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SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
GOVERNOR

December 31, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents & Charter School Leaders

FROM: Christopher N. Ruszkowski, Secretary of Education

RE: 2018-19 New Mexico Whole School Survey (ESSA)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "C.R.", enclosed in a hand-drawn oval.

The New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED), after more than two years of stakeholder engagement and input, would like to share with you, your district leaders, and your schools leaders the 2018-19 *Whole School Survey* items. We heard your feedback, and we responded—the new *Whole School Survey* items provide a more comprehensive review of overall school performance and delivery for the whole child.

The new *Whole School Survey* items are required under New Mexico’s State Plan under the Every Students Succeeds Act (ESSA), which promised new domains and items for the 2018-19 school year. Families and educators across the state advocated for a more comprehensive appraisal of how are schools are serving students and families (previously called the “Opportunity to Learn” survey, which focused solely on classroom instruction). NMPED held multiple community meetings and working groups during the development of the State Plan, including engagement specific to the survey, now titled the *Whole School Survey*.

After two years of engagement, research, and analysis, NMPED has identified a set of items to measure and capture the following domains: **School Climate, School Rigorous Expectations, School Teacher-Student relationships, School Belonging, and School Safety.** Woven throughout the survey are items focusing on the whole child: academic learning, socio-emotional learning, school culture, student supports, and meaningful engagement of families.

Please see attached for the items for the 2018-19 school year.

There are three versions of the Whole School Survey:

- Parent Survey—For Students in Grades K-2
- Student Survey—Grades 3rd – 5th
- Student Survey—Grades 6th – 12th

The survey assesses five domains, which are listed below:

- **School Climate:** Perceptions of the overall social and learning climate of the school
- **School Rigorous Expectations:** How much students feel that their teachers hold them to high expectations around effort, understanding, persistence and performance in class
- **School Teacher-Student Relationships:** How strong the social connection is between teachers and students within and beyond the school
- **School Belonging:** How much students feel that they are valued members of the school community
- **School Safety:** Perceptions of student physical and psychological safety while at school

We could not have developed this without your voice and input—and we thank you for your collaboration since 2016 on this.

Please direct any questions to Jamie Gonzales, Deputy Director, Policy, Innovation, and Measurement Division at Jamie.Gonzales@state.nm.us.

Enc. New Mexico Whole School Survey