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May 14, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, BIE Administrators, Charter School Leaders

FROM: Gwen Perea-Warniment, PhD, Deputy Secretary of Teaching, Learning & Assessment
Kara Bobroff, Deputy Secretary of Identity, Equity & Transformation

RE: **Release of 2015 National Indian Education Study (NIES) Additional Analysis**

On Tuesday, May 7, 2019, the National Center for Educational Statistics released the 2015 National Indian Education Study: A Second Look.

The NIES provides a more complete picture of the status of education for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) students in the US. The study provides educators, policymakers, and the public with information about the academic performance in reading and mathematics of AI/AN fourth- and eighth-graders. It describes the conditions and explores the educational experiences of education for AI/AN students participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) assessments and includes in their findings New Mexico's aggregated student data.

The recent NIES release focuses primarily on two issues: 1) contextual factors that are associated with higher- and lower-performing AI/AN students on the NAEP and 2) how AI/AN students view themselves in terms of their Native languages, culture, and aspirations for the future.

The NIES samples AI/AN students in public, private, Department of Defense, and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) funded schools as part of the administration of the NAEP. Conducted in 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2015, and 2017, New Mexico AI/AN student data have been included in the studies since 2007.

The NIES 2015: A Closer Look full report is available for review here:
<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2019048-A-Closer-Look-5-7-2019.pdf>.

cc: Karen Trujillo, PhD, Secretary of Education
Tim Hand, PhD, Deputy Secretary of Policy, Research & Accountability
Kata Sandoval, Deputy Secretary of Academic Engagement & Student Success
Lynn Vasquez, State Assessment Director
Marie Julienne, PhD, NAEP State Coordinator