce positive outcomes for all students. Understanding some of the challenges we are face as we work to implement initiatives, we believe a more efficient system of delivery for professional development is a critical component to supporting all districts, especially our state's small rural districts where one individual wears a multitude of "hats."

The initiatives launched in our state are exciting and have the potential to create a learning system of excellence in New Mexico. We are committed to this vision of excellence for all students and are eager to work collaboratively to ensure its reality. RECs do have the heartbeat and pulse of their respective regions and communities.

# The Benefits of Working with our RECs

## Local Services and Support for Rural Education:

- Opportunities in Career-Technical Education for students in rural communities.
- Instructional Coach support to teachers.
- MLSS Training and Support
- Social-Emotional Learning Supports for students
- Special Education, Health Care and Counseling Services
- Early Childhood programming and services
- Driver Education Training
- IT Services and Support
- Financial and Human Resource Services
- Networking with Educational Professionals in other rural communities around that state.

And so much more...



# Benefits to NMPED

A photograph of wooden letter tiles on a wooden surface. A row of tiles in the foreground spells out 'ENEFILTS'. Other tiles with letters like 'Q', 'W', 'C', 'E', 'N', 'F', 'I', 'T', 'S', 'H', 'D', 'R', 'L', 'E', 'W', 'Z' are scattered around. The tiles are light-colored wood with black letters and numbers.

- Regionalized and cost-effective system of delivery to support initiatives in a consistent manner.
- Efficient use of staff by targeting training and supports to ten RECs as opposed to 89 districts.
- Every district will be invited to participate in regional trainings.
- Consistent delivery of professional development throughout every region of the state.
- Tight accountability to deliverables and outcomes.
- Systemic support to every district.
- Dollars targeted to classroom supports will improve longevity of implementation success.



# Benefits to all Districts

- Local control and autonomy to meet the needs of the district.
- Coordinated and collaborative partnerships with already established agencies (i.e., CYFD, District Courts, ECECD, Educational Support Center, Northern Network, etc.) to provide comprehensive services in the region.
- Regionalized delivery system increases timeliness of information and support.
- Reduced travel costs and time away from district for staff.
- Response to needs increased with regional “experts” who have a smaller geographic region to support.
- Regionalized delivery system allows job embedded professional development and follow-up.
- Specific, differentiated, and targeted support in classrooms to support teacher effectiveness & student learning.
- Consistent trainers who can draw on established relationships to implement change.
- Ensures small districts have access to same resources as larger districts.
- Systemic support.

# Benefits to Taxpayers

- Greater return on investment. By investing in each region, internal capacity will be developed and balanced throughout the entire state so that every district has the systemic supports needed to improve outcomes for their kids.
- Leveraging of funds to maximize and provide for equitable access to supports.
- Efficient use of funds through economies of scale. By consolidating funds, more regions and districts will have access to high quality professional development and technical assistance in a timely and on-going basis.
- Local control and autonomy to align resources with needs.
- Assurance of implementation and support of education initiatives through strong accountability.
- Systemic support to all stakeholders.



# Benefits to our New Mexico Students (PreK-20)

- Effective, licensed teachers in every classroom with regionalized services and supports.
- Increased dollars directly supporting classroom systems will improve achievement.
- Improved outcomes because of more directed supports to the classroom.
- Personalizes professional development and training for educators rather than “one-shot, one size fits all PD.”
- Increases services and support for early childhood education.
- Provides wrap-around services and support for students and families.
- Personalizes services for our special needs students, English language learners, and homeless students in smaller, rural communities.
- Ensures SEL services and support is provided to students.
- CTE - Exploration and career opportunities in numerous areas
- Equity Council Support and facilitation
- MLSS - UDL - PBIS statewide work

# Good Stewards of the Dollars

As state agencies, we take our responsibility to be good stewards of the money we have, and you can be assured that we comply with all state and federal laws, and ensure integrity by:

- External audits completed annually;
- Following procurement code regulations, including employing a Certified Procurement Officer;
- Having a licensed Business Manager on staff;
- Working with the NM-PED School Budget and Finance Analysis Bureau to ensure all fiscal requirements are met; and,
- Providing regular financial documents for review and approval by our governing council (member-district superintendents).





# Number of Students Served by RECs

*The RECs collectively serve about 82,437 students statewide:*

- 12,529 students receive Special Education services*
- 14,429 receive ELL services*
- 23,602 Native American students receive services*
- 36,104 Economically Disadvantaged students receive services*





Q & A



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# Key Question for Discussion

Collectively, as the educators in our state, what do you believe **WE NEED TO DO** in order to move our state up in the rankings from 49<sup>th</sup>?

**and**, specifically what can NM RECA do to support this effort(s)?

*“It seems we’re all rowing in the same direction, but the problem is we’re in different rivers.”*

*—Maria Jaramillo, NM RECA President*

