

**NEW MEXICO**

**Public Education Department**

# **FY25 Legislative Priorities**

**Arsenio Romero, Ph.D.**  
**Secretary of Education**

# Strategies for Improving Student Outcomes

- Implement structured literacy
- Improve special education services
- Recruit, retain, and develop excellent teachers and school leaders
- Improve instruction
- Close the learning gap
- Improve data systems to evaluate programs and outcomes
- Promote student health, well-being, and safety



# Demographics Update: K-12 in Public Schools

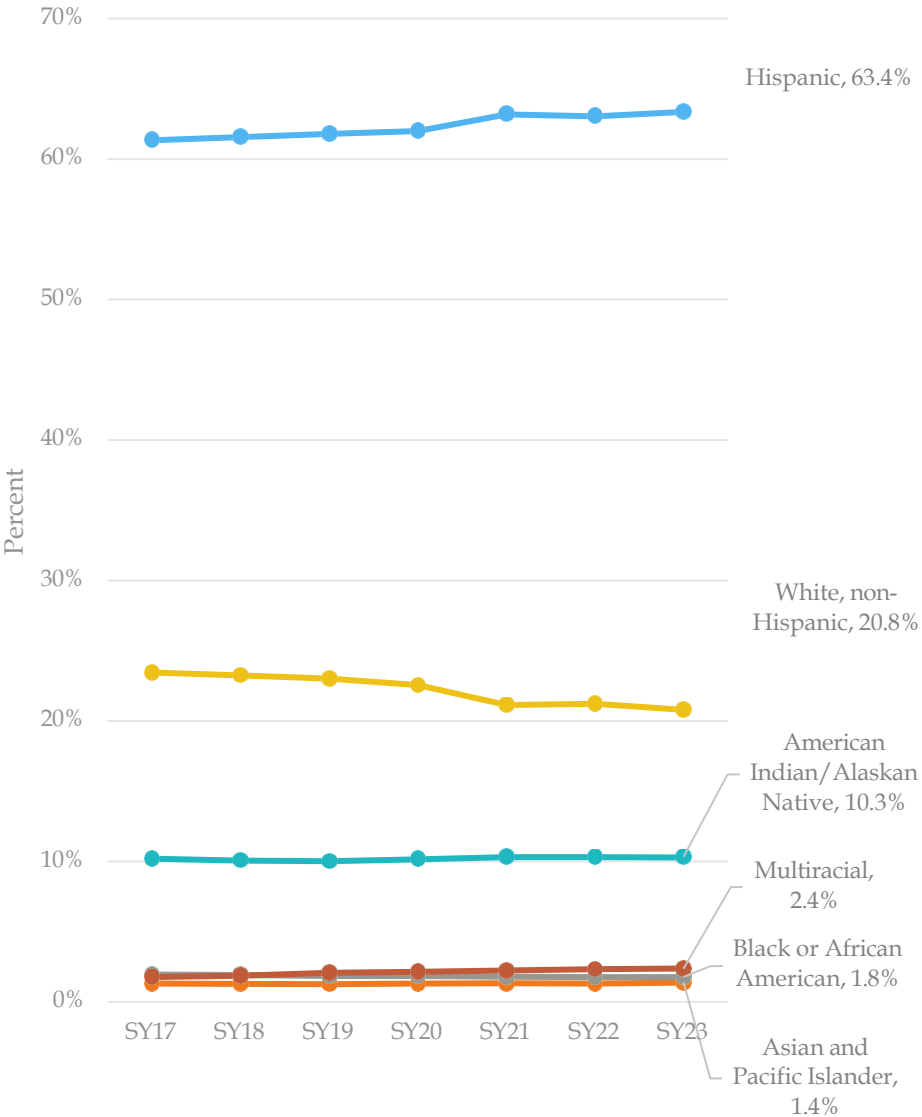
305,563 Students

- 56,367 English Learners
- 55,918 Students with IEPs
- 12,401 Students with GIEPs
- 136,210 Direct-certified economically disadvantaged
- 45,705 Students in bilingual-multicultural programs

Ethnicity Distribution

- 1.4% Asian and Pacific Islander
- 1.8% Black
- 63.2% Hispanic
- 2.4% Multiracial
- 10.3% Native American
- 20.8% White

### Demographic Trends

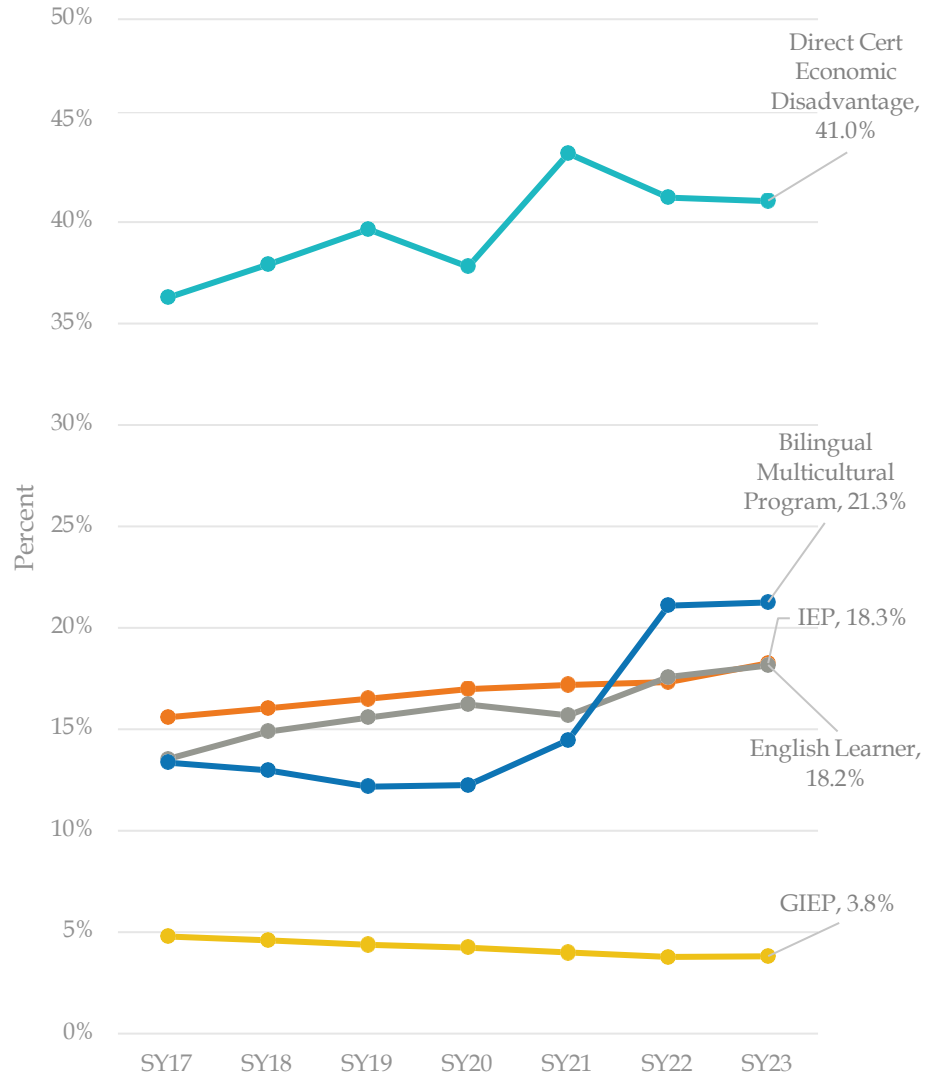


# Increasing in Diversity

- Demographic trends in race and ethnicity

SY	Total Enrollment
2018-2019	323,758
2019-2020	321,350
2020-2021	308,883
2021-2022	308,679
2022-2023	305,563

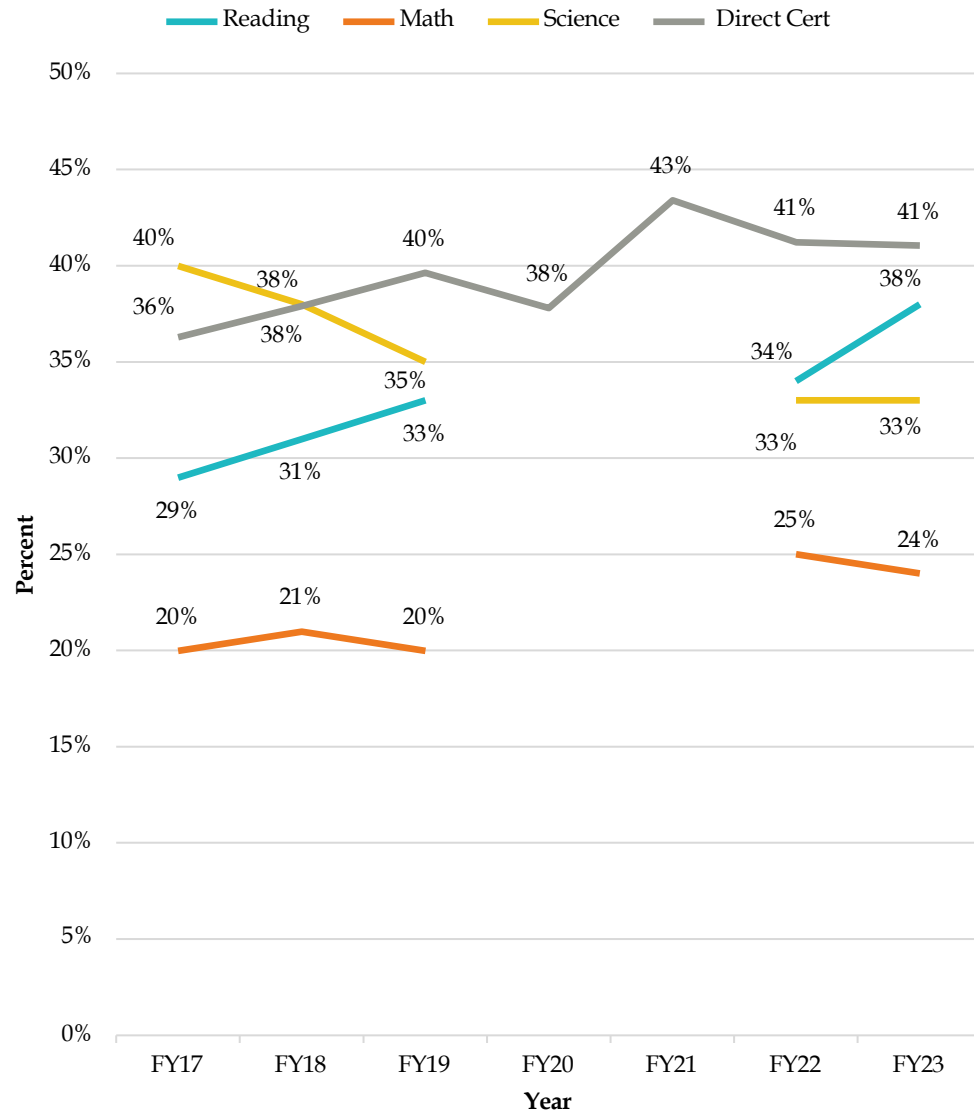
## Demographic Trends



# Identifying Student Needs

- Increasing rates of students with economic disadvantage, students with disabilities, and English learners.
- Increasing participation in bilingual-multicultural programs.
- Decreasing rates of identification for gifted and talented students.

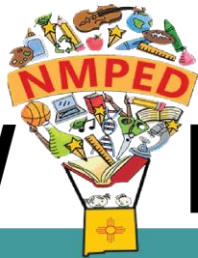
## Proficiency Rates and Economic Disadvantage



# Making Academic Gains Against the Odds

- Raising reading and math proficiency rates even as rates of economic disadvantage increase.

Please Note  
*Assessment gap due to COVID  
 FY19, FY20, and FY 21.*



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**Agency Budget**

# PED Base Increases

	PED Funding Requests (in thousands)	
<b>Reduce Vacancy Rate</b>	Additional funding to fill more vacancies and reduce the agency vacancy rate	\$707.7
<b>Staff Support</b>	To fund positions created in previous fiscal years from below the line funding in the Hispanic Education, At-Risk, Black Education, and IT bureaus	\$1,354.1
<b>Additional FTEs</b>	Thirteen new positions to assist in critical roles; the request is for additional positions in the finance and operations, literacy, policy, and IT bureaus	\$1,523.7
<b>Satellite Offices</b>	Funding to continue the support of the Albuquerque and Las Cruces satellite offices to improve recruitment, retention, and employee morale	\$330.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,915.5</b>

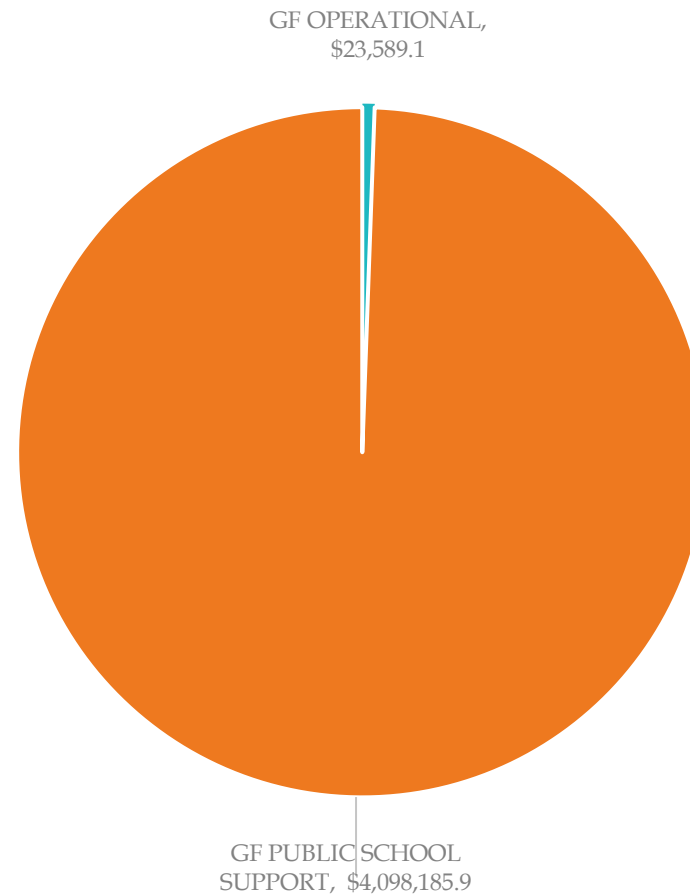
LFC recommended increase: \$351.5



# Agency Budget and Managed Funds

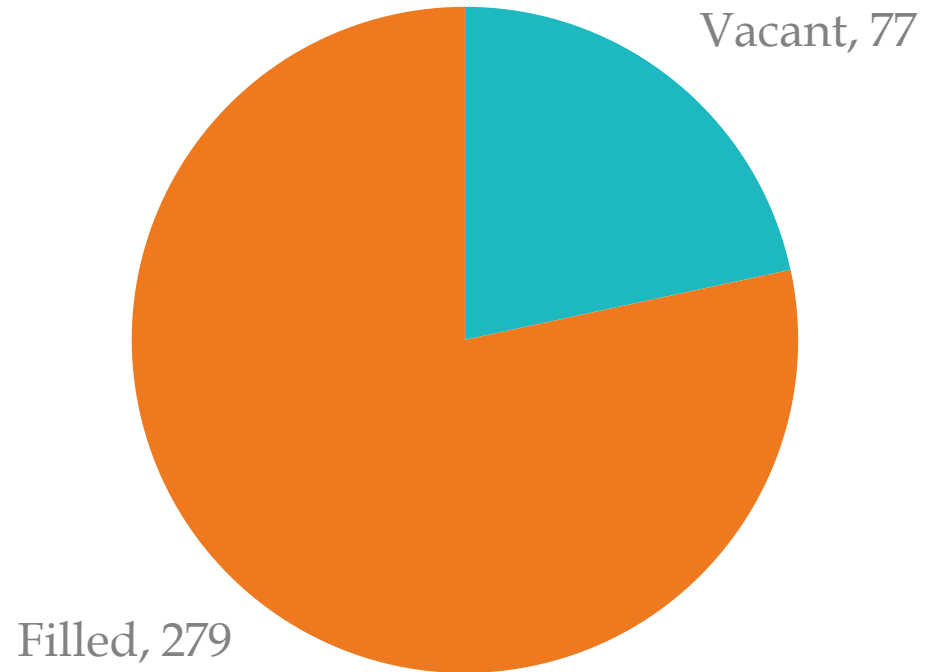
## Agency Budget and PSSR

The PED agency budget is .057% of the funds managed by the agency



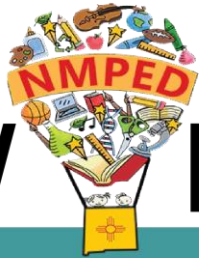
# Agency Vacancies

PED Current Vacancies



*Vacancy rate 21.6%*

**Funded Positions: 273**  
(forced vacancy rate 23.7%)



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**Public School  
Support Request**

# Implement Structured Literacy

- \$30M for statewide student reading interventions (\$3M LFC)
- \$14M for science of reading professional development & instructional materials in elementary schools
  - LETRS for 5<sup>th</sup>-grade and middle school teachers (2,300 teachers)
  - 75 literacy coaches
- \$5.1M for science of reading professional development & instructional materials in secondary schools (\$0 LFC)
  - PD, coaching, and support for 5,000 secondary teachers on supporting students below grade level in reading



# Improve Special Education Services

- \$16M for salary differentials for special education and other hard-to-fill positions (\$15M LFC)
- \$6M for special education initiatives (\$5M LFC)
  - Support for statewide IEP infrastructure
  - Professional development (Accelerate NM SED)
  - Increase department capacity for technical assistance, monitoring and enforcement



# Recruit, Retain and Develop Excellent Teachers and School Leaders

- \$94.5M for a 3% salary increase for all staff (\$125.5M LFC)
- \$42.5M for Educator Fellows, teacher residencies, and paid student teaching (\$35.4M LFC)
  - 1,147 pre-service teachers supported
- \$2M for principal, counselor, and social worker residencies
  - Residencies for 21 participants
- \$.5M for *Education is Calling* media campaign (\$0 LFC)



# Improve Instruction

- \$101.1M for K-12 plus (\$60M LFC)
- \$34M for school improvement, transformation, and turn around (\$0 LFC)
- \$40M for CTE, Innovation Zones, work-based learning (\$13M LFC)
- \$15.1M for Family Income Index funding and supports (\$10M LFC)
- \$8.1M for math and science professional development and technical assistance (\$3M LFC)
- \$10M increase for instructional materials (\$0 LFC)



# Close the Learning Gap

- \$25M for out of school learning time and tutoring (\$5M LFC)
- \$26.4M to fund Bilingual Multicultural Education, Black Education, Hispanic Education, and Indian Education (\$20M LFC)
- \$6M for attendance success initiatives (\$5M LFC)
- \$12.5M for community schools (\$8M LFC)
- \$1.5M for universal gifted screening (\$0 LFC)





# Improve Data Systems to Evaluate Programs and Outcomes

- \$2 M for data analysis and program evaluation (\$0 LFC)
- \$1 M for secure data preview portal and data warehouse (\$0 LFC)
- \$0.8 M for school calendar management software (\$0 LFC)



# Promote Student Health, Well-being, and Safety

- \$43.5M for universal free meals (\$21M LFC)
- \$6.5M to fund elementary physical education (\$0 LFC)
- \$1M for students experiencing homelessness (\$0 LFC)
- \$6M for behavioral health supports (\$0 LFC)
- \$1M for cybersecurity (\$0 LFC)
- \$1M mobile panic buttons (\$0 LFC)



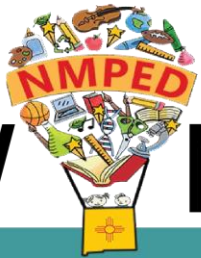
# Supplemental Requests

- \$25 M to fund current year uptake of K-12 plus (\$0 LFC)
- \$19.9 M for current year expenditures in universal free meals (\$0 LFC)



# Other significant cuts from LFC

- *Assessment: \$4M*
- *Learning Management System: \$2.2M*
- *Educator Evaluation System: \$2M (zeroed)*
- *Agency Budget: \$1.9M*
- *Micro-Credentials for Licensure Advancement: \$.9M*
- *Transportation for 180 Day Minimum Calendars: \$2.9M (zeroed)*
- *Summer Enrichment Internships: \$8M (zeroed)*
- *Tribal and Rural Out of School Time: \$6.5M (zeroed)*
- *Standard Assessment Data Collection (Ed-Fi): \$1M (zeroed)*
- *Nova Space Telescope (Data System): \$3.2M (zeroed)*
- *Customer Relations Management: \$1.1M (zeroed)*
- *Outdoor Classroom Initiatives: \$.25 (zeroed)*
- *School Safety Summit: \$.2 (zeroed)*
- *Graduate Profiles: \$.405 (zeroed)*



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**Legislative Proposals**

# Possible Legislation

- High School Graduation Requirements

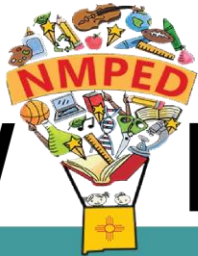
- making high school more relevant to students and communities,
- increasing flexibility in scheduling
- reducing redundant testing requirements, and
- requiring completion of a two-unit career pathway.

- Attendance

- Reduce exclusionary practices
- Clean up references to compulsory attendance
- Clarify the 10-day drop rule
- Add a fund
- Reduce burden

- School Boards

- increase training requirements
- webcasting meetings
- pause on firing superintendents (without cause)
- financial disclosures for all receiving > \$1000



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**Rule Promulgation**

# Rule Promulgation

- **School Calendar Requirements**

- Minimum 180 days with students
- At least half of all school weeks will be five-day weeks
- Days are 5.5 – 7.5 hours long
- Up to four days of instruction may be planned remote

- **Accreditation**

- Applies to K-12 Public Schools
- Only applies to BIE funded or private schools who desire accreditation from the PED
- Defines a process for accreditation
  - ✓ Based on current requirements in statute and rule
  - ✓ Secretary makes determination



**Thank you!**

Question and Answer

