



Joining Together on Behalf of Kids

Prepared for the NM School Boards Association

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Presentation Overview

Topics

1. Healthy schools and what we are doing to provide supports
2. Appreciate school board members, strengthen our NMSBA partnership
3. Public School Support Recommendations for the 2023 Legislature
4. A call to action for school boards and education leaders, Q&A

Prevention, Response, and Resiliency Coordinator

Actions to Support Schools Across NM



- Creating a school climate and culture that aligns with research-based practices
- Launching a restorative practices program aimed at addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
- Elevating the student voice
- Developing inclusionary approaches to discipline and accountability

Professional Development and Technical Assistance

Actions to Support Schools Across NM



- Implementing trauma-responsive strategies for prevention and early intervention
- Streamlining whole-school safety planning
- Adopting new classroom strategies for students
- Helping staff with self-care
- Engaging families and community

Sharing Success Stories

Actions in Santa Fe



From left to right: Capital High Site Coordinator Adrian Sotelo, Capital High students Emanuel and Donovan, and Capital High Site Coordinator Sinte Torrez.

- Bringing community resources to support families
- Example from Capital High School in Santa Fe:
 - Emanuel didn't have to drop out to get a job--he was able to weather the storm and stay in school
 - "I didn't fall behind," Emanuel told the New Mexican.

Project Aware

Actions to Support Schools Across NM



- Providing funds from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSA)
- Expanding mental health services for students
- Training staff and students about suicide prevention
- Using data from schools to support policy development
- Destigmatizing mental health

Promoting “Healthy Schools” Initiatives

Actions to Support Schools Across NM



- Providing training and mini grants
- Strengthening healthy schools supports for students, staff and communities
- Working with district and school-site coordinators

Increasing School Behavioral Health Workforce

Actions to Support Schools Across NM

Supporting
mental health and
wellbeing in schools



- Securing funds from the US Department of Education
- Implementing the [Expanding Opportunities Project](#) to recruit and retain school-based mental health (SBMH) providers to serve the needs of students

School Behavioral Health Counselors

Actions to Support Schools Across NM



- Starting November 29, 2022, the new license became available for full implementation
- Delivering instruction that proactively enhances awareness of mental health; promotes positive, healthy behaviors; and seeks to remove the stigma associated with mental health issues
- Recognizing mental health warning signs including changes in school performance and attendance or mood changes

Thank you for stepping up to be a school board member

Great responsibility: setting the vision, recognizing successes, establishing accountability measures, and developing policies to help students thrive



**Budget
Supports
Program**

**Superintendent
Feedback**

**Work
Collaboratively**

**Community
Voice**

Respecting You as an Elected Official

Authority & Duties

§ 22-5-4 NMSA



- School board members are unselfish leaders -- the greatest supporters of public education
 - Awarding diplomas to students
 - Reviewing and approving the educational plan aligned with the budget
 - Working to ensure the needs of both the district and community are met
- And many more...

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Goal - Move the Needle and Close the Gaps

Strategies

- 1. Leadership** – strong focus on attendance, achievement, and graduation
- 2. Workforce** - representative of the student population, fill 600 teacher vacancies, hard to fill positions and address salary compaction
- 3. Time** – identify ways to increase time for student learning, hands-on activities, professional development, and staff collaboration

Education has become more complex

Budget - \$3.8 billion (HB2) & \$1.6 billion (federal ARP), 45% of the state budget, over 310,000 students

Court Orders: 1) Zuni – equity for school facilities, 2) Martinez & Yazzie – sufficiency and equity, 3) Technology - equity for home connectivity, homework gap

Requires Greater Collaboration



PED Longer-term Priorities – Continuous Improvement

Educator Ecosystem

- Educator Recruitment
- Educator Compensation
- Educator Career Ladders
- Supports for Educators and School Leaders

Profiles and Pathways

- Graduate Profiles
- Graduation Requirements
- Experiential Learning (career-technical education, work-based learning, project-based learning)

Support Structures

- Data and Cybersecurity
- Research and Evaluation
- Financial Oversight and Transparency
- Strategic Outreach

Whole Child

- Early Literacy
- Reading and Mathematics
- Special Education
- Fine Arts, PE, and Extracurriculars
- Implementation of Key Acts

Supports and Opportunities

- Community Schools
- K-5 Plus and ELTP
- Closing the Digital Divide

Implementation Strategies

School Board Leadership



- Coordinating access to resources - time, talent and dollars
- Making better use of resources
- Implementing research-based initiatives
- Conducting, monitoring and oversight of the educational program
- Evaluating programs and initiatives, tracking outcomes, and continuously improving

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Outcomes

Use Baseline Data

Set Measurable Goals

Support Educators



1. Closing the opportunity gaps that impede equitable student success
2. Increasing student achievement
3. Graduating more students from high school, prepared for college, career, and civic life
4. Eliminating pervasive disparities among student subgroups

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1. Leadership



Positive leadership leads to improvements in attendance, achievement, and graduation

- Increase minimum salaries for Principals
- Implement principal residencies
- Provide strategic professional development

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2. Workforce



Expand the Talent Pool for Education

- Increase diversity
- Continue the positive momentum
 - Proposed 4% raise for all staff
 - Proposed fund for hard to fill and address compaction
- Special education literacy coaches and universal design for learning
- Supports for Educator Fellows Program and Teacher Residencies

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3. Time



Address the need - more hours for students engaged in learning and staff professional work-time

- Local decision making
- Options to customize for each unique community, expand community schools, and provide additional behavioral health supports
- Enhance extended learning options for near-peer tutoring, hands-on learning, and students with IEPs

A call to action

- Communication
 - Outstanding teaching and learning
 - Pride in our students and staff
 - Strengths-based approach
 - Agendas tied to goals
- Move the needle
 - Improve attendance
 - Increase math and language arts achievement and close the gap
 - Increase graduation rates
- Identify strategies to provide more time for students and teachers to be fully engaged in learning, examples:
 - Exploration day
 - 4-H Days
 - Cultural experiences
 - Saturday school
- What flexibility do you need?
 - Send ideas to: learning.time@state.nm.us

Thank you!

Q&A

