

[EXT] 6.60.8 NMAC, Background Checks for Educator Licensure

Erin Middleton <emiddle@gmail.com>

Sun 12/2/2018 4:39 PM

To:FeedBack, Rule, PED <Rule.FeedBack@state.nm.us>;

To Whom It May Concern-

Thank you for revisiting school background checks. While I support this rule change, I would like there to be stronger background checks for volunteers even if they are not alone with students. I believe those volunteers who regularly visit classroom should also have background checks, such as those visiting four or more times per year. This would not include parents coming to a classroom to attend a child's performance or project demonstration. Moreover, I would like this to be resubmitted at regular intervals, such as every five years. While I understand this might put an unfair financial burden on parents and create additional work for principals or district officials in the local LEA to track this information, I believe student safety is more important.

Sincerely-
Erin Middleton

[EXT] 6.60.8 NMAC Response_Albuquerque Public Schools

Dahl, Heather J <heather.dahl@aps.edu>

Mon 12/3/2018 11:03 AM

To:FeedBack, Rule, PED <Rule.FeedBack@state.nm.us>;

 1 attachment

NMAC 6.60.8 Response_APS.pdf;

Ms. Gonzales,

Please find attached response for proposed rule 6.60.8 NMAC, Background Checks, from Albuquerque Public Schools.

Thank you,
Heather Dahl

Heather Dahl, Ph.D.

Policy Analyst/Government Affairs Liaison | Albuquerque Public Schools

Cell: [505-350-1649](tel:505-350-1649) | heather.dahl@aps.edu | [PO Box 25704 Albuquerque, NM 87125-0704](mailto:heather.dahl@aps.edu)

December 3, 2018

Ms. Jamie Gonzales
New Mexico Public Education Department
300 Don Gaspar Ave.
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Submitted via Email: rule.feedback@state.nm.us

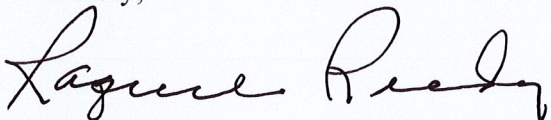
Dear Ms. Gonzales:

Thank you for allowing feedback on proposed rule change 6.60.8 NMAC, Background Checks for Educator Licensure from the New Mexico Public Education Department.

The Albuquerque Public Schools administration, strongly encourages the New Mexico Public Education Department to not issue any rule changes within six-months of a new gubernatorial administration. Proposed rule changes during this time along with the volume of proposed rule changes make it difficult for any school district, stakeholder, parent, student, teacher, or other community member to adequately evaluate the proposed rule change and provide comment. Additionally, approving such rule changes, provide bureaucratic burden and uncertainty during any gubernatorial administration transition.

If you should have, any questions or concerns please contact Heather Dahl, APS Government Affairs and Policy at heather.dahl@aps.edu.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raquel Reedy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Raquel" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Reedy".

Raquel Reedy
Superintendent

[EXT] 6.60.8 NMAC, Background Checks for Educator Licensure

Warren Ledbetter <wledbetter@portalesschools.com>

Thu 12/6/2018 9:50 AM

To:FeedBack, Rule, PED <Rule.FeedBack@state.nm.us>;

Dear Ms. Gonzales,

Upon review of the proposed change to rule 6.60.8, I find I have a concern. As a teacher of over 15 years, I have had the misfortune of having two occasions where teachers and / or staff were charged and later convicted of improper advances and contact with a student. In both cases, investigation showed that while the charged individuals had passed the initial licensure background checks, the fact that they stayed with a single district protected them from further checks which in both cases, would have indicated there was a developing problem. In that teachers are entrusted with the most precious resource this state has, I feel that a background check should accompany ANY licensure request, including re- licensure or re-applying for a license about to lapse.

I realize that this is a late entry, but I thank you for your consideration in this matter. I firmly believe that with the title of educator comes the responsibility to show to our community that we can be trusted with this honor.

--

Warren W Ledbetter

Graduated from ENMU in Dec. 2000

BS in Education, Special Education

A messy desk is a happy desk. My desk is ecstatic.