## BEFORE THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION STATE OF NEW MEXICO

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
OPEN PUBLIC MEETING
June 14, 2019
9:00 a.m.
Jerry Apodaca Education Building - Mabry Hall
Santa Fe, New Mexico

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	2 (Pages 2 to 3)
Page 2	Page 4
1 APPEARANCES 2 COMMISSIONERS: 3 MS. PATRICIA GIPSON, Chair MS. TRISH RUIZ, Vice Chair 4 MS. KARYL ANN ARMBRUSTER, Secretary MR. R. CARLOS CABALLERO, Member 5 MR. MICHAEL CHAVEZ, Member MR. TIM CRONE, Member 6 MS. GEORGINA DAVIS, Member MS. SONIA RAFTERY, Member 7 MR. DAVID ROBBINS, Member MS. GLENNA VOIGT, Member 8 PED STAFF: 9 MR. ALAN BRAUER, Acting Director, Options for Parents and Families Division 11 MS. KAREN WOERNER, Deputy Director, Options for Parents and Families Division 12 MS. BEVERLY FRIEDMAN, PED Custodian of Record and Liaison to the PEC MR. MARK CHAIKEN, Counsel to the PEC MR. MARK CHAIKEN, Counsel to the PEC 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	INDEX TO PROCEEDINGS, Continued PAGE  15 Discussion and Possible Action on a 191 Contract for Support/Mentors for New Schools and New Head Administrators 16 Report from the Chair 215 17 PEC Comments 230 18 Adjourn 244 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 245 ATTACHMENTS: 10 1 Visitors' Sign-In Sheets 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25
D <sub>000</sub> 2	Daga 5
Page 3	Page 5
1 INDEX TO PROCEEDINGS 2 PAGE	1 THE CHAIR: I'm going to call to order
3 1 Call to Order, Roll Call, Pledge of 5 Allegiance, and Salute to the	this meeting of the Public Education Commission. It is Friday, June 14th, and it is 9:07 a.m.
4 New Mexico Flag	<ul> <li>is Friday, June 14th, and it is 9:07 a.m.</li> <li>Commissioner Armbruster, roll call?</li> </ul>
5 2 Approval of Agenda 6 6 3 Open Forum 7	5 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
7 4 Consent Agenda 7 8 5 Presentation by Albuquerque Sign Language 9	6 Robbins?
Academy Regarding Transition Program for	7 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Here.
9 Graduates 10 6 Report from Options for Parents and 27	8 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
the Charter School Division - Discussion and Possible Actions	9 Voigt?
12 7 Discussion and Possible Action on Charter 45 Contract Amendment Requests	10 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Here.
13	11 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
8 Discussion and Possible Action on Response 70 14 by Alma d'Arte Charter School to PEC	12 Armbruster is here.
Letter of Concern	13 Commissioner Davis? 14 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Here.
9 Discussion and Possible Action on 131	14 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Here. 15 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Oh, you are
16 Corrective Action Plan for La Academia Dolores Huerta	16 here.
17 10 Discussion and Possible Action on 154	17 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I am here.
18 Commencement of Operations	18 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I was about to
Revisions to Renewal Application and	19 say no. Thank you.
20 Amendment Requests with References to A-F School Grading	20 Commissioner Chavez? Is he coming?
21 13 Discussion and Possible Action on the 188	21 (No response.)
22 Definition of "Re-Engagement High Schools"	22 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
23 14 Discussion and Possible Action on Public 189 Education Commission/Public Education	23 Gipson? 24 THE CHAIR: Here.
	/4 IHHIHAIK' Here
24 Department (PEC/PED Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)	1112 311 1111 110101
24 Department (PEC/PED Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 25	25 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner

	Page 6		Page 8
1	Raftery?	1	THE CHAIR: There's a motion by
2	COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Here.	2	Commissioner Ruiz, a second by Commissioner Crone.
3	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	3	Do we do a roll call for this?
4	Crone?	4	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I'll do it.
5	COMMISSIONER CRONE: Here.	5	Commissioner Ruiz?
6	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	6	COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Yes.
7	Ruiz?	7	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
8	COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Present.	8	Crone.
9	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	9	COMMISSIONER CRONE: Yes.
10	Caballero isn't here.	10	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
11	So we have eight.	11	Raftery?
12	THE CHAIR: Eight Commissioners present.	12	COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Yes.
13	Thank you so much.	13	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
14	I'm going to well, I will lead us in	14	Gipson?
15	the Pledge of Allegiance, and Commissioner Crone,	15	THE CHAIR: Yes.
16	I'll ask to do the Salute to the New Mexico Flag.	16	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
17	(Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the	17	Davis?
18	New Mexico Flag conducted.)	18	COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.
19	COMMISSIONER CRONE: I'll try to memorize	19	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
20	it one of these days. I promise.	20	Armbruster votes "Yes."
21	THE CHAIR: After you're gone.	21	Commissioner Voigt?
22	We're on to the Approval of the Agenda.	22	COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.
23	And I have just two small changes. In 4-B, letter	23	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
24	d, Alma d'Arte that's in the Consent Agenda it	24	Robbins?
25	needs to be removed from the Consent Agenda. And	25	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.
	Page 7		Page 9
1	they are already in 6-C on the regular agenda.	1	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Eight-to-zero
2	And in 6-C, No. 1, AIMS can be removed.	2	vote.
3	Does anyone else have any other changes?	3	THE CHAIR: Motion passes, eight-zero.
4	(No response.)	4	Thank you.
5	THE CHAIR: If not, I'll entertain a	5	We are now on to Item No. 5, which is a
6	motion.	6	presentation by the Albuquerque Sign Language
7	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: So move.	7	Academy. You didn't think you were going to be up
8	COMMISSIONER CRONE: Second.	8	so quick, did you?
9	THE CHAIR: There's a motion by	9	MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Is the green light on?
10	Commissioner Robbins, a second by Commissioner Ruiz.	10	THE CHAIR: Is the green light on?
11	All in favor?	11	MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: No. Now it is. There
12	(Commissioners so indicate.)	12	it is. Good morning.
13	THE CHAIR: Opposed?	13	THE CHAIR: Good morning.
14	(No response.)	14	MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Good morning. Sorry.
15	THE CHAIR: Hearing no opposition, the	15	Thank you for having me. The Albuquerque
16	motion passes.	16	Sign Language Academy, Rafe Martinez, Executive
17	We are on to Item No. 3, which is Open	17	Director.
18	Forum. And no one has signed up.	18	We were asked to present it's not an
19	So now we are on to Item No. 4, which is	19	amendment but we are expanding our program
20	the Consent Agenda.	20	through what already exists in a K-12 set. But we
21	(Chair consults with PEC counsel.)	21 22	are creating a transition program for students, 18
22 23	THE CHAIR: So I will entertain a motion	22 23	to 21, who are following in the Abilities Pathway so
23	for the Consent Agenda, as modified.  COMMISSIONER RUIZ: So move.	23	that they kids that have left us because they
25	COMMISSIONER ROIZ: So move.  COMMISSIONER CRONE: Second.	25	went to another high school and, quote, graduated but they're coming back to us to really graduate in

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THE CHAIR: Okay. MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: So we're doing this under the lens of literacy in connection to the

Striving Readers federal grant that we received last year in connection with the Presbyterian Ear Institute, which is a preschool that works with the deaf and hard-of-hearing kids in Albuquerque. But it's an oral deaf program. And in partnership with them, us. And then ACE Leadership High School,

whose specialty is getting kids into the workforce.

And so ACE Leadership agreed to kind of take on this challenge of creating a deaf program in connection to our program so that we can create a pipeline of employment for our kids who are deaf and hard-of-hearing; and special needs, by the way.

THE CHAIR: Right.

this three-year program.

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MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: So it's an exciting project. And I'll just tell you the reason it came to be was last year was our first graduating class. So we had our first group of kids that started with the school graduated last year. And so it was a celebration, for sure.

But then after they graduated, they were kind of thrown into the -- the throes of what

So it -- so the discussion is exciting for us. It's what we want to do in long-term. So this is a first step in our adult education endeavor. So beyond just the 21-year-old kind of cap, we want to build a workforce development program that specializes in working with deaf, hard-of-hearing, and special needs adults into -- to, quite honestly, to purposeful citizenship. That's our driver.

We're the only ones that are doing it in New Mexico, for sure. And the argument is whether we're the only ones doing it in the nation. So it's exciting for us. It's a lot of work. But it's very

So I will entertain any questions if you have any for me.

THE CHAIR: Is there any limited capacity with the partnership that you have with ACE? Is there any challenges with that? Or will they be able to accommodate however many students you may have?

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Yes. So right now, we have seven kids who will be coming back into our transition program. Some of our kids have already matriculated into their population already.

So they have an interpreter. They have

Page 11

existed in the public system without us. So this last year -- this year -- actually, this year that just finished, a co-founding parent whose son was at

the age to either transition -- graduate and/or

transition, was given the choice, through the comprehensive -- the district -- about what their transition services look like.

And just so you understand, the mission of our little school is that we're trying to keep the -- a community together of students who can communicate with one another through sign language. And the district's transition program doesn't do that. As much as it should, it basically is divided by geography. So where kids live in the city, they are sent to the transition program in that -- by where they live, not by what their needs are.

So there was a need for us to step in.

Now, the reason the Striving Reader grant was important to us is it gave us financial capacity to go ahead and launch that -- that -- that program this coming year with support from that grant. And because we're in partnership with ACE Leadership and PEI -- ACE Leadership, more specifically because of their mission to get kids into the work pipeline, okay?

systems built out for the deaf students that have gone to them since ninth grade.

This is a little different, for sure. But their willingness to be adaptive, to be flexible, to listen to us is really a plus, you know. And I think it's kudos to them for wanting to take on this project.

You know, we've taken steps to partner with other schools. It just didn't go as well. This is going so-far-so-good.

Now, again, there's capacity around -financial capacity because of this grant; so that is helpful for sure. And I've got to tell you, we're kind of -- in the whole story of our existence, we are building it based on the needs of families and kids, right? Because there's such a chasm of not -of non-service, of non-program, we're trying to fill in those blanks. But also by learning by what doesn't work well in transition programs that have existed over the past -- in the past.

So, you know, part -- I need to probably say this as well. We're not doing it just with those on-the-ground partners of schools. We're also working with Penn State University, University of Minnesota, Harvard, of course, UNM, to create

Page 14 systems that will hold water on a national platform when it comes to deaf education. So those partners have been really powerful for us to get some perspective. And to be quite honest, it's given us some street cred around deaf ed, where, you know, people want to take shots at us in the deaf education world. And so we can say, "No, but we're working with these guys, too"; so --MS. VOIGT: Madam Chair? THE CHAIR: I'm sorry. I'm going to put 

THE CHAIR: I'm sorry. I'm going to put this out publicly so it's on the record. Is there any possibility through the CSP grant, through the concept of expansion, that -- because they are expanding their program, is there -- is there any way they can get some of that CSP money?

you.

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission and Mr. Martinez, I would love to work with Rafe, too, to see what we can possibly do. If there's a possibility for that to happen, we would definitely make that an option, for sure.

THE CHAIR: I think that would be fabulous; because to me, that's what that money should be going towards. So hopefully we can get it done.

So...

THE CHAIR: So where are you in your expansion plan?

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Well, that's a great question. So, Madam Chair, members of the Commission, that's a great question.

So we've been working with the County -Bernalillo County over the past year to create a
plan where we would be able to, in partnership with
the County, we'd be able to pull in our partners,
which consist of Carrie Tingley Hospital Foundation,
U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, Rocky
Mountain Youth Corps, The Nature Conservancy, those
guys, and the Bernalillo County Extension Office,
4-H, to use a piece of Bernalillo County property to
build a new school where all those services would
exist.

And we build program through that lens of conservation, the land, 4-H, getting back into kind of what I believe is the roots of New Mexico as a New Mexico boy, right?

22 So we'll be pulling back those tenets of 23 New Mexico into our program around serving deaf, 24 hard-of-hearing, and disability.

Now, just so you know, that those talks

Page 15

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Madam Chair, thank

THE CHAIR: Commissioner Voigt?
MS. VOIGT: Thank you, Madam Chair.
Director Martinez, I just want to commend you for being innovative and reaching out of the box to not only obtain this grant, but the collaboration with another charter school that strengthens both of your missions. But also the bottom line is that you're providing such great outcomes for your kids at ASL and also at ACE. So great work.

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Madam Chair, Commissioner Voigt, thank you very much. I'll say this also, right? So the partnership with ACE has given us capacity; not just educational capacity, but space capacity. So we're approved to 200 kids. We can only fit 100 in our current building. So the expansion into 107 is going to happen off-site.

So those seven kids will be away from our site; but they'll still be our kids with our teacher and under our payroll and all that kind of thing.

And that just goes also to the point we are working really hard in partnership with a whole lot of folks to try to either build or secure a new building to continue, grow, you know, in service.

Page 17

have stalled a bit. I'm not sure if it's summertime. We were on the -- so we're at the point where we have the plan. We've gone through an RFP with -- so we have an architect and a builder. We don't have money yet. That's -- you know, we've got kind of to work on that piece.

But the other piece is in partnership with the County, the hope is that we would be able to work with them to leverage anything we have as far as being a public charter school and all the triggers around through PSFA, that we leverage those connections, that power, with the County, to really maximize funding.

And so the County -- you know, talks have gone well for a year. We're to the point now where we're meeting with neighborhood associations. And that's a whole other ball of fun right there. So we've been pushed off of their agenda twice. So -- and we have conceptual design about where this will happen. We're just waiting for government processes, I think, to catch up.

THE CHAIR: Yeah. Welcome to that world.
 MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Yeah. Yeah.
 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Madam Chair?
 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Robbins?

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: As the parent of a profoundly hearing-impaired child, bilateral hearing loss, I applaud you and the staff on what they're doing to support all the children, not only there, but reaching out and with this transition plan.

Do you work at all with the School for the Deaf in Santa Fe and have any sort of liaisons or relationships with them?

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, Commissioner Robbins. No, we don't. And partly is they see us as a threat. And that's been since our conception.

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Okay.

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: We -- we exist because of a whole lot of gaps in their programming. And since we've come online, it's been a constant struggle to kind of -- what's the word? --

MS. FRIEDMAN: Collaborate?

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Not just collaborate, but also kind of defend ourselves, right? So like I said, for a whole lot of reasons, that's an historical system of deaf education that's been around since the 1800s. We represent something new, in that we not only work with deaf children, but we work with deaf children with disability and hearing

intellectual capacity as everyone else. They have the same physical abilities as everyone else. The only thing, for the most part, is they have a hearing loss.

And they can perform virtually any job necessary. But a lot of the people look at that as an impediment, and resistance to hire or promote. And we need to get past that in our society.

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Madam Chair, Commissioner Robbins. Absolutely. And thank you for saying that. I didn't realize your history. But it mirrors mine, almost --

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: My youngest is a daughter. And she grew up learning sign language. And she communicates very well with our son. And my wife and I, we use sign language. He can read lips a little bit. But his primary means of communication and of receiving direction is sign language; so...

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Yeah. I completely understand. Thank you for saying that. I'll just -- I will say this kind of to maybe put a period on this, is one of the glaring statistics in deaf education -- well, there's two that really jump out at you. These are historic and they're

Page 19

children that have connection to deaf, which makes us nationally unique. No one is doing what we're doing.

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: I applaud you for that. I don't want to push you into that if they are not receptive to that. When my child was very young, we explored the possibility of attending the school. And, really, the only option we had was for him to be housed here in Santa Fe. We lived in Albuquerque. With his multiple disabilities and interactions with family, we felt that that was more important, the interaction with family and the closeness with family and the support that his family could provide him was more important.

And he went through APS. And unfortunately, the Sign Language Academy did not exist at that time; otherwise, we probably would have moved him over to that. So if I can help you in any way, please look at my contact information. Let me know how I can help you in this transition plan; because I think it's very important, and it's an area where I think a lot of people don't understand.

People look at individuals who are deaf as not having the skill sets. They have the same

national.

So deaf students, upon graduation from high school, tap out -- top out at about between a third- and a fourth-grade reading level. That's a national statistic. That's -- when you start understanding the tenets of deaf education and how kids learn to read and not having access to a phonetic base, you understand kind of why that is.

But the other one, as a parent of a deaf child, as they grow up into adulthood, you're looking between a 65 and 70 percent unemployment, under-employment rate in the deaf community. That's national. All indications in New Mexico is it's a higher number in the state.

So our partnerships with U.S. Forest
Service, all that group that I named earlier around
conservation and hands-on is a direct effort to
break that cycle, to give our kids a shot at
being -- again, I'm going to use that term -- useful
citizens, where they're able to get up in the
morning -- my son -- we created a summer
conservation program that works with our school in
connection with Rocky Mountain Youth Corps.

My son does that now. He's 15. He's multiple needs plus deaf. But he wakes up every

Page 22 morning telling me he has to go to work, gets his uniform on, gets out there and loves it. That's taken root across our community. I think if we just stay on this trajectory, I'm hopeful we'll be able to change some of those statistics here in New Mexico. THE CHAIR: Commissioner Crone? COMMISSIONER CRONE: Yes. Thank you. I'm retired from Northern College in 

Española. And recently, Northern gave an athletic scholarship, a basketball scholarship to a deaf student. So in terms of the needs of your students, what is the PE part of it?

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Madam Chair, Commissioner Crone, members of the Commission. Great question.

So we -- everything we get as far as budget goes to kids. And one of the things that I believe in, as a former basketball coach, by the way, is everyday PE. So we have an everyday PE program. It's -- it's vital for our kids -- regular ed kids, kids with able bodies. But it's probably doubly vital with kids with disability.

So we are connected to UNM's adaptive PE program. So they send in interns, and they work

money, right, for that? So when your kids graduate, does that stop, or can they not quite graduate and continue until 21 and get the money?

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: So if they graduate, then they're off the table for us. They basically transition into an adult, you know, college or something of that sort, education. So these kids that are coming back to us are -- don't tell them that they didn't graduate. You'll have a fight on your hands.

But they are -- they walked the line, because they'll go through the ceremonial processes to -- but they're not officially graduated until they receive a diploma. And that happens at the age of 21. That's why we're able to pull them back. So essentially, they're still in the K-12 system; so there's not an additional stand-alone transition system. Does that make sense?

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Absolutely. That's why I was trying to figure out how all those things were working together. But I know that the issue is graduation; because -- but it's graduation, and maybe isn't, exactly, sort of.

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Madam Chair, Commissioner Armbruster. Yes, because you're --

Page 23

with our staff. So we flourish in partnership.

That's what we do. We have to make our -- we have

3 to stretch our dollar, right? So we do that through

partnership, through interns, through connection with other programs in the city and the county.

Bernalillo County Workforce, that kind of stuff.

I know the young man you're talking about. In fact, as a former coach, a lot of old basketball coaches in Albuquerque were calling me to see if they could get him to transfer to their school through me because of my connection to the deaf community, right?

It's exciting. He's good, too; he's big. So, yeah. So PE in my mind is a huge part of a -- just a well-rounded education. And we firmly will now present that [verbatim].

COMMISSIONER CRONE: Thank you. THE CHAIR: Commissioner Armbruster?

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Yes, thank you.

I guess we've all had experience with children on the spectrum because it is a spectrum of disorders just like almost all disabilities.

just like almost all disabilities.
 So -- and I don't know the answer to this,

So -- and I don't know the answer to this, so that's why I'm asking you. So I know that with special ed, you can go until you're 21. And you get COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Because that's a

lot of money you would be losing when you are continuing to give services. That's why I asked.

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Correct. And, again, so the Circle grant, the Striving Leaders grant, allows us to conceive money for this idea. And the SEG, the funding formula, will take over to make it sustainable long-term. So it all fits nicely now; so...

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Good.
THE CHAIR: Commissioner Robbins?
COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: I just wanted to say, virtually everyone in the country, and even around the world, has an experience with the deaf community, and they probably don't even realize it.

The huddle in football was created by students at Gallaudet University because they use sign language to lay out their plays. And that is something that is still present in almost every football game; they huddle together and things like that. It started with the deaf students at Gallaudet so they could actually lay out their plays and communicate. I just wanted to add.

MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Great story.

THE CHAIR: It is a good story; it is.

Page 26 1 Commissioners? I wanted to remark that we 1 (Applause.) 2 2 have ten. MR. ALAN BRAUER: We also -- this is 3 3 THE CHAIR: Yes. Let the record show that hiring season for sure for the Charter School 4 Commissioner Chavez and Commissioner Caballero are 4 Division as well as for the entire Department. So 5 5 now here. we are in the process of filling several positions 6 6 this month and over the summer. So we truly appreciate this. And this is 7 exactly what we hope happens, those partnerships 7 The first position I wanted to give a 8 8 with charters, the community, other charters, quick update on is the Data and Financial 9 hopefully traditional, so that I hope we can 9 Administrator position that we have on our team. I 10 10 continue to highlight this so that folks see that think it was only filled for just a short period of 11 there's a pathway for expanding their programs and 11 time last year. 12 being able to serve students better by a mutual 12 THE CHAIR: Barely. 13 13 MR. ALAN BRAUER: And so we are in the agreement for services and things like that. It 14 really is; it's exciting. And I hope the government 14 process of finalizing that hiring decision. So I am 15 15 entities can get their act together. hoping surely by the next time we meet in August, 16 16 MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Yeah. Madam Chair, we'll have a person in seat for that role. 17 17 members of the Commission, thank you. Me, too. We also are in the process of the Charter 18 THE CHAIR: Because it's also what's in 18 School Authorizing Practices Administrator to be the 19 the statute as well, that we're supposed to move 19 colleague to what Megan Maestas does as the other 20 into public buildings. The challenge is the public 20 Authorizing Practices Administrator. 21 21 buildings aren't there a lot. And when someone So we have a strong pool of candidates, 22 22 tries to get into and use public land and facilities and we hope to move forward with additional 23 and there's challenges, then it becomes, "Do it," 23 interviews over the coming weeks for that position. 24 because it's so difficult. So certainly if there's 24 Another position that's in the works is 25 anything we can do --25 the Training and Support Specialist position. We're Page 27 Page 29 1 1 MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Madam Chair, thank setting up interviews as -- as I speak right now for 2 2 that role. And, again, hopefully we'll be able to you. 3 3 THE CHAIR: -- please let us know. move through that hiring process as quickly as 4 MR. RAFE MARTINEZ: Thank you all. Thank 4 possible to get somebody in seat for that role. 5 5 THE CHAIR: So that's Christmas, about. you for that. 6 6 THE CHAIR: Thank you so much. MR. ALAN BRAUER: I am hoping --7 7 Commissioners I'm going to ask for just a Madam Chair, I am hoping we could celebrate 8 8 quick break. I know it's early, but --Christmas in at least August this year. 9 (Recess taken, 9:31 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.) 9 And then, finally, Leslie Kelly, the 10 10 THE CHAIR: We are on to Item No. 6, which manager of the New Mexico Charter School Program 11 11 is the report for Options for Parents. So first Grant, is in the process of hiring a coordinator, 12 item is your updates. 12 and we're in the process of setting up interviews 13 13 MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of over the next couple of weeks for the support with 14 the Commission, good morning. I have a few updates 14 the grant as well. 15 15 today. I wanted to start out with some staffing THE CHAIR: Okay. Thanks. 16 updates. 16 MR. ALAN BRAUER: So the next time I join 17 17 First and foremost, I wanted to introduce you all, my hope is that we have some really great 18 18 to the Commission our newest member of the team. news about rounding out our entire team and having 19 19 Carolyn Bayne, who I think I shared last month that all the open positions filled for sure. 20 20 we were hiring her for the new Executive Assistant I'm going to move on to brief updates on 21 to the Director role. And so I wanted her to just 21 the New Mexico Charter School Program Grant. We did 22 22 stand up and acknowledge her as the newest part of have several amendments that we have been in 23 23 our team. discussion with the USDE about. And we're awaiting 24 THE CHAIR: Welcome. 24 approval for that -- those amendments to go in

MS. CAROLYN BAYNE: Thank you.

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place.

We did want to make sure that those amendments for the grant itself is in alignment to the mission and vision of the PED and the PEC. And so we have -- we feel like we have a path moving forward with that.

At the same time, we did post the application for this upcoming year on the RFPs, RFIs, RFAs part of the website of NMPED. And Leslie Kelly, the manager of the grant, is also reaching out to schools to provide more context as needed.

The big spirit of this is to ensure that there is more equity in providing access to the resources, similar to what you shared, Madam Chair, with regard to ASLA. I think that is the spirit of what we hope.

We think there are many great examples of charter schools across the state. And we want to make sure that this expansion grant and the monies available can really be supportive of as many schools as possible.

I wanted to give an encouraging update on school closures. SAHQ -- sorry -- SAHQ is in the process of disbursing their materials. I talked to Sandy Beery last night to get the most updated understanding of where we are with the disbursement And then I do have a two-page stapled document as well that gives an overview of the conference, and then the big picture headlines, as well as the sessions at a glance.

I did want to acknowledge that similar to other annual conferences, we do have a time slot for the Public Education Commission to have space with charter leaders and governing council members and other folks in attendance on Saturday from 8:45 to 10:00. So that's set up for you all to engage with your constituents during that time.

Right now, the conference is going to be next Friday, June 21st, starting at 11:00 on Friday with registration. Then we'll jump into lunch and, then we'll have an open plenary with -- I'm excited to say that every single executive leadership member of the NMPED will be here for an open panel and dialogue with our attendants so that -- to really kick us off in that way.

I also wanted to acknowledge a leader in the room right now. Jessica Helen Lopez, who is bringing some just really talented student leaders to kick us off in the morning as well.

We have about 200 registered attendees, special guests, presenters, and PED staff, and the

Page 31

of the inventory. We did feel like it was important to provide the two new schools that are up for Commencement of Operations first -- first dibs, for lack of a better way of saying that, to the inventory, especially given the timeline, as they are potentially opening up soon.

So Saturday, June 22nd, is the day that the schools are going to receive their inventory.

THE CHAIR: Okay. Is that next week? During the conference?

MR. ALAN BRAUER: I think it's just right up the road from where the conference will be. So, Madam Chair, yes, it is actually on that same day. Thank you for acknowledging that.

THE CHAIR: Okay.

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Speaking of the conference, I wanted to give a few updates about the conference. And I wanted to acknowledge two different handouts that we provided to the PEC this morning.

We have a 99 percent ready-for-approval program that you'll see in front of you. And it comes with a new NMPED logo, as well as the breakdown of the programming elements and the sessions.

PEC.

We also -- I just wanted to acknowledge that this is the 20th anniversary of the Charter School Act. And so we are celebrating 20 years of the diversity of our charters from across the state. As a consequence of that, a positive consequence, we have ten different schools that are presenting best practices, lessons-learned or case studies throughout the training. So I think that is something that is a little bit of a shift from years past that the CSD team is really excited about.

I also wanted to acknowledge the CSD team who has been really supportive in planning the conference, especially Melissa Brown, who has really been my support in creating a lot of the program elements and being a great Editor in Chief for those documents, as well as the Charter School Division team who are going to be presenting, the PED staff, and other community members who will be joining us for this as presenters. I just wanted to share my gratitude for them early on.

That's all I have on the -- on the conference at this point.

I wanted to share, in terms of governing board concerns, we have -- we have one concern for

Page 34 1 Alma d'Arte for this -- at this time. And at the 1 MS. LISSA HINES: It is currently the 2 2 time of my -- my comments right now, I don't believe New Mexico International School. It is their 3 3 that we received the updated notification of a location until June 30th. And they're expanding. 4 change to their governing board. 4 THE CHAIR: Okay. But it doesn't come up 5 5 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you. as that on -- it came up as a suite of offices. 6 MR. ALAN BRAUER: I wanted to just 6 MS. LISSA HINES: So I think originally it 7 7 highlight, there's a -- also been a request for a had been built as a suite of offices. It was an 8 8 change in location for Altura Preparatory School. I empty shell when the New Mexico International School 9 believe, Madam Chair, that's going to be discussed 9 approached the owners about building it out as a 10 10 later on today as well? Or no? school. 11 THE CHAIR: No, I think this is the --11 They are moving to become a K-8 school and 12 12 expanding; so they needed to get bigger. And as -yeah, this is the moment. 13 13 when this all happened, that was the only building MR. ALAN BRAUER: Okay. Great. Great. 14 with E-Occupancy that would be available to us in 14 But the school has requested a change in location 15 15 such a short amount of time. for their campus. So I don't know if I should pause 16 and have discussion at this point or --16 THE CHAIR: Right. And that was one of my 17 17 THE CHAIR: No, we can have discussion at questions. Did it have E-Occupancy? Because once 18 this point, because this had originally been on the 18 again, when -- you know, when I got the snapshot of 19 Consent Agenda, and I requested that it be pulled 19 it, it's just, like, divided offices. And it's, 20 off because I just had a couple of questions 20 like, how is that going to be ready for August? So 21 21 regarding it. Because when I Googled it, it seemed it's --22 22 like it was a substantial move. MS. LISSA HINES: Yeah. That particular 23 23 address, there's a -- there are a suite of buildings So -- hi. Sorry. I didn't see you. 24 MS. LISSA HINES: I'm happy to answer any 24 that have, like, a pediatrician's office, et cetera, 25 25 on one side. Then across the street is the actual questions. Page 35 Page 37 1 1 THE CHAIR: Is the green light on? school where New Mexico International School is, 2 MS. LISSA HINES: Oh. I'm sorry. 2 which would be the building that we would be taking 3 3 THE CHAIR: And if you could just identify over. 4 yourself for the record? 4 THE CHAIR: Okay. Great. But I think 5 5 MS. LISSA HINES: Lissa Hines. And I'm there's -- I guess I still have, you know, a concern 6 about the significant distance and the move. And I 6 one of the co-directors at Altura Preparatory 7 7 get the challenges. School. 8 8 THE CHAIR: And thanks for this. I had MS. LISSA HINES: Yeah. 9 had a preliminary conversation, so I knew that there 9 THE CHAIR: But there's always that 10 10 was a move that was necessitated, which is always concern about enrollment. 11 11 unfortunate. But, you know, things happen when MS. LISSA HINES: Right. So our -- we 12 12 you're not in public buildings. contacted all of our families. All of our families 13 MS. LISSA HINES: Yes. 13 except for about five will be going with us. And we 14 14 THE CHAIR: So that's one -- this is, are providing transportation. 15 unfortunately for you, one of the highlights that we 15 THE CHAIR: Right. 16 can use as to why we need to really move to have 16 MS. LISSA HINES: So we'll have one stop 17 greater partnership. It doesn't help you any at 17 there right where our school has been housed, and 18 all. But I did have -- when I -- when I did a quick 18 then another in the Uptown area to accommodate our 19 19 Google of the addresses, I got 14 miles. families' needs. 20 MS. LISSA HINES: It is across town. 20 THE CHAIR: Okay. All right. Thanks. I 21 21 THE CHAIR: So that is -- that was a appreciate that. 22 22 challenge for me, because it seems like you're Commissioner Voigt? 23 really going out of a geographic zone. And when I 23 MS. VOIGT: Thank you. Hi. 24 did the Google map of the site, it's just office 24 MS. LISSA HINES: Hi. Good morning. 25 25 buildings; correct? MS. VOIGT: Good morning. So I just have

Page 38 1 a question about the community impact in your new 1 THE CHAIR: And you do all this great 2 geographic location. Were you able to have any kind 2 planning to serve this community. And then for 3 3 of community meetings before you planned your reasons completely out of your control, you have no 4 relocation? 4 ability to stay in that community. 5 5 MS. LISSA HINES: So our landlord passed So -- but I appreciate you coming up and 6 away in March, and the new landlords met with us in 6 just giving a little bit of an update so that --7 April. And that was when they let us know that they 7 little bit clearer. And I'm glad it already has 8 would be unable to work with us on the growth needs 8 E-Occupancy. That was my big concern. I looked at it and said, "There's just no way that's going to 9 that we needed to become a K-5 school. And so we 9 10 10 have not -- literally, this has been, you know, a happen." 11 lightning flash of a timeline. So we have not been 11 MS. LISSA HINES: We were panicked as 12 able to have community meetings at the new location. 12 well. 13 MS. VOIGT: Do you plan to? 13 THE CHAIR: Well, it's happy happenstance for you that you were able to find that E-Occupancy 14 MS. LISSA HINES: Absolutely. Yeah. 14 15 15 MS. VOIGT: Okay. How does your current building, because I don't know what you would have 16 community -- when you did your community input 16 done otherwise. 17 meetings before your school opened, how do they feel 17 MS. VOIGT: Madam Chair? So just a 18 about that distance? 18 follow-up question to that, because your intention 19 MS. LISSA HINES: All of our families, 19 originally was to be in the International District; 20 like I said, except for five, who are not going to 20 isn't that correct? 21 21 be able to come with us for various reasons, where MS. LISSA HINES: Yes. 22 22 they're moving out of state or moving to the MS. VOIGT: Do you have any future sites 23 East Mountain area, for example, everyone is going 23 of possibly relocating there, working with the 24 to be with us except for about five families. 24 community to create that space, that intentionality 25 MS. VOIGT: I understand about facility 25 for a community school in the ID? Page 39 Page 41 1 1 MS. LISSA HINES: Again, if something with locations and obtaining facilities are a great 2 challenge. But there was nothing within that span 2 E-Occupancy were to become available and we were 3 3 within your original site location intention that able to move, I'm sure that that would absolutely be 4 was available. 4 up for grabs. But right now, I mean, it's really 5 5 MS. LISSA HINES: Nothing. This is the about fulfilling our charter contract, you know, as 6 6 only building available right now with E-Occupancy it was written, and be in a place that can house as 7 7 K-5, and, in addition to that, serving the families in Albuquerque. 8 8 MS. VOIGT: In the City of Albuquerque. that we have already started to serve. 9 MS. LISSA HINES: Yes. 9 MS. VOIGT: How many other charter schools 10 10 THE CHAIR: That's the challenge. They are in your immediate area right now in your new 11 11 needed a space they could move into. location? 12 12 MS. LISSA HINES: I don't think there -- I MS. VOIGT: I totally understand how it 13 13 don't think there are any other charter schools in is. 14 14 THE CHAIR: And I get that. the area, in the new location. I'm not sure. 15 15 THE CHAIR: I'm not sure. Matt? MS. VOIGT: Yeah. 16 THE CHAIR: But I just --16 MR. MATT PAHL: Yeah. That part of 17 17 MS. VOIGT: It's just unfortunate. Albuquerque does not have a lot of charters. 18 MS. LISSA HINES: Basically, with, like, 18 THE CHAIR: One more. Is there outdoor 19 19 space for the kids? eight weeks to come up with something. 20 MS. VOIGT: Yeah. That's too bad. 20 MS. LISSA HINES: Yes. Yeah. 21 21 THE CHAIR: Okay. Great. Great. Thanks THE CHAIR: It is a shame. And once 22 22 so much. I appreciate it. again, thank you for giving us this highlight that 23 23 we can use moving forward. But it's -- you know, MS. LISSA HINES: Thank you. Can I turn 24 24 it's just a shame that these events take place. this off? 25 25 MS. LISSA HINES: I agree. THE CHAIR: Yeah. Thanks.

Page 42 1 MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of 1 students were at 80 percent or better on the 2 2 the Commission, just a quick point of clarification. curriculum-based measurements for literacy. 3 3 Is there any need for a vote right now before --First-graders were at 75 percent -- sorry --4 THE CHAIR: No, there is not. It's just a 4 75 percent of students were at 80 percent or better 5 5 on the curriculum-based measurements for literacy. 6 MR. ALAN BRAUER: Okay. Great. Thank 6 And then according to the MAPs NWEA growth 7 7 for second grade, out of 17 students, seven met, and you. 8 8 I wanted to close out my remarks on our five exceeded, the growth. So 12 out of the 17 met 9 school acknowledgments for this month. And the 9 the expected growth for this year or exceeded that. 10 10 Charter School Division team and I felt like this So I just wanted to acknowledge their work 11 was a good opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate 11 and their effort as well for this last year. 12 12 the three new schools that were started last year And then finally I wanted to acknowledge Altura Preparatory School. They -- at the 120-day 13 13 and received Commencement of Operations from you 14 14 S.T.A.R.S. count, they were at 57 students. At the 15 15 And so I wanted to highlight, first, time of my comments, we did not receive an updated 16 Albuquerque Collegiate Charter. I believe Director 16 additional context about their academic experiences 17 17 Rivera is here in the room. I'll just start out and achievement this year. But conferring with the 18 18 with they finished up the year -- or at least at the Charter School Division team during their school 19 19 128th day, with 35 students, serving 35 students at sites and what they know about this school, they had 20 their school. 20 some really strong results as well in literacy, 21 21 We reached out to the administrators at similar to that of Collegiate. 22 22 the school and we wanted to highlight some student And so I wanted to acknowledge their 23 achievement results from the -- from this year. At 23 efforts as well in closing out the first year. So I 24 the beginning of the year only 20 percent of 24 just wanted to give a congratulations to each of 25 Collegiate's students were able to demonstrate 25 those three schools from the Charter School Page 43 Page 45 Division. 1 1 proficiency on Istation. By the end of the school 2 2 year, students worked really hard to push that THE CHAIR: I think the biggest highlight 3 3 proficiency to 85 percent. This included zero is they were actually able to find an E-Occupancy 4 students performing at Level 1. 4 school in that short of time. That was a monumental 5 5 In addition, on our internal reading feat. Thank you for that. 6 6 We are on to -- unless you have anything assessments, which is STEP, the students averaged 7 7 1.49 years of reading growth since September. And else? I'm sorry. 8 8 MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, that's it. nearly 100 percent of scholars demonstrated a full 9 9 THE CHAIR: Okay. All right. We're on to year's worth of growth on this literacy assessment. 10 10 I did want to also just note that I had No. 7, which is Discussion and Possible Action on 11 11 the chance to join the school for their Charter Contract Amendment Requests. 12 12 end-of-the-year celebration. And it was really And we have just one school, and that's 13 13 Explore. great to see the families and the students and the 14 staff truly celebrate the academic achievement this 14 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Madam Chair, before we 15 15 go on, because we removed the change of location 16 And so thank you, Ms. Rivera, for that 16 from the Consent Agenda --17 17 invite to join you all that day. THE CHAIR: I'm sorry. Say that again? 18 18 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Because we removed the I also wanted to highlight and acknowledge 19 19 Hózhó Academy in Gallup, New Mexico. At the 128th change of school location from the Consent Agenda, 20 20 day report, they were serving 176 students. it has not actually been approved yet. 21 THE CHAIR: It's not an approval. They're 21 THE CHAIR: Oh, okay. 22 22 MR. ALAN BRAUER: And the administrator notifying us of the move. It's just a notification, 23 23 provided us a little bit of information about not a vote. 24 24 academic results from this year as well. MS. KAREN WOERNER: The form has a 2.5 25 documentation for you to approve and sign. For kindergarten, 78 percent of the

Page 46 1 THE CHAIR: Because we don't normally vote 1 good solid round number to propose. So in regards 2 2 to the 1,100 student capacity, that is the Fire on notifications. 3 3 MS. KAREN WOERNER: We do that as part of Marshal's recommendation. 4 the Consent Agenda items now. That's why it's not 4 I -- having walked the halls every day, I 5 5 separate. do not recommend 1,100 students in that school. But 6 6 THE CHAIR: But that form is a we feel like remaining the size we want to remain at 7 7 notification. that site and the community that we've built, we 8 8 like that 500-to-600 range. And so I think we'd MS. KAREN WOERNER: Okay. 9 THE CHAIR: Good morning. 9 just like the flexibility to operate within what was 10 10 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Good morning. once our cap, 500, and would potentially be our new 11 THE CHAIR: This is becoming a routine. 11 cap at 600, where we could float between those two 12 12 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: A regular trip, ves. numbers. 13 13 MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, members of the Good to see everyone again. My name is Justin 14 Baiardo. I'm the founder of Explore Academy. 14 Commission, Mr. Baiardo has asked me to speak before 15 MS. ELISHA VARELA: I'm Elisha Varela. I 15 it goes for a vote on this -- I assume you will take 16 work with Operations for Explore. 16 the various amendments separately. Because the 17 17 second amendment is a request to develop and MS. MATTHEWS: Patricia Matthews for the 18 18 implement a second site. And I'm not sure, with the charter school. I'm sorry; I'm an attorney. 19 19 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: You don't have to Commission's discussion based on the work session 20 apologize for being an attorney. 20 yesterday and what I understand that they've pulled 21 21 MS. MATTHEWS: It just comes natural. I the policy on developing a second site. 22 22 So we have an idea. So I'm not sure -start with the words "I'm sorry." 23 23 THE CHAIR: Usually, the Charter School and the idea has to do with enrollment. And so I 24 Division does their little schtick. 24 would -- I don't know if you want to wait -- I ask 25 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Okay. Schtick it is. 25 the Commission to hold on the vote with regard to Page 47 Page 49 1 1 Next section will be 7. enrollment after the -- until after the discussion 2 2 with regard to the second site; because we'd like to So, Commissioners, Madam Chair, in 3 3 Section 7, you have the rationale for the request propose a concept that I think falls within a policy 4 and some academic performance and financial 4 that exists with the Commission and have that 5 5 performance and analysis provided by CSD for the discussion. So I can go further if you'd like; but 6 6 amendment request of increasing the enrollment cap I don't want to jump ahead. 7 7 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: For discussion. from 500 to 600 students. 8 8 Following that, behind the pink sheet is Madam Chair. Was there a -- did we post this second 9 the actual request form from the school, as well as 9 item? 10 10 THE CHAIR: Oh, yeah. Yeah. their supporting documentation. And, obviously --11 the analysis is that the school, you know, obviously 11 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: All right. 12 is doing well both academically and financially, and 12 THE CHAIR: Yeah. It's there. I don't 13 they are operating in a capacity -- in a building 13 think the proposal is there. The amendment request 14 that has a capacity of 1,100 students. So they 14 is there. 15 certainly can accommodate 600. 15 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Okay. 16 And I stand for any questions. 16 THE CHAIR: So they did put the 17 THE CHAIR: So anything you want to add? 17 amendment -- but they're asking for us to make a 18 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Yeah. We feel like 18 decision on the second amendment request before we 19 we're going to obviously have our capacity this year 19 make a decision on this first one. I don't have a 20 with exceeding the waiting list. And the intent 20 problem with that, you know. 21 behind this amendment request was just to provide 21 MS. VOIGT: Yeah. I'd like to hear what 22 the school with some flexibility if we need to go 22 their idea is. 23 above 500 and have a range. 23 THE CHAIR: Well, we're going to vote

We feel like probably 530 to 550 is a good

sweet spot. But my board decided that 600 was a

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first. We'll vote on -- we'll entertain B, if

that's what the Commission wants to do.

Page 50 1 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: I'd like to hear 1 to you once they have that other site. But right 2 2 this. now, we have in our -- in this whole concept, the 3 3 MS. VOIGT: I'd like to hear their idea. capacity to move forward with 1,200 kids. And so 4 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: I'd like to hear 4 the cap would be increased to 1,200. As you just 5 5 discussion on that. Then we'll vote on the cap and heard Mr. Baiardo say, the school can accommodate 6 then on the site. 6 about 600 as it is, and then they would look for 7 7 another site to accommodate the balance of that THE CHAIR: They want us to vote on B 8 8 first and then vote on the cap. That's my enrollment as it comes. 9 understanding. 9 But they have approved in their charter at 10 10 MS. MATTHEWS: I'm more than happy just to that point in time the ability to go forward. Then 11 put it out on the table what it is we might be 11 we come to you with the notification of where that 12 suggesting. I'm assuming -- or if you wouldn't --12 second site would be. Or -- I won't call it second 13 MS. VOIGT: Yeah. Let's hear it. 13 site; just the -- a place to grow into. That was 14 14 THE CHAIR: I'm kind of uncomfortable with the idea. I'm sorry if it was more than three 15 15 not having seen this. sentences. 16 16 MS. MATTHEWS: It's a one-sentence MS. VOIGT: That was way more than three 17 17 request. sentences. 18 18 THE CHAIR: This, we have not seen. We THE CHAIR: So this is my question. Are 19 saw the amendment request; but this, we have not 19 you, at this moment in time, saying you're not 20 seen. And we did have a robust discussion yesterday 20 asking us to move forward with B? Or are you making 21 21 about what B is about. So my -- my understanding an assumption about what we're going to do about B? 22 22 was there was a direction the Commission was going MS. MATTHEWS: I'm making an assumption. 23 to go in today. So I'm somewhat perplexed as to 23 THE CHAIR: Okay. All right. So, really, 24 what we want to do at this moment in time. 24 the enrollment cap is just an enrollment cap 25 MS. VOIGT: Madam Chair, I think -- how 25 increase at this point in time. And the issue Page 51 Page 53 1 1 brief? becomes the issue whenever. 2 MS. MATTHEWS: It's about three sentences. 2 MS. VOIGT: Right. That's what it sounds 3 MS. VOIGT: So showing some flexibility to 3 like. 4 see what the school has -- what they have to offer. 4 THE CHAIR: That's what we're getting at 5 5 It could be a growth -- great idea. I'd like to at this point in time, right. 6 6 MS. MATTHEWS: To have another -- we would just hear it out. 7 7 come to you -- we'd have a 1,200 student enrollment THE CHAIR: Okay. All right. 8 8 MS. MATTHEWS: The idea, Madam Chair, cap, and we'd come to you with a site notification 9 assuming that the second amendment would be denied 9 eventually. 10 10 because of the policy changes by the Commission, I'm THE CHAIR: I understand. If we vote for 11 looking at something called the "School Location 11 the enrollment cap increase, that's not an 12 Within District Notification." 12 indication that that second site amendment would be 13 13 And effectively what the school would approved. MS. MATTHEWS: Understand. We understand. 14 propose -- and I think this is what they're 14 15 15 proposing, anyway, which would be just to simply THE CHAIR: Right. 16 increase their cap from not the 600 requested, 16 MS. MATTHEWS: That the concept that 17 17 right, to 1.200 and have that cap sit. you're objecting to under the second site concept is 18 18 replication and the concept of --And then when the school finds the next 19 19 location -- because they're not planning to THE CHAIR: Well, you know what? I think 20 20 that's a conversation to have later. replicate; they're planning to expand the current 21 enrollment on -- in a different location. So 21 MS. MATTHEWS: That's why I was thinking 22 it's -- and it would be under the same 22 we should do that afterward. But --23 23 administration. THE CHAIR: Okay. So that's why I'm 24 24 And if I look at the School Location somewhat confused. Because the enrollment cap, you 25 25 want anyway. So I don't know why we have to hold Within District Notification, they would then come

Page 54 1 off B until A. 1 MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, it's your 2 2 I'm fine to do that. But I don't -- it agenda. But would it make sense perhaps to go ahead 3 3 and consider the second amendment and come back to really doesn't matter, does it? Because you're 4 making an assumption of what we're going to do with 4 the first, please? Please. 5 5 B. You want the enrollment cap anyway; correct? THE CHAIR: Sure. 6 MS. MATTHEWS: Of 1,200, correct. 6 MS. MATTHEWS: Because, to me --7 MS. VOIGT: Madam Chair, just a clarifying 7 THE CHAIR: Sure. 8 8 MS. MATTHEWS: -- if -- we don't know what question? 9 THE CHAIR: Yeah. 9 you're going to do with the second amendment -- or 10 10 MS. VOIGT: Okay. So the enrollment cap the second request. And if you were to deny it, 11 is an independent piece, right? 11 then that would modify the first. If you approve 12 12 it, then we just ask for 600 at the Masthead MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: That's correct. 13 13 location. MS. VOIGT: So whatever repercussions for the school come out of approving an enrollment cap, 14 14 THE CHAIR: Sure. All right. 15 15 you guys can deal with and come back to us with MS. MATTHEWS: I appreciate that, 16 16 Madam Chair. whatever that might be; you know, a remodel, a new 17 17 site location, whatever. So -- but right now, we're THE CHAIR: Okay. So we're on to B, which 18 just looking at an enrollment cap. 18 is the new school, same district. Sorry. Because 19 THE CHAIR: Yeah. So, I mean, if it's 19 I'm not navigating SharePoint as well as I thought 20 your preference -- because it's no skin off my 20 because I have to close things out and then open it 21 teeth -- for us to take action on B first, we will. 21 back up; so it's not as seamless as I thought it was 22 22 But you wanted the enrollment cap increase, so I going to be. 23 don't know why we need to hold off on it. You want 23 So just for the two Commissioners that 24 24 it anyway; correct? Or no? were not here yesterday --25 MS. VOIGT: I think we might be jumping 25 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Thank you. Page 55 Page 57 1 1 the gun if we packaged this all together. If we can THE CHAIR: -- we did have a fairly robust 2 just do the -- you know, look at separate items but 2 third or fourth discussion about this issue. And it 3 3 right now -came up also, in part, when we were looking at the 4 THE CHAIR: They are two separate items. 4 renewal applications and statutory requirements. 5 5 MS. VOIGT: Yeah, right now. So let's And we really circled around yesterday the 6 6 just look at the first one, which is only -issue of revocation and that the State statute is 7 7 THE CHAIR: They asked us to look at the fairly clear as to what revocation is, and the 8 8 second one first. That's why I have confusion. dilemma, if there's a second site and there has to 9 They asked us to take action on the second one 9 be a revocation hearing, we can't revoke half of a 10 10 charter; so that the consensus at the time of first. So we will. 11 11 yesterday of the Commission was that we really need COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Quick question? 12 12 THE CHAIR: Sure. some statutory clarification in order to be able to 13 13 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: I have a question. clearly and cleanly move forward on this topic. 14 14 So I'm understanding that their current cap is 600. It's not going to happen soon. But even 15 15 outside -- we felt that statutory clarification was THE CHAIR: Right. 16 16 even a better route than trying to look at COMMISSIONER DAVIS: They'd like us to 17 17 rule-making, because rule-making gets a little wonky expand it to 1,200, even though they don't have the 18 capacity for 1,200; is that correct? Is that 18 as well. 19 19 And it's also not a quick process as well. correct? 20 20 But that for the -- you know, there's a number of THE CHAIR: Yeah. You know --21 areas where the Charter School Act needs to be 21 MS. MATTHEWS: We withdraw the request. 22 22 cleaned up. The last cleanup act was really a new THE CHAIR: Thank you. Because we can't 23 23 give you an enrollment cap increase that goes beyond glossary, for all intents and purposes, and that was 24 it. 24 your current E-Occupancy. 25 25 We've been told that time and time again. But there is -- as we move forward and

	Page 58		Page 60
1	things are becoming more complex and things are	1	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes, to table.
2	changing, but the statute hasn't changed, it was	2	THE CHAIR: The motion passes nine-one.
3	the I believe the comfort level of the Commission	3	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Nine-one.
4	yesterday to have the guidance through statute to be	4	THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.
5	able to do this in a in a better manner.	5	Okay. Now we're back to letter A.
6	COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Madam Chair?	6	MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Just for
7	THE CHAIR: Commissioner?	7	clarification, the most recent vote tabling would
8	COMMISSIONER RUIZ: And that was the	8	require that it be heard at the next meeting again;
9	extent of our conversation, a long conversation	9	is that
10	yesterday, as in previous Commission meetings.	10	THE CHAIR: No. It's tabled until there's
11	So I make a motion that the Public	11	statutory clarification on it. Yeah.
12	Education Commission table Explore Academy's request	12	MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Okay. I mean, just
13	for a new school in the same school district.	13	for clarification, the second school is not the
14	COMMISSIONER CRONE: Second.	14	request. It was a second facility to serve more
15	THE CHAIR: There's a motion by	15	kids.
16	Commissioner Ruiz, a second by Commissioner Crone.	16	THE CHAIR: It specifically says, "New
17	Any further discussion?	17	school in same district." That's what the item says
18	(No response.)	18	on the agenda.
19	THE CHAIR: Roll call, Commissioner	19	MS. MATTHEWS: With all due respect,
20	Armbruster.	20	Madam Chair, members of the Commission, at the time
21	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I'm trying to	21	this school came forward to request to do what it
22	THE CHAIR: The vote is to table letter B	22	wants to do, which is to dramatically expand its
23	in Item No. 7.	23	enrollment to make this very successful school
24	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Okay.	24	available to other students, this was the process
25	Commissioner Voigt?	25	that they were guided into.
	Page 59		Page 61
1	•	1	_
1 2	Page 59 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner		In all practicality, it is essentially
	COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.	1 2 3	In all practicality, it is essentially just expanding the enrollment and then putting more
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Chavez? COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Raftery? COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Robbins? COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Davis? COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Armbruster votes "No." Commissioner Gipson? THE CHAIR: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Crone? COMMISSIONER CRONE: Yes. COMMISSIONER CRONE: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	In all practicality, it is essentially just expanding the enrollment and then putting more kids at a different location. So I think you're right. There needs to be statutory clarification for I'm not even going to say that. I think it's well within the statute that you can do what you're doing, in addition to the Department's stated position that the Secretary has the authority to waive to the extent that they could make this happen.  But let's put that aside. This school came before the Commission in its process that was available at the time. What we're asking the Commission to do is to say, "Okay, we decided. We, the Commission, decided, after this school came forward and made the request, to yank that process."  So do we have any other process by which we can foster this school's extension?  And so I'm looking at your own policy that says, "A School Location Within the District Notification is used to notify the Commission of a planned change in the school's physical location,

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notify the Commission when the school is adding an additional facility or facility space within the same district, because the primary facility does not have sufficient capacity."

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So, now, given that you brought up the issue of the actual technical building capacity, which is identified in the E-Occupancy -- which is 1,100? Then we would amend the request to 1,100 for the amendment request.

Now, the school obviously doesn't want the Commission just to deny growth at its current site, if that's the inclination to deny the first request which was at 600; but we're asking the Commission to have a discussion about flexibility to move the enrollment cap of this school to 1,100 so that it can do what it actually intended all along, which was just to make this school available to other kids -- this school; not another school; this school -- and expand its enrollment. That's the request. Is that fair, Mr. Baiardo? MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Yes, it is.

THE CHAIR: Sure.

24 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Discussion. I 25 think you need to -- what you just read, you need to

the agenda is "New school in the same district." And that was not our intention. We applied for a

second site under the same charter, which would be, by definition, the same school, two facilities. The

second site amendment is the --

THE CHAIR: That wasn't this amendment request, was it not?

MS. KAREN WOERNER: The amendment request that existed previously that they submitted reads, "New school or new site amendment request form." And so it probably should have been worded, "New school or new site" on the agenda, because that's the way the amendment request was written.

MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Our intention is to establish a second facility where we can expand our enrollment to more students, not a second governance council, second contract. We just want to be able to serve more students at a site that is more amenable to where the students are coming from, closer to their homes.

THE CHAIR: And I'll just direct you to the purpose -- what's listed as the purpose of that other amendment site that you cited. But I don't think we're going to have any further discussion on

Page 63

read on the policy decision that the Commission did to clarify and to say that if there's -- that we cannot do another school without going through the recharter. It has to be another charter.

And in that policy decision, what you just read is further clarified. There is no -- no unclear area.

And I can tell you the Commission does have the authority and the power to make policy decisions. This school was not before the Commission when we stopped them and we made a policy decision.

We made a policy decision -- it has been an ongoing conversation within the Commission for a long time, a long, long time, even the other administration.

And so we managed to hammer out a definition just recently. And what I think is there's an attempt to circumvent the decision by the Commission. And then the decision and the policy for that decision is very, very clear. I don't think there's anything unclear about it.

MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Commissioner, just to clarify on our end just to make sure our intentions are crystal-clear, yeah, the -- what's written on

Page 65

1 But I think the point at hand is -- and 2 I'm going to be honest. I'm uncomfortable with 3 amending an amendment on the day of -- that this was 4 not what Commissioners were thinking about when we 5 were coming here to vote. We were thinking of that 6 smaller enrollment cap. 7

I think that's a discussion that needs to be had, and people need to think about it. So I'm not comfortable with it; but I'm willing and open for anyone else that wants to -- Commissioner Robbins?

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Well, I think things seemed kind of confused. I was and am still in favor of increasing the cap on the first motion to the 600. And if you needed more at that current site because your E-Occupancy is almost 1,100, that's fine. It seems like that should have been the first step.

And then if you wanted, later on, after you -- because to approve a second site, we don't know location; we don't know anything about that. We don't know the -- how you're going to actually handle that, the distance, how you're going to handle administrative things, what the governance council is going to do with regard to this; because

i	Page 66		Page 68
1	we don't see anyone from the governance council	1	should be tabled. There's too much in there on what
2	speaking to us now.	2	the intent really is. Is their intent really to
3	Those concerns I have with the second site	3	grow their school in behalf of students or something
4	at this time.	4	else? So I feel uncomfortable at this time with all
5	Increasing the cap in the motion that was	5	that has been said in motion and counter-motion. I
6	put forth was in the request was to increase	6	will abstain.
7	it to 600. Now, I'm all in favor, and I'll put	7	THE CHAIR: Okay. All right. Thank you.
8	forth a motion to do so at this time.	8	Anyone else?
9	But I don't like, as has been expressed,	9	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I just want to
10	changing the motion at this time, when the original	10	clarify something, that what we're voting on. We
11	request was to increase from 500 to 600, and then to	11	are voting to expand, to
12	say, "Now we want to take it to 1,100 or 1,200."	12	THE CHAIR: Increase the enrollment cap.
13	1,200 is a no-brainer, because you don't have an	13	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: To increase
14	existing facility that can accommodate that. And	14	their enrollment cap to 600, is that correct?
15	you, by your earlier statement, said even the 1,093,	15	THE CHAIR: Correct. That's the motion.
16	which I think is what the E-Occupancy is, would be	16	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Does everyone
17	too much for your current site.	17	understand? I just wanted to make sure what we were
18	The 600, you said you can adequately	18	voting on.
19	accommodate that in the site without overburdening	19	Ready?
20	the facilities or anything. I am more than prepared	20	THE CHAIR: If there is no further
21	to make that motion. I'll leave it at that.	21	discussion, we are.
22	MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Okay.	22	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: And no further
23	THE CHAIR: Commissioner Armbruster?	23	abstentions besides Commissioner Caballero?
24	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Madam Chair, I'm	24	All right. Commissioner Gipson?
25	just a little confused.	25	THE CHAIR: Yes.
	Page 67		Page 69
1	So when this was sent to us, dated it	1	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
2	seems like it was dated before we changed the rules.	2	Crone?
3	And so I'm just we've been in a lot of appeals	3	COMMISSIONER CRONE: Yes.
4	lately. So I just wondered.	4	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
5	THE CHAIR: I need a point of	5	Robbins?
6	clarification. Which are you talking about dated?	6	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.
7	The enrollment cap increase?	7	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
8	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: The new school	8	Voigt?
9	site.	9	COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.
10	THE CHAIR: No, no, no. We've already	10	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
11	tabled that. We've tabled that issue. So we're	11	Davis?
12	speaking solely to the enrollment cap right now. So	12	COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.
13	the new school site has been tabled.	13	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
14	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Okay.	14	Ruiz?
15	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: So if there's no	15	COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Yes.
16	other discussion, Madam Chair, I move the Public	16	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
17	Education Commission approve the enrollment cap	17	Armbruster votes "Yes."
18	increase for Explore Academy from 500 to 600.	18	Commissioner Chavez?
19	COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Second.	19	COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.
20	THE CHAIR: There's a motion by	20	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
21	Commissioner Robbins, a second by Commissioner Ruiz.	21	Raftery?
	Any further discussion?	22	COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Yes.
22			
22 23	Commissioner Caballero?	23	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: That's a nine
	Commissioner Caballero? COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: I will announce	23 24	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: That's a nine to nine votes for and one abstention.

Page 70 1 1 abstention. The motion passes. Thank you. returned it or if it's 23 for both. 2 MR. JUSTIN BAIARDO: Thank you. 2 3 3 THE CHAIR: All right. We're going to 4 take a short break. Sorry. 4 5 5 (Recess taken, 10:31 a.m. to 10:48 a.m.) 6 THE CHAIR: Okay. We are on to Item 6 7 7 No. 9 -- 8. I'm sorry. Item No. 8, Discussion and what we're asking for. 8 8 Possible Action on the Response by Alma d'Arte 9 9 Charter School. 10 10 MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of 11 the Commission. 11 12 12 Alma d'Arte was asked for -- asked to send 13 13 information to us from the May -- May meeting. They 14 14 did comply with that and send the information to us. 15 15 The -- in the packet, in your packet, 16 after the first -- first page, you'll find the 16 17 response from Alma around the special education 17 services. It's a little hard to see. But the more 18 18 19 19 faint type in this document, it would have been red 20 if it was in color. And that is the special 20 21 21 education response that's embedded in that. 22 22 EL. I apologize. The first page is the 23 23 EL. So the more faint language is from the Language back. 24 and Culture Bureau. 24 25 And then after that document, there is 25 Page 71 1 1 another document referring to special education 2 services at the school as well, and there is 2 3 3 embedded information from the Special Education 4 4

They -- this letter is kind of a pattern of not completely and accurately addressing questions that this Commission has put forth to them. And I'm very concerned that, you know, we ask about something, and they don't quite understand

And this is a tremendous concern for me that do they understand statutory requirements? If a simple letter asking for the name of something and then they reply without giving us the name, if they don't answer those basic, simple questions how can they assure us that they're fulfilling the statutory requirements of education for their students?

THE CHAIR: Thank you. I do believe there is folks, once again -- oh, I'm sorry. Does CSD want to add anything else before we --

MS. KAREN WOERNER: I just want a point of clarification on the -- what's in your packet. So the first page was what we had asked for. And then the -- the letter that you're looking at on Pages 2 and forward are -- is the letter that we received

But the notes in the red text were added by CSD since we received the letter.

Bureau in there as well.

We also have the Special Education Bureau team here if there is any questions specifically for them, or if there is questions for the CSD team.

> COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Madam Chair? THE CHAIR: Commissioner Robbins?

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: If I could, I

thought some of the questions that you had put forth originally in the Letter of Concern were very clear. But it looks like sometimes the responses we received while they were in person are dancing around the question. They don't answer the question specifically.

"What is the name of the tutor?"

It's not mentioned.

"What certification does he hold?"

Not mentioned.

So, you know, we have specific questions asking for the number of parents who received the letter and the number of parents who returned the

24 letter. And they give us a single number of 23. I 25

don't know if that's 23 that received it or 23 that

So though -- on the first page we asked the number of parents who receive and who returned the letter stating they declined those services, we added that in there. That's the lighter text.

So the school has not had a chance to respond to what is the name of the tutor. Our concern there, though, is who is the tutor, what certifications, and when were these services provided, because when we were on site visits, that did not exist.

So I agree with you, Commissioner Robbins, that there's some serious concerns about the requirements and the understanding of what is required here.

I did want to clarify they did not have the question of, "What is the tutor?" That was notes added later because of what the response was. I just wanted to clarify that one piece for the school.

Also, if you continue on, you will see that one of the issues was around the initial and annual letters. And there still is a misunderstanding about what should be in each of those. As indicated on the back side of the letter you'll see in the lighter text, those are notes

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Page 74 1 1 added by CSD in collaboration with Ms. Laine from back. 2 2 the Language and Culture Bureau about some obvious, And there is a discrepancy between 3 3 still, misunderstandings of how the process works understanding between the screening instrument which 4 4 for identifying and notifying -- identifying is to screen for English Language proficiency of a 5 5 students and notifying parents. student entering public education and an annual 6 And then further on in the letters that 6 assessment. 7 7 There seems to be a discrepancy in that they sent, we documented some concerns. So I just 8 8 wanted to be clear that, you know, that the lighter understanding. It's hard to tell from paper whether 9 9 text happened after it was submitted to the school. that's really just not knowing all the language or 10 10 Also -- but still some very serious concerns. not knowing all the terminology, or really not 11 And then the special ed report is further 11 understanding the process. And that was one of the 12 12 back. It has a heading of "Special Ed Bureau Report questions that we had. 13 13 to the Public Education Commission." And they are And as Ms. Woerner was saying, we weren't 14 here to respond to any questions about that section 14 sure about the tutoring services, because that was 15 15 of the report, as they -- as you recall, they had to not mentioned before. And that was really in 16 16 upload IEPs to a secure location. And they were response to Commissioner Chavez' question about what 17 17 reviewed by the Special Ed Bureau who are also here. are you really doing for ELs in the program. 18 18 And Ms. Laine is here as well. So those were the things -- so there is 19 19 Thank you. isn't -- so from our perspective, it's hard to tell 20 THE CHAIR: Thank you. 20 from paper if the flow really is there on serving 21 21 MS. KAREN WOERNER: And, of course, the ELs, identifying and serving ELs. 22 22 school's representatives are here in the audience as THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you so much. 23 23 well. Commissioners, do you have any questions? 24 THE CHAIR: Right. I was just looking 24 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Just a 25 through. Our -- the requests that we made for what 25 clarifying question, thank you, because I'm not Page 77 Page 75 1 1 the school needed to send out is not here; correct? familiar with EL; let me just say that. 2 2 So because this is high school, one would Is it here? 3 MS. KAREN WOERNER: It's on the Executive 3 assume that before they got there, they had that 4 Summary sheet, Madam Chair, Commissioners. 4 survey and things, so that the school would not be 5 5 THE CHAIR: Oh, okay. I'm looking at the responsible for doing that because it's already 6 6 there somewhere, unless the child came from another documents. Okay. All right. Okay. So I have to 7 7 state or just moved here or whatever, but new to close this file out. 8 8 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: This is the the -- new to New Mexico. 9 9 MS. KIRSI LAINE: Yes. first one, right? First one? 10 10 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Am I correct on THE CHAIR: Yeah. Sorry. Okay. 11 11 that? So once again, I want to thank the bureaus 12 12 for cooperating with this. And if there is any MS. KIRSI LAINE: Yes. So the process for 13 13 when a student transfers from another school is that clarifying information that you wish to offer us, we 14 all of that information is really housed in 14 would greatly appreciate it. 15 15 S.T.A.R.S. And we do support State charters, So I don't know who wants to go first. 16 MS. KIRSI LAINE: Madam Chair -- can you 16 really, in accessing information in S.T.A.R.S. They 17 17 hear? don't always have it. And so they look for that 18 18 THE CHAIR: Is the little green light on? information. So if a student was identified as an 19 19 MS. KIRSI LAINE: No. There. EL and was not exited yet, then a student is 20 20 Madam Chair and Commissioners. So when we currently an EL and gets an annual letter saying 21 21 that they're in the EL program for that year. looked at the submission from the school -- so the 22 22 questions still became as to is there really an COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: And if that -- a 23 23 understanding of the identification process or how child exited from the program because the English 24 24 to determine if a student was an EL. So the wording proficiency was adequate, then that child would not 2.5 25 have another language survey go home, because he or is always a little bit changed when we get something

Page 78 1 she had been exited from that program. 2 MS. KIRSI LAINE: Exactly. Yes. 3 THE CHAIR: Commissioners, any other 4 questions? 5 (No response.) 6 THE CHAIR: Thank you so much once again. 7 Thank you. 8 MS. KIRSI LAINE: Thank you. 9 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Did you want to hear 10 from the Special Ed Bureau? 11 THE CHAIR: Yes. If he's finished his 12 cookie. 13 MS. KAREN WOERNER: Have you finished your 14 cookie? 15 THE CHAIR: Thank you once again for your 16 time. And if you would just identify yourselves for 17 18 MR. TIM CRUM: Good morning, Madam Chair. 19 My name is Tim Crum. I am the Deputy Director of 20 the Special Education Bureau. Nice to be with you. MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: Good morning. My 21 22 name is Charlene Marcotte, Education Administrator 23 assigned to Alma d'Arte. 24 MS. CYNTHIA ROMERO: Good morning. I'm 25 Cynthia Romero, and I'm the data supervisor at the

And then in the service logs -- I'm sorry -- yes, the service logs -- we didn't see a link to the amount of time that was being spent providing the reading, writing, and math goals.

And so the service log, we put some recommendations in here that -- in the IEP -- I'm sorry. In the service log, we were seeing content mastery being listed a lot of the times; and also we're seeing that in the IEP. So we're not sure if content mastery is the same thing as services being provided in reading, writing and math.

So there was a lot of inconsistencies in what we were seeing in service logs that were being provided, as well as in the PWN and in the service pages of the IEP.

THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.

MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: There was also a few students that didn't have a need indicated for special education in the IEPs. And that was concerning as well. There -- they have a disability; but in order to qualify for special education services, you have to have a disability and it has to impact your education.

And a student -- there were a few students that had a disability; but there was no

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Special Ed Bureau.

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THE CHAIR: Thank you for this once again. So if you want to highlight any continued concerns, any new concerns in light of what you -all the information that you received, we'd certainly appreciate it.

MR. TIM CRUM: Thank you. Do you want to go first?

MS. CYNTHIA ROMERO: So there were a couple of concerns when we reviewed the IEPs that were uploaded into the secure site for us.

I'll go over some of -- some of those concerns.

One of the concerns that we saw in -- in the report itself that Charlene and I were able to put together has more or less the percentage of the IEPs that we saw items missing or items not in compliance with.

And so for one of the areas is in the area of the specialized instruction. So we would see a goal, for example, in reading, writing, or math. And in the Prior Written Notice, we wouldn't see the amount of service that that student was going to be receiving, how many hours that service was going to be provided for.

documentation showing it was impacting their disability. And they were not receiving any specialized instruction according to the IEP; so, therefore, they need to act into looking at the data and seeing if they need to exit these students from special education, because they don't qualify to be

Just overall, it appears that, from what we see on paper, what we've seen, that there is a mismatch between what students are receiving and what they should be receiving. Special education is supposed to be specialized instruction. And what's recorded in service logs appears to be just support.

So if they're in the general education classroom, they're receiving math. Then if a student asks for help, then that's the type of support that's logged into the service logs.

First is specialized instruction, which would be based off of the goals in the IEP. So if a student was reading, for example, at a tenth-grade level, then that's where the specialized instruction comes in. If they're a senior, they should be trying to work them up to close that gap. And that's what we're not seeing with the service logs that were provided and then the needs that were

22 (Pages 82 to 85) Page 82 1 1 indicated. There's a gap there for students with And what we were seeing is not indicating 2 2 disabilities. specialized instruction. It's indicating that the 3 3 THE CHAIR: Thank you. I don't know if special ed teacher was in the general classroom --4 you want to add any more. 4 the general ed classroom. That's all that's 5 5 MR. TIM CRUM: No, Madam Chair, not for indicated. That's all the service logs indicate. 6 specifics. But I think, overall, what I've heard in 6 It's not indicating that the students received 7 7 my brief review of the report -- because I haven't specialized instruction. 8 8 looked at it that closely for that long -- there are THE CHAIR: Received compensatory. 9 concerns beyond what would be normal, in my view of 9 MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: So, therefore, 10 10 an LEA, what we should see. this raises a new need for compensatory services. 11 11 And there was also mention of compensatory THE CHAIR: Right. 12 in the report. So did you want to speak to that a 12 MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: Because if they 13 little bit? 13 never received any specialized instruction, they 14 THE CHAIR: Yeah. 14 will owe all the time for the whole school year. So 15 MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: So from what we're 15 it's not only the time that they were without a 16 16 special education teacher; it would be now if they seeing is in -- if we were looking at another 17 17 school's IEPs, we would see that they had special didn't receive any specialized instruction. 18 18 education math, special education reading, special THE CHAIR: Right, right. Yeah. Okay. 19 education writing. But what they have to offer, 19 Thank you. 20 20 Commissioner Armbruster? Alma d'Arte, is learning lab and content mastery. 21 So we don't know if that's special education. 21 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I just wanted to 22 22 But what we're inferring from the service clarify some things for me, which may or may not 23 logs providing -- that they provided, it's not 23 have anything to do with Alma, as a matter of fact. 24 24 special education. It's more like tutoring. And So when you have a special ed teacher who's going 25 25 tutoring is not special education, because it's not into an inclusion class with special ed students Page 83 Page 85 1 1 specialized instruction trying to help them close with needs and IEPs as well as regular ed students, 2 2 that gap and working with them where they are and they're just working so that they're able to do 3 3 according to their goals in their IEP. what they're supposed to be doing in class; so then 4 So that's where -- that's where we're 4 in order to give them the specialized instruction 5 5 that you mentioned, would -- how would that occur? indicating if they cannot provide service logs to 6 6 indicate they've worked with those students at the Would it be like you'd have to have a 7 7 level they needed that specialized instruction, they class where you just worked with those kids on that? 8 8 Or how does that occur? Or where? Does that make will owe these students compensatory services in 9 9 sense what I'm asking you? those areas where they have a need. 10 10 MS. MARJORIE GILLESPIE: Yes. THE CHAIR: And that's -- so let me ask, 11 11 MS. CYNTHIA ROMERO: It could be seen in a because when we started this way back months ago, 12 there was -- correct me -- about 300 hours of 12 variety of ways. They could do it as a small group. 13 13 compensatory time owed? Is that the number that we They could do it even as a co-teaching situation, 14 were -- I think it was somewhere around 300, wasn't 14 where the two teachers, the general ed and the 15 15 special ed teacher, are teaching together. 16 16 But oftentimes, you would see the special MS. KAREN WOERNER: It was significant. 17 17 And that was at the time they didn't have a special ed teacher in the general ed classroom working in

indication to what might be still owed? What a deficiency might be, if there is one? Or if there is one? MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: If there is one. So what we would need to see is service logs showing specialized instruction happening for every student.

THE CHAIR: My question is, is there any

the groups with the students that needed the specific help in that area that -- the content area that is being taught at that time. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: So if you had something that was -- was or was not developed for special ed -- I don't know; I've been out of this for a while -- I don't know. Does the little book say, "Only for special ed children"? I don't think

ed provider.

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Page 86 1 1 it's difficult for LEAs to generally meet all of the so. 2 2 So if you're doing specialized instruction requirements under the IDEA B. They're pretty 3 3 spectacular intensive requirements. in an area like writing or reading, that type of 4 thing, and you're doing it with everyone who needed 4 So we would expect to sometimes see some 5 5 that type of service, which is probably most in the latency in maybe IEPs by two weeks or three weeks or 6 classroom of this inclusion class, that would be 6 something like that. That would be more normal. 7 7 We would -- we would not expect to see considered specialized instruction? 8 8 MS. CYNTHIA ROMERO: It's also going to be specifics in the failure of executing or 9 dependent on the students' goals. So the special ed 9 implementing IEPs as normal, where students are --10 10 teacher will also be providing a specific -- will where there's not a distinguishing characteristic or 11 11 a log that shows that students are receiving need to be providing the specific things in the 12 12 goals of that student's IEP. And so they would be specific services that are required under the IEP in 13 13 providing those particular services during that the least restrictive environment, which we refer to 14 14 inclusion time. as inclusion as well. So that would -- that's not 15 15 normal. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: So I would say, 16 16 So just those normal breakdowns, if there just off the top of my head, generally, goals for LD 17 17 kids would be increasing reading speed. It would are such a thing. I don't want to imply that it's 18 18 be -- in terms of writing, they would be able to normal not to do something that's fully in 19 19 write a topic sentence and supporting sentences and compliance. But there are things that do happen, 20 20 and they're less impactful. conclu- -- I mean, those are the general kinds of 21 21 things. I'm just talking about English, not about So I would say that this is what I'm 22 22 reading in the report is impactful on students with math now. That would be the sort of thing they 23 23 would be doing. disabilities, particularly as it relates to time and 24 24 the time that they -- as they're aging and the time So if that special ed teacher were in a 25 that they need the services and the amount of 25 classroom and doing that specifically as part of the Page 89 Page 87 1 1 co-teaching, then that would count towards what services. 2 2 you're talking about; am I right? So -- now, the report, if it's accurate 3 3 MS. CYNTHIA ROMERO: Yeah. It would and it's consistent with the service log, the lack 4 4 of the service logs or the lack of the content and really depend on the particular student's IEP. Also 5 5 we'd have to take into consideration any the service logs, then that's very concerning to me; 6 6 because then there could be an assumption from the accommodations or modifications that are also in the 7 7 IEP. They would have to be following all of those report or what information we have is that there 8 8 could be a systemic problem with the students items while they were in the inclusion setting. 9 9 receiving specialized services and those times for COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: And the 10 10 those services on a regular basis in the least accommodations would basically not be on the special 11 restrictive environment. 11 ed instruction; it would be on the general ed 12 12 instruction and goals and tests and how they're That's kind of the ballpark of what I'm 13 13 seeing as outside of the scope of normal. I hope grading a paper and that type of thing; right? 14 MS. CYNTHIA ROMERO: Yes, correct. 14 that helps. 15 15 MS. VOIGT: Thank you. Yes, that did. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Thank you. 16 16 Thank you. THE CHAIR: Commissioner Voigt? 17 17 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Thank you. COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Question? 18 18 THE CHAIR: Certainly. Commissioner Mr. Crum, you stated that there were 19 19 concerns beyond what would be normal concerns. So Caballero? 20 20 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes. And so when what is a normal concern that the Special Education 21 21 you're looking at all this information, this Bureau would have when they see these entries into 22 22 information that was inputted to a portal, and you the portal? 23 23 received and that's what you saw, do you make visits MR. TIM CRUM: I'm glad you asked that 24 24 follow-up question. to the schools to see their actual files at any 25 25 We do see, on a pretty regular basis, that point?

Page 90 1 MR. TIM CRUM: Yes, sir. We would -- we 1 I'm sorry to interrupt. 2 2 do site visits as they are necessary. In this case, COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: No, no, no. 3 3 MR. TIM CRUM: We have something called we were able to remotely review the IEPs. Site 4 visits would take us further into the depth of 4 early intervention; we call it coordinated early 5 5 compliance or non-compliance. And they are intervention. That is also an opportunity for Local 6 definitely in order when certain criteria hit. 6 Education Agencies to use techniques to determine COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: And would your 7 7 whether or not the student can get assistance before 8 8 criteria dictate a site visit to this school? being diagnosed or being found with a need for 9 MR. TIM CRUM: If I were exposed to only 9 disability, which, you know, we always promote. 10 10 this report and what I've heard from my staff, I You can do them voluntarily, or you have 11 11 would say yes, it would meet the criteria for a site to do them on a mandatory basis if you're found to 12 12 be what we call significant disproportionality; in visit. 13 13 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: The -- my other other words, where you might be identifying them 14 question is, it was mentioned that possibly some 14 systematically too many under a particular race, 15 15 maybe, or disability or both. students may not belong in special ed. And if So a number of thing -- that's highly --16 16 that's the case, would a site visit then entail that 17 17 investigation? Because that would go into the that's highly regulated and watched. There's data 18 18 number of hours owed to those students that qualify. on that 19 So if 300 hours was the last count, it could be less 19 So we determine whether or not it's 20 20 or it could be more depending on the total number of happening or not. 21 21 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Thank you. Thank students and what they received or didn't receive, 22 22 right? you, sir. 23 MR. TIM CRUM: Yes, sir. I think if I 23 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Armbruster? 24 24 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Yeah. I wanted expand a little bit on that is that if, in fact, a 25 25 student was identified for special education, and to go back to the service logs. And with guilt, I Page 91 Page 93 1 their disability -- there was a disability that was 1 will say that ten years ago, I don't actually recall 2 identified, and the IEP team convened, and -- with 2 ever writing them down as a special ed teacher. 3 the EDT and they had a disability, but in the end 3 So what teachers are supposed to do --4 the diagnosis was not special education and they 4 just go to where we're supposed to be -- is on a 5 5 were in special education, that would constitute a daily basis, for each child that you see, you would 6 6 problem in the -- perhaps the SAT process, the write down what that child does? So is that 7 7 process that leads up to the student being correct? And everyone does that? I'm just not sure 8 8 identified with a disability. what the service logs mean. 9 And it could fall into the categories of 9 MR. TIM CRUM: That's a good question. 10 10 disproportionate. We talked about significant MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: To ensure that an 11 11 disproportionality before. Maybe we didn't -- there LEA has documentation that they met the service 12 12 could be disproportionate numbers if that was hours according to every IEP, they should be 13 13 documenting the services they're providing to systemic. 14 And then a compensatory component, yes, in 14 students with disabilities. That goes for the 15 15 ancillary providing, too; the OT, PT, the speech fact, that would be reduced; but there would be 16 16 therapists. They have to be documenting what they non-compliance, a very serious non-compliance if 17 17 you're identifying a student in special education did with the student and the service time. 18 18 when they shouldn't have been identified. Because, for example, if an IEP calls for 19 19 And there's also resources. It's 365 minutes a week of special education math, they 20 20 impactful on resources as well. So you've got to -should be able to back up that they provided the 21 21 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: You're servicing 365 hours [verbatim] of special education math. 22 22 more students than you actually should have, and COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: If there were a 23 23 you're spreading your resources. Uh-huh. Yeah. class -- learning labs or something -- I don't know; 24 24 There's an impact on that. I just wrote it down somewhere -- and that were a 25 MR. TIM CRUM: We have something called --25 class where a special ed teacher was in charge, and,

you know, 12 of the children whose IEPs indicated
that they should have that time went to that class,
then would you need a service log in addition to
that? Or you knew that the children were in that
class getting special ed services?

MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: You would need a

service log, because not every kid might be working on the same goal. So it has to be -- I mean -- COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Who checks

those? Or when do those get checked?

MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: They get checked whenever we request them. We can ask for them any time with the -- when they ask for reimbursement, we can ask to see those. When we are looking at S.T.A.R.S. data, we can ask to see those as well. So at any time. It just depends on whenever we feel we need to look at them, we can ask for them.

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: And so those are sort of stored year to year someplace.

MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: The LEA is responsible for keeping those. We only keep them when we ask for them.

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I'm assuming that is something you do for every school every year.

there that day, what days were they absent, what do you have to make up, when were you absent so you have to make it up. When the child is absent, that's different; but to track all that.

So we do advise schools that they need to keep service logs for their special ed services. Of course, we cannot require that because we have not been able to find a statute or regulation that actually mandates it. But we stress to the schools at site visits that -- and I just learned of some new reasons why we need to.

We always stress that this is a highly litigious population that could have serious ramifications for the school. An IEP is just an intent to serve. Without the service logs, you cannot prove to a judge how you provided those services.

So I try to get them to think of it as to the why they would want to do that. Because it is burdensome. There is a valid reason for doing so. So to your point, yes, we do cover this at every site visit.

THE CHAIR: I just wanted that -- right. Yeah.

MR. TIM CRUM: Madam Chair and

## Page 95

Page 94

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MS. MARJORIE GILLESPIE: No. It just depends on the situation. And if we have a concern, we will ask for them. But it's up to the LEA to be keeping those logs.

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: So basically, Administration is looking for those and doing those.

THE CHAIR: I want to interrupt for just a second and see -- is that something for the site visit? When you're looking at the IEPs, is that something that you look at as well?

MS. KAREN WOERNER: Yes. Every site visit, we do recommend strongly to the school that they keep those service logs. The ones for the ancillary services are automatically done because they have to do those for their Medicaid billing and things like that. The ones for the ancillary services are easy.

What you're getting at are the ones for the classroom teachers get a little harder. But we do explain to them that based on our advice from the Special Ed Bureau, that a couple of things:

One is that keeping them -- sometimes they say, "Well, it's in the IEP and it's in the schedule."

But that doesn't show that the child was

Page 97

Commissioner, if I may just add a little bit on this? Yeah. What Charlene described, if it were outside of that context, it would be outside of best practice at the very least.

But when we find -- let's say if we found a finding like that, that services were being provided in a less conventional way, then we would find a procedural compliance issue to deal with, and they would deal with the procedural component.

So, you know, we -- we'd like to give them the benefit of the doubt; because, let's say students are receiving services, and it's in an unorthodox way, one that's less conventional, but there's proof of it, you know, there's some sort of proof. We would look into that, too.

So we take a -- make a discretionary call there. And then we would call for is this a systematic problem and there would be a procedural change to help them out to assist them in moving into the proper way.

You know, when you think about it, too, there's case management law, case waiver, caseload waivers law in the NMAC, that requires that a licensed teacher manage the caseloads. So that would be part of their responsibilities.

Page 100 Page 98 1 And then there's a reason that those 1 MR. TIM CRUM: Madam Chair and 2 2 caseloads only allow so many students under Commissioner, boy, that's a -- you're asking a 3 3 particular severity levels that would change the Deputy Director if he has enough resources. I have 4 formula, you know, to only manage so many students 4 to restrain myself to some degree. To some degree. 5 5 and -- so many case loads. Excuse me. And that But in actuality, I mean, we -- we have a 6 would be one of them: Make sure the service logs 6 tremendous volume of compliance requirements. And we're down a few staff now; we're working in that 7 are up to date, make sure the IEPs are in place, 7 8 8 make sure the evaluations are going on, so forth. area. But when we're staffed up and we have a 9 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Voigt? 9 tremendous network of help through provider -- or 10 10 COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Thank you. Just one technical assistance providers, professional 11 11 development providers well beyond just those two more question of the Special Education Bureau. 12 12 Do you have confidence that provided academies that we have every year. 13 13 that -- with the documentation that you've been So I would say that when we're -- as the 14 provided, that the special education students' needs 14 way we function, we have -- we can provide the 15 15 resources. are being met through the documentation that you've 16 16 been provided? Do you feel that the students' needs And not only that, we will move and 17 17 prioritize resources in areas, especially if LEAs are being met? 18 18 are struggling, and students are -- there's a MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: With the 19 documentation provided, no. 19 systematic -- or a systemic problem of some sort. 20 20 So I hope that answers your question. THE CHAIR: Thank you. 21 It's kind of broad. But we do have it down pretty 21 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Question? 22 22 good. THE CHAIR: Sure. 23 23 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Do you spend any A tremendous director. Deborah 24 24 Dominguez-Clark, she's got over a quarter century in time training school personnel on what schools 25 the work. That's one of the things. She makes 25 should be doing in this area? Page 99 Page 101 1 MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: We have -- we have 1 herself very, very accessible to any of the 2 two directors' conferences a year. We have one in 2 tremendous detail. She has an unbelievable 3 the fall; we have one in the winter. Then we also 3 knowledge base in special education, well beyond 4 have monthly webinars. And then we have our website 4 mine. 5 5 which has a host of documents and -- and resources. And so we try to leverage that, as well as 6 We have guidance manuals posted on our 6 all of our staff. We have tenured staff as well. 7 website as well, as well as I'm also available. You 7 We try to keep people. It's not an easy 8 know, I tell my districts they can call me at any 8 job. You know, grow a lot of -- a lot training goes 9 time. If they're stuck, if they have a question, 9 on in our bureau. 10 10 that's what my job is, to support them. And so beyond compliance, we really focus 11 But I haven't -- they haven't really 11 on TA when we can. It's a fine line, because our 12 reached out to me to request any support or 12 job is to ensure the IDEA B Act is followed 13 13 anything; so ... according to the law. That's a very fine line. 14 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: And the follow-up 14 And when you're giving TA, you're giving 15 15 question, also, to that is taking into account the TA. You cannot be the one that's advising on when 16 growth of charter schools, do you feel you have 16 they're making decisions, for instance. 17 17 enough resources in your Department to stay on top But we're very careful to point to 18 of training and retraining, if you feel that what 18 manuals -- that's why we have an extensive library 19 you're doing is doing not enough in training and 19 of manuals, including a manual with policies. And 20 20 retraining? Because it's very involved. I have we can also refer to the CFR for the statute. But 21 been finding that out in the last few years. It's 21 the resources, we can always use a little more. We 22 22 never turn them away, you know. 23 23 Do you have enough resources to stay on COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Thank you. 24 top of the increase of charter schools and school 24 MR. TIM CRUM: Thank you. 25 demands? 25 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Armbruster?

Page 102 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: It could be 1 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I just want to 1 2 2 clarify a point. everybody else's education, not theirs; right? 3 3 So in the identification of special MS. CYNTHIA ROMERO: Yes, correct. 4 education students, if a child is ED, emotionally 4 THE CHAIR: Commissioners, any other 5 5 disturbed, needs the services -- if that child is questions? 6 not -- is doing quite well academically but still 6 (No response.) has those issues that are hindering progress, if 7 7 THE CHAIR: Thank you so much, once again. 8 8 that child is not in special ed with an IEP, that We truly do appreciate this. 9 9 child would see a counselor; but not a psychologist, MR. TIM CRUM: My pleasure. Thank you. 10 10 a licensed psychologist, correct? THE CHAIR: Thank you. So I know there 11 So it's possible that labeled ED --11 are folks from the school here as well. So if the 12 12 because everybody gets labeled here -- an ED child school wants to come up, vou're certainly --13 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: The little green light 13 would be in special education, and the services 14 14 would be coming just from a licensed psychologist, is on. I think it's on. There it is. 15 15 Good morning, Madam Chairwoman, members of but he or she could be doing quite well 16 16 academically. But you would continue them on then the Commission. 17 As you know, my name is Gene Elliott. I'm 17 or not? 18 the president of the governance council of Alma 18 MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: No. That's where 19 you have your 504 plans. And even the regulations 19 d'Arte. And Holly can introduce herself. 20 20 DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: Good morning. I'm state if a student only requires ancillary service, 21 Holly Schullo. Thank you. 21 like psychological services, they don't qualify for 22 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Sitting here listening 22 special education. And that should not be the sole 23 23 basis for putting a student in special education. to the speakers from the Special Ed Bureau 24 24 reinforced something that I wanted to say. And that So... 25 is why were we not directed way back in December to 25 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: So as a --Page 103 Page 105 1 sorry. As a 504 child, you can get psychological 1 consult with the Special Ed Bureau and the ELL folks 2 services from a psychologist as a counselor; is that 2 and create the plan that would be acceptable? That 3 3 didn't happen. We were given a Corrective Action 4 MS. CHARLENE MARCOTTE: Ancillary, yes. 4 Plan by, I guess, PED. 5 5 MS. CYNTHIA ROMERO: So in order for them THE CHAIR: No, that was by us. Let's 6 6 to actually qualify for special education, they have just clear that up. 7 7 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Okay. By you. And to meet two prongs: One, they have to have the 8 8 need, the disability; and then, two, they have to since then, for seven months that I've counted here, 9 have the need academically. 9 we have been back and forth talking, talking back 10 10 and forth. And this could all have been done by And so the IEP team is looking at the NM 11 TEAM, New Mexico TEAM manual. And under each 11 January, had we -- and I'm assuming that they are 12 12 eligibility category, they're asked those the ultimate authority on what we do with special 13 two-pronged questions. And if they can't say as a 13 education and ELL; is that correct? 14 14 team that they meet the eligibility criteria under THE CHAIR: For the most part, yes; 15 meeting the services, meeting the academic need, 15 because that's not our position. That's what we 16 rely on the Bureau. 16 then they can't technically officially say yes, they 17 17 But I'm going to say -- I'm going to put are students of special education needs. 18 18 the onus back on the school as well. The school COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: There's a really 19 19 knew what our concerns were. So if the school fine line on spectrum disorders, for example. 20 20 wanted to clear this up, all they had to do was to Because they could be academically quite fine; 21 21 behaviorally, possibly not. So then you have to contact the Special Ed Bureau. 22 22 If you felt you were fully in compliance, make the decision whether the behavior is 23 23 say, "Here, review our records so that we can show interfering with. 24 24 MS. CYNTHIA ROMERO: Yes, with their and clear out these concerns with the Commission." 25 25 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Well, then, my education.

Page 106 Page 108 1 opinion --1 question; it's a fact. We're sitting here now, six 2 THE CHAIR: So that's on the school. The 2 months into this, and you've continued to be out of 3 3 school was fully aware from January of what the compliance with Special Ed and with some concerns 4 concerns were, that there were these overwhelming 4 with EL. But to have the Special Ed Bureau be able 5 5 special ed compliance issues. And if the school to make that report that you're -- what was the 6 felt that they were in compliance or needed help in 6 term? -- out of the norm? 7 figuring out how to get into compliance, it's not us 7 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Above what could be 8 8 that gives that direction. It's the Special Ed expected. 9 Bureau. 9 THE CHAIR: That's concerning. And when 10 10 And as they so often said as they've been the Special Ed Bureau can answer a direct question 11 up here, that's what they're here for, to offer that 11 and say, you know, "Do you believe that the school 12 help. You've got a -- for want of a better term, a 12 is in compliance?" -- is that not what you asked, 13 liaison to contact. So there shouldn't be a 13 Commissioner Voigt? 14 question as to, "I don't know where to go." 14 MS. VOIGT: Yeah. What was -- I had asked 15 15 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: I didn't say that. Mr. Crum what was beyond a normal issue. 16 16 THE CHAIR: Well --THE CHAIR: Right. But then when you 17 17 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: I said we were directed asked that second question... 18 to create a Corrective Action Plan. 18 MS. KAREN WOERNER: The documents 19 THE CHAIR: No. We created the Corrective 19 provided. 20 Action Plan. You did not create the Corrective 20 THE CHAIR: "Do you have confidence?" 21 Action Plan. 21 Right. 22 22 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: We were to comply with MS. VOIGT: With the documents provided. 23 23 THE CHAIR: And the Special Ed Bureau says it. 24 24 THE CHAIR: And to fall into compliance no. And we've continued to have this overwhelming 25 with that Corrective Action Plan, you needed to get 25 concern, ultimately, that the issue is that students Page 107 Page 109 1 1 into compliance with Special Ed. aren't being served. That is the -- that is the 2 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: And if you will recall, 2 bottom line with this. And it continues to be. 3 I think it was at the February meeting, I have the 3 And when just that is addressed, and month 4 transcription here, that I asked the question to 4 after month it is the same issue, that students --5 5 whom -- I mean, there are three agencies, at we've got children that are not receiving the 6 6 services they're supposed to have -least -- well, two of them and one there, and the 7 7 Commission -- to whom -- where is the ultimate MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Measured by which --8 8 THE CHAIR: By the Special Ed Bureau. point? 9 9 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Okay. Then I would --THE CHAIR: Us. We're the ultimate point. 10 10 I would invite them to come to the campus and do a But we are not the -- we are not the bureau that 11 11 site visit and see if we are or are not meeting the determines whether you are in compliance or not. As 12 12 I said at that meeting, that we are the ultimate standards. 13 13 THE CHAIR: They reviewed all of your arbiter; but it is not our capacity or authority to 14 14 determine whether you are or not in compliance with IEPs. I mean, what more -- honestly, what more do 15 15 you want? That's what I -- you know --Special Ed. 16 MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Then what would you 16 But we take the information about those 17 17 compliance concerns from the various bureaus into have us do? 18 18 THE CHAIR: They are the experts that do consideration when we are making our decisions. And 19 that. I don't -- and I can maybe ask them. But I 19 I do believe that's what I said at the meeting. 20 20 don't know what, beyond -- I know there may be a MR. GENE ELLIOTT: I would have to go back 21 more in-depth. But by and large, when you're going 21 and look. But there was not any clarification or 22 to those schools and you're doing the audit or the 22 response to my statement about that, as I recall it. 23 23 site visit, the first thing you're looking at is the I'd have to go back and check. 24 IEPs and the service logs, which is what they did, 24 So the question is --25 25 remotely. THE CHAIR: The question is -- it's not a

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MR. GENE ELLIOTT: And I will tell you that we took the initiative to correct the IEPs.

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DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: So I realize that --Madam Chair and Commissioners, I realize this is like we're digging here. This is something that I identified when I walked in to Alma d'Arte. I'm a new administrator. It is my first year, and I myself have made my own mistakes.

I identified the deficiencies in special education. I hired two people on an early morning, on a Saturday morning, mid-August, to audit all of our special education files.

And what I found was that, you know, we could do better. We could do a lot better. So I placed that teacher on administrative leave, and then she did not return to the building.

So we had a lapse in service. And I made other mistakes there with, you know, filling that gap. And that is on me.

However, we hired somebody else to do the work and help us. And I think we did good work.

One of the struggles that I see in the report that we received back from Special Education is this: We didn't put classroom minutes or inclusion or pull-out minutes.

Page 112

But to simply say, "It's their fault because they didn't give me feedback" is completely inappropriate, especially when we're sitting here six months later with the same report. Honestly, it's the same report.

COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: For discussion? DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: So Commissioner Armbruster actually said this. None of the logs that were uploaded were classroom logs, not for push-in or pullout or co-teaching. None of those logs were included because we don't keep those logs. And if I had received that directive, my teacher would have been keeping those logs.

And I hired an expert, you all. I hired someone who is a very seasoned special education teacher. And if we don't have these answers in Las Cruces -- and I did. On May 14th, when I sent the new IEPs and what was required of us, I e-mailed and I said, "Will this do? We do want help. We do want to improve."

When you asked about resources, what we need for next year, we dedicated -- we need two special education teachers, period, and one EA. And that's out there.

I was hoping one of my faculty members

Page 111

(A discussion was held off the record.)

THE CHAIR: We had that set up because of the next item. It's the next school. So we had it set up. Sorry.

DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: So that snapshot is -we sent logs for compensatory and the ancillary. And we received what you're reading that is feedback on that data, and our IEPs that we uploaded, all of them.

When you go back in time to the 40th day, where we first uploaded all of the previous work from last year and where we could do better -that's what I was working from -- from there to where we are now is much better, okay?

THE CHAIR: No, it's not. It's not.

DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: So from the 40th day, though, where our troubles began, that's where we should have had detailed feedback. I put them up in the same site: but we didn't receive feedback on that 40th day.

THE CHAIR: You know, I'm going to say this. At some point in time, someone has to say -reach out and say, "Did I do this right? I'm a brand new administrator. I need help. Is this okay?"

Page 113

would step up and take half English and half special education, because she has degrees, two degrees in 3 special education. And we are working on this. And 4 next year, we'll be better.

I want to --

THE CHAIR: Commissioner Caballero has a question.

DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: Yes, please.

COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: I've been around through all the discussions. And -- but today, what I did learn that was different is that if, in fact, everything has been the same since six months back. and Special Education should, in my opinion -- I don't know if they have regulation for that -- do a site visit, because -- and that's why I asked the question.

That's -- when you receive -- when they receive that information, it's inputted into the system. It could be different on paper, could be different on time. And so that's why I asked to -maybe I should have -- the question should have been, "Are you -- are you required to make a site visit?"

So my question was -- "And in this situation, would this promote a site visit?"

And the answer is yes.

So I actually believe that we've -- there should have been a site visit sometime back. That should have been from us, should have been from that end. It has been an ongoing coming here constantly.

The Commission, guys, has gone through a change of moving away from punitive to an early alert system and to a helping system. And if charter schools don't make it that way, then they need to be removed from charter.

But I think that we still have a confusion as to what we were doing in the past and what we should be doing now. And what I have learned about special education, that it is tough; it is tough, guys. And as a teacher, I don't think I would ever decide to be a special ed. It's just -- kindergarten was tough for me. And I taught kindergarten.

THE CHAIR: God bless you.

COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: I was the only guy who taught kindergarten. But special ed, it's something else.

And I've talked to parents. For some reason, parents feel at ease talking to me. And a lot of them have special ed children in charter

says, "Well, no, we don't want to help the schools, or we don't want those kids."

But I'm at the point where I would say that we should wait until the bureau makes a site visit and can come back and give us a true picture; because we've been getting the same picture from what was loaded to them. And I think that we need to find out once and for all and not go back and forth monthly or bimonthly with this problem.

And I'm sure that a charter school, if they owe services, they will have to -- to do it. Or maybe some kids didn't belong there, and they were overwhelmed themselves, not knowing; so that -that's where I'm at, Madam Chair. I don't know about the other Commissioners; but that's --

THE CHAIR: I have a recommendation. COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Okay.

THE CHAIR: So, you know, this is a process that the school is in. So we did send the Letter of Concern. So we're on a pathway in the intervention ladder towards a breach and then revocation.

The Letter of Concern, in my opinion, can't be closed out, because the concern is still there. So this is what I'm suggesting: That a

Page 115

schools. And they have run to charter schools because they -- they want help. And the charter schools have received them because they have to.

But I personally believe that it takes a lot more resources in the charter school to do that. And at some point, the number or the percentage is going to be overwhelming for one particular school.

And there has to be a step-in for additional resources. That's just me, as an opinion; because the rest of the kids get less. And so the administrator then has to decide, "The rest of the kids need help; but I'm required by law to provide this, no matter what. I cannot deny."

And I've asked the parents, "Do you think you got pushed out?"

And they all say yes, but they cannot articulate how. But they just feel that charter schools is the answer for them. And for a lot of times, it has been. For a lot of times.

And, Madam Chair, I just don't know what the balance is. I don't know what the solution is, other than it's a matter of resources.

Parents accuse the charter schools of not -- of not feeling for them or not trying. I haven't seen that in a single charter school that

Page 117

Notice of Breach be sent to the school. There is a time frame for that Notice of Breach that I would ask it to be extended until the end of August.

And during that time period, that we'll work with CSD to get a couple of different contracts going. One is for an operational audit of the school, so that we can check on -- because there have been concerns with the governance council and Open Meetings Act violations. I know there has been a complaint filed with another bureau.

So I would like to see if we can -- if that's finalized by that time or there's additional information on that, that would -- that would give us a little more leeway to be able to get that information.

At the same time, I would also like a contract of special ed mentoring for the school. And if the Special Ed Bureau feels during that time they should do an audit, that would give them the time to do it. But that's entirely on them to determine if they feel that a site visit -- a site visit would be necessary.

But that the school be provided, through us, the opportunity for mentoring so that we're clear by August where they stand.

ī			31 (Pages 118 to 121)
	Page 118		Page 120
1	So that's my suggestion.	1	mentor.
2	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: I think that's an	2	THE CHAIR: Correct. Yeah.
3	excellent suggestion. I don't know if the end of	3	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: A quick question
4	August may give the Special Ed Bureau sufficient	4	here, and then I want to comment, which is so how
5	time to actually do an on-site, since school is out	5	many special ed students I know you may not know
6	of session right now. I'm thinking perhaps the	6	everybody but what do you think you're going to
7	middle or the end of September. Also to go out and	7	have next year? In August. How many students?
8	do contracts right now, we're closing out one fiscal	8	DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: Right now, with my
9	year, starting another fiscal year. That can be	9	incoming freshmen, I don't see but a few. So maybe
10	somewhat problematic to get something done in the	10	we'll have 34. But if we're removing or ED
11	next couple of weeks, to get a contract in place,	11	doesn't belong in special ed anymore, that would
12	unless there are people already available that would	12	bring our numbers to 26, I think.
13	qualify under a price agreement or something that	13	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: And I'm thinking
14	the State has. I would just suggest maybe we push	14	even with your ED students, even if they're doing
15	it to the end of September.	15	well academically, they may need a counselor. They
16	THE CHAIR: Our problem is we don't have a	16	don't just sort of, like, become gone.
17	September meeting.	17	So with 26, you would need about how
18	MS. FRIEDMAN: Yes, we do.	18	many like, two special ed teachers?
19	THE CHAIR: No. It's the end of August	19	One-and-a-half?
20	for the votes.	20	DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: We would like two.
21	MS. FRIEDMAN: Oh, sorry.	21	THE CHAIR: And you have how many right
22	THE CHAIR: That's our September meeting.	22	now?
23	We go August into so we don't have another	23	DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: I have an open
24	September meeting.	24	position for one, and we need two, and an open
25	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Right.	25	position for an EA that I'm interviewing for next
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	Page 119		Page 121
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	THE CHAIR: And I think we can face that	1 2	week.
1 2 3	THE CHAIR: And I think we can face that if we have to.	2	week.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Okay. Because,
2	THE CHAIR: And I think we can face that if we have to.  COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Okay. And that's		week.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Okay. Because, you know, I think that although it seems like we're
2 3	THE CHAIR: And I think we can face that if we have to.  COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Okay. And that's fine. I was concerned the timing of getting untried	2 3	week.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Okay. Because, you know, I think that although it seems like we're attacking you
2 3 4	THE CHAIR: And I think we can face that if we have to.  COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Okay. And that's fine. I was concerned the timing of getting untried people in place and getting something done with a	2 3 4	week.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Okay. Because, you know, I think that although it seems like we're attacking you  DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: No, not at all.
2 3 4 5	THE CHAIR: And I think we can face that if we have to.  COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Okay. And that's fine. I was concerned the timing of getting untried people in place and getting something done with a short fuse, so to speak.	2 3 4 5	week.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Okay. Because, you know, I think that although it seems like we're attacking you  DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: No, not at all.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: It really isn't.
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8	THE CHAIR: And I think we can face that if we have to.  COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Okay. And that's fine. I was concerned the timing of getting untried people in place and getting something done with a short fuse, so to speak.  THE CHAIR: Right.  COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: If need be, we can address it in August.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	week.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Okay. Because, you know, I think that although it seems like we're attacking you  DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: No, not at all.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: It really isn't.  I've heard very fine things about your school. I've
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really, it is hard. There are so many i's to dot and t's to cross, it's very complicated.

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And it's especially complicated if you're new, and it's even complicated if you're not new; it just is. So I'm really happy that we're looking forward to helping children. Because in the end, that's what our goal is, to help children. And you're open to that, and we are open to that, and I see a path forward. And that's why I'm --

THE CHAIR: Okay. Are we ready for a motion?

MS. VOIGT: One more comment before we go to that.

THE CHAIR: Oh, sure.

MS. VOIGT: In addition to the recommendations you made, I think we should also -we should have the final approval stamp from the Special Education Bureau that their service logs retain all the components that they should be having to verify the durations and descriptions of their service hours and how these service hours are meeting the needs of the written IEP goals; I mean, very specific that is basic information that's provided by the service logs. I think that should be a component.

But we would be able to get the frame only for, like, two weeks or whatever. But the service logs could be uploaded to the Special Ed Bureau by -- for whatever time the school has been open for the upcoming school year. Would that suffice?

MS. VOIGT: Sure. Yeah. This is more of a learning component, also, going forward that will really help you solidify your program.

MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Thank you.

THE CHAIR: So that --

they drive that.

MS. MATTHEWS: That helped. Thank you. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I think the thing that you will be able to see is that special education services are not services that fit into the existing way the school is run. It's what is determined on what those students need, and that's how the -- it's done. It's not like you stick them in there because that's where we can fit. It's, no,

MS. MATTHEWS: I think it would be just extremely helpful for the Bureau to come, even though that wasn't part of your recommendation, just because it appears -- and I'm hearing whispers behind me and your comments alone, about what the expectations are. It would be very helpful for the

Page 123

THE CHAIR: Okav.

MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair?

If that is, could we have clarification? Because I'm not sure what she's asking. Is she saying retroactively or prospectively, that's what they will recommend to the school? I mean, I'm not understanding.

THE CHAIR: So are you asking for this current year's --

MS. VOIGT: No retroactive. No. But moving forward, you should know and demonstrate that you know what components need to be written into a service log as recommended by the Special Education Bureau that provide the description and the duration of how services are being met.

So there's a time frame; there is a descriptor. And then also how are those descriptors really meeting the needs of the students' goals that are written in the IEPs.

THE CHAIR: So I -- and this -- I believe at the very least -- because we don't meet until the end of August; so school will have begun already. So I think what we could do -- and Commissioner Voigt can correct me if -- if it's not going to be sufficient.

school to have, directly from the mouth of the Bureau, "This is it."

Because it does seem to me there is perhaps some question about what is to be logged, when is it to be logged and by whom. I get ancillary services. Got that piece. But the classroom, the SpEd teacher -- I just think -- I'm not sure I know, I don't know how that works. But the Bureau, if they could come through --

THE CHAIR: Whatever we set up in terms of the special ed mentoring, we can certainly coordinate that through the Special Ed Bureau to make sure that all those areas are being covered so that there's no concerns.

MS. MATTHEWS: That would be consistent, yeah.

THE CHAIR: Yeah. So that's -- I don't think that's a problem. We can either set out -with whoever we contract with, they can coordinate with the Special Ed Bureau and create -- help to create that plan so that we're on the same page.

MS. MATTHEWS: That sounds very workable. THE CHAIR: So I'm going to try to navigate myself through this one.

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MS. MATTHEWS: Madam Chair, will there be a formal Letter of Breach?

THE CHAIR: Yes, there will be. Yes.

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MS. MATTHEWS: And then they will be articulating particularly the violations that caused the breach?

THE CHAIR: Correct, yes. Yes. So I move that the Public Education Commission acknowledge that Alma d'Arte's response does not satisfy the PEC's concerns raised in the Notice of Concern, and Alma d'Arte be provided the following Notice of Breach:

There are concerns beyond the norm that continue with the School's -- with the School related to the special ed services. I think the -the qualifiers will come in the Letter of Concern.

And there continues to be issues with EL services.

And that the Commission will work with the Charter School Division in obtaining contracts for special ed mentoring for the school in coordination with the Special Ed Bureau, and an operational budget to be -- to be conducted, and that the Notice of Breach will be extended to -- and I'm looking at my calendar.

mentioned, we are in closing stages and ramping up for the new year.

So it will -- it will be a few weeks before we can get a contract in place. We can work through different channels to expedite it. But I would say that we're probably looking mid-July, probably, is -- I want to be reasonable and also expedite this. But just knowing what I've learned, it'll be probably around that before we can execute that and put it in place.

THE CHAIR: Can we just have an agreement, if it can't because of hurdles that we don't see now with the contracts, that they drastically delay when we can start all of this, that we set August 12th as the tentative?

But if something comes up -- and we're going to have a July meeting when we're on the road trip; so we'll know by that July meeting if we -- if we face significant hurdles and can't get it done by that time. If we can't get it reasonably done by that time, we'll then look at extending the time. And I have no issue with that.

Does anyone else have an issue with that? And we can -- you know, we'll deal with it if we have to deal with it. But we're -- but the letter

Page 127

So we meet August 22nd and 23rd. Do we think that we could complete this work by August 12th so that reports could come back? And I'm just thinking, is that -- because I know this is also a new application. Because we're voting on the new applications, that -- that week in August; so I don't want to, you know, just completely overwhelm what's coming in. But I want to give the school ample opportunity to have notice of whatever is going to be in the reports.

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, Commissioners, Alma d'Arte leadership, when is the first day of school for you?

THE CHAIR: Of school, yeah. Then we'll get the -- they're not going to get the service logs by that time.

17 DR. HOLLY SCHULLO: So August 1st is our

18 first day. 19 THE CHAIR: Oh. Well, two weeks.

20 MS. MATTHEWS: So today's --

> THE CHAIR: Today's the 14th. MS. MATTHEWS: How fast can they get

23 contracts?

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair,

Commissioners, Ms. Matthews, as Commissioner Robbins

will indicate August 12th. And if you want us to put a qualifier in there, or, you know, delay if unforeseen circumstances or whatever...

MS. MATTHEWS: I think the foreseeable -if you could put that language in there.

THE CHAIR: But I'm trying to live in my perfect world.

MS. MATTHEWS: Me, too.

THE CHAIR: And that's -- so let's -- I'd rather try to get it done, also, because I'd like it done for the start of the school year. I think that just makes sense. So we're going to do whatever we can to get it done expeditiously.

MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Good.

THE CHAIR: So do I need to read this motion? Do people remember that I made the motion?

COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Second.

THE CHAIR: All right. So let me --

Cindy, you got it; right? Do you want to read it back?

(The record was read as requested.) COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Second.

23 THE CHAIR: Because I need to modify.

24 Because it's not "operational budget"; it's 25

"operational audit." I need to amend that, because

	D 120		3 (1 ages 130 to 133)
	Page 130		Page 132
1	it is an operational audit that will be conducted, a	1	No. 8, which is Discussion and Possible Action on
2	contract for that.	2	the Corrective Action Plan for La Academia de
3	There's a second by Commissioner Ruiz.	3	Dolores Huerta. Oh, I'm sorry. No. 9. I went
4	Any further discussion?	4	ahead. Now I had to go back. Now I'm going back
5	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Let's vote.	5	again.
6	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Are there any	6	MS. FRIEDMAN: Would you say your name,
7	abstentions?	7	please?
8	(No response.)	8	THE WITNESS: It's Melissa Miranda,
9	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Good. Okay. I	9	M-I-R-A-N-D-A.
10	am not Commissioner Chavez?	10	MS. FRIEDMAN: Thank you. Can everyone
11	COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.	11	hear her? Okay. All right. Thank you.
12	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	12	MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Thank you. I'm
13	Crone?	13	going to put mute so that I don't interfere; and
14	COMMISSIONER CRONE: Yes.	14	I'll unmute when I need to talk. Is that okay?
15	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	15	MS. FRIEDMAN: Sure.
16	Voigt?	16	MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Okay. Thank you.
17	COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.	17	THE CHAIR: Great. So for the
18	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	18	Commissioners that didn't have the opportunity to be
19	Robbins?	19	on our contract negotiations road show, we were down
20	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.	20	in Las Cruces to negotiate with Alma d'Arte, Dolores
21	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	21	Huerta, and Raíces, while we were down there,
22	Davis?	22	because the Commission, if you remember, voted to
23	COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.	23	place the Corrective Action Plan on La Academia
24	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	24	Dolores Huerta.
25	Ruiz?	25	And this all revolves in part, revolves
	Page 131		Page 133
1	COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Yes.	1	around part of the Secretary's decision. So we just
2	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	2	want to have some clarifying elements so we're sure
3	Gipson?	3	where we're going in terms of the Corrective Action
4	THE CHAIR: Yes.	4	Plan.
5	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	5	So I do have a couple of questions here.
6	Armbruster votes "Yes."	6	So my question for it's actually for the Charter
7	Commissioner Raftery?	_	
_		7	School Division is did the Secretary's decision
8	COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Yes.	8	* *
8 9	COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	1	School Division is did the Secretary's decision and order on March 18th direct the Commission to
		8	School Division is did the Secretary's decision
9	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	8 9	School Division is did the Secretary's decision and order on March 18th direct the Commission to renew La Academia's charter for two years?
9 10	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Caballero?	8 9 10	School Division is did the Secretary's decision and order on March 18th direct the Commission to renew La Academia's charter for two years?  MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of
9 10 11	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Caballero? COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes.	8 9 10 11	School Division is did the Secretary's decision and order on March 18th direct the Commission to renew La Academia's charter for two years?  MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, yes, it did. And I think it did
9 10 11 12	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Caballero?  COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Ten-zero vote.	8 9 10 11 12	School Division is did the Secretary's decision and order on March 18th direct the Commission to renew La Academia's charter for two years?  MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, yes, it did. And I think it did include and this might be another question you
9 10 11 12 13	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Caballero?  COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Ten-zero vote. The motion passes.	8 9 10 11 12 13	School Division is did the Secretary's decision and order on March 18th direct the Commission to renew La Academia's charter for two years?  MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, yes, it did. And I think it did include and this might be another question you had with conditions, which I know is potentially
9 10 11 12 13 14	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Caballero? COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Ten-zero vote. The motion passes. THE CHAIR: Ten-zero. Thank you all.	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	School Division is did the Secretary's decision and order on March 18th direct the Commission to renew La Academia's charter for two years?  MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, yes, it did. And I think it did include and this might be another question you had with conditions, which I know is potentially a disagreement between the Public Education
9 10 11 12 13 14 15	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Caballero?  COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Ten-zero vote.  The motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Ten-zero. Thank you all.  MS. MATTHEWS: Thank you.	8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	School Division is did the Secretary's decision and order on March 18th direct the Commission to renew La Academia's charter for two years?  MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, yes, it did. And I think it did include and this might be another question you had with conditions, which I know is potentially a disagreement between the Public Education Commission and the PED at this time.
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9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Caballero? COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Ten-zero vote. The motion passes. THE CHAIR: Ten-zero. Thank you all. MS. MATTHEWS: Thank you. MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Madam Chair, one question. If we complete and thoroughly pass all of these audits, will that be the end? THE CHAIR: Yeah. MR. GENE ELLIOTT: Okay. Thank you very much. We appreciate that. We look forward to it. THE CHAIR: Well, subject to anything else that comes up; but	8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	School Division is did the Secretary's decision and order on March 18th direct the Commission to renew La Academia's charter for two years?  MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, yes, it did. And I think it did include and this might be another question you had with conditions, which I know is potentially a disagreement between the Public Education Commission and the PED at this time.  THE CHAIR: Okay. So we're so we did have Commissioner Voigt, Commissioner Armbruster and myself, as well as the Charter School Division, the evening before, the late afternoon of the before we did the contract negotiations, we felt that that would be a good time to be able to sit down and talk with the school about the Corrective Action Plan. And the subcommittee, at that time,

Page 134 discussion of the Corrective Action Plan. So we did have that discussion, and we appreciate all of that time. And at that time, the school had indicated that they were using the short cycle assessment of Illuminate. And there wasn't a lot of identifying information about Illuminate for that. And the subcommittee had identified that we wanted to see data that showed that there was approximately a year-and-a-half's growth with --with their student population in order to feel comfortable with an Illuminate goal. And the school indicated that they would be able to get back to us by the following Wednesday. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I think that they hadn't yet used it, that they were going to use it, which is why they didn't know --THE CHAIR: I'm not sure about that. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I thought they were just starting it. MR. ROBERT PALACIOS: Madam Chair, my name is Robert Palacios. I'm the treasurer for the governing council. We had just started using it, this method, for this school year. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: This next year

would be the easiest thing to do. Okay. We've got it. So the school wouldn't have to upload anything additional to us. We've got the data, and it's provided directly by PED.

Unfortunately, it doesn't look like that dashboard piece is going to be available by the -- after -- at the conclusion of this coming-up school year. So that's not going to be on the dashboard report for August of 2020. The dashboard is going to be there; but that particular component -- so we have to look -- we have to continue to look at Illuminate.

We have discovered through the director that the Illuminate Southwest Coordinator -- is that what he refers -- is that what he's called? --

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, I think so. Simone, I think, is the same person that Ms. Miranda and the team was --

THE CHAIR: -- for Illuminate is actually in Santa Fe. But we've just discovered this. So we're in -- this is State government. So we're in the very early stages of discussion with him on what this all looks like and what it all means.

So I'm going to ask that we take a little more time, a week or so, so that we can get our

## Page 135

or the current?

MR. ROBERT PALACIOS: The current school year that just ended.

THE CHAIR: Okay. But the question really was about does -- what does this goal equate to. So the school had said that they were going to have a conversation with their Illuminate rep, and that they would get back to us by the following Wednesday with some clarifying information.

And I received a message from their -- I don't remember if it was the school or their counsel -- that that information was not going to be available for that May target date.

And the reason for that target date was we were still all together, so that it becomes very challenging when we can't meet to look at something. The school did provide a goal. But once again, there was the big question of what does this really mean?

So I reached out to the director to see if he could find some information about Illuminate and to give us some clarifying information about the goal, and/or would it be possible if we could simply capture off of the dashboard that's coming a year-and-a-half-growth per student; because that Page 137

answers -- our questions answered from the
Illuminate folks, get some answers, come back to the
school with, "What you've presented is great," or,
"We think maybe we should tweak it and it should be
this."

I'm not sure yet. I don't have that answer. And that, we'll -- we'll allow the school, certainly, the opportunity to provide input with that. And then we would make a final decision at the July meeting.

But right now, we just don't -- what was -- what was provided, we don't have clarifying information for it.

So, you know, there's still questions. So the director has had the early discussions with them, and I think we can get to a place. But we're not there at this point in time, because the information that we had asked for from the school to say, "Please try to get this" -- that's not what -- we weren't given really any clarifying information to -- for us to be able to make an adequate decision here today.

MR. ROBERT PALACIOS: Madam Chair, if I may ask? So we're moving away from the year-and-a-half and working with Illuminate to

figure what standard we're going to use based off of their short cycle assessments.

THE CHAIR: Correct. We won't be able to capture that year-and-a-half. I'm not saying we're moving away from that year-and-a-half. It's probably not going to be worded as that target. But the goal is to try to figure out what pathway Illuminate has that can bring us the closest to show us that that would be an approximation.

That's what we're looking at; because we don't have a clear sense at this point in time what mastery really means with that, is this a -- is this truly a rigorous goal. We need to dig deeper into Illuminate to see what exactly that all means. And we don't have those questions answered yet. But the director -- and if you want to add anything, because you had the conversation.

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Sure. Madam Chair, members of the Commission, leader -- sorry -- Dolores Huerta -- I think the area where we really want to figure out, and we haven't had a chance to do so, is from a very quick review of the -- the Corrective Action Plan that you shared with the Commission, there are some -- the goals in there, such as, you know, 71 percent of the students will

Page 140

1 IEPs. By, you know, numerous lawsuits, we cannot -2 we cannot take out; because the goal, as you
3 indicated, is all students without IEPs. And we
4 cannot do that.

MS. ELAINE PALMA: So, Madam Chairperson, and Commissioners, my name is Elaine Palma. I'm the secretary on the governing council. On the IEP, those students sometimes have to take alternative assessments.

THE CHAIR: We'll take care of that. The wording can't be "all students except those with IEPs."

MS. ELAINE PALMA: That will be covered with the IEP with the individual student.

MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: If I can interrupt real quick?

17 THE CHAIR: I'm sorry. I forget there's someone in that little box.

MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: The reason why that verbiage was on there is when we received the draft of the CAP, it stated that; so I left it, just because it was already on the previous CAP. But I'll more than gladly remove that verbiage.

THE CHAIR: Okay. Then we're good. MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Thank you.

Page 139

meet a certain percentage of set standards, we need to get a little bit more clear on what those standards are.

From my understanding from my conversation with Illuminate, there are essentially what I would call power standards, that the school chooses those specific standards in reading and math to really drive instruction and to drive student success. What we just kind of need to learn a little bit more about is, you know, the -- is 60 percent meeting expectation? Is that a rigorous goal for all students to drive towards with Illuminate?

And so my initial couple of conversations with Simone, I still have some questions there. And I would love to -- if it pleases the Commission, maybe we can do a -- a conference call with them or do some work together to come to -- from the -- from the Division side as well as from Dolores Huerta, to really kind of coalesce our thoughts around kind of what is, like, a rigorous goal. What cohort of students are we looking at so that we just feel like there's something there that we can really show significant growth with students.

THE CHAIR: But I will add a qualifier or a clarifier, that we cannot exempt out students with

Page 141

THE CHAIR: Thanks. I will say that we would like to move forward -- before any other decisions are made, we would like to move forward with the governance council training, because you did -- and thank you -- provide that additional information. So we're going to try to move forward with that sooner rather than later as well.

But as you heard before, sooner rarely exists in our world; so -- but we're going to work on that based on the feedback that you gave us.

Commissioner Armbruster?

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: So I was incorrect; not my first time on this Illuminate.

But you have the results from that, because you gave it; correct? On the short cycle assessment? Short cycle assessment? And so I wondered, of your students, how many -- it must test, like, proficiency; right? It has to tell you something; so I'm assuming it's proficiency.

MR. ROBERT PALACIOS: Ms. Miranda, can you speak on that part?

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Ms. Miranda, do
 you understand that question?
 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Yes. Unfortunately.

MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Yes. Unfortunately, I can't answer that question. Because we started

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with Illuminate later in the year; but we're comparing apples to oranges. So how we can work it so we can address the issue is we're going to give the same assessment at the beginning of the year that we did at the end.

This year, because we were getting familiar with Illuminate, we did not use the same assessment at the beginning to the end. So it was just addressing the benchmarks in between.

Does that make sense?

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COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: No. But -well, you wanted me to be honest. I can see that you can't see growth because it was the first time you gave the test. And I have no idea what this test -- I actually do not. But I thought it might just show, like, "20 out of our 100 children are already proficient." But I don't know that. So that's why I was asking.

MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Well, what happened is Illuminate has four different assessments. And they color-code them; so it's, like, orange, pink, green, blue. And the blue is the comprehensive assessment. And we didn't give the comprehensive assessment at the beginning. We just have the comprehensive at the end.

of those students who are returning already are proficient, or at least were proficient this year was my point. Thank you.

THE CHAIR: And I think it'll just be helpful if we have that conference call, and we can -- and, certainly, those that participated are -- you know, will be welcome in on that conversation so that we can be able to provide the best information and get a goal that is also going to be useful for the school.

This is not something that we're trying to create that's -- that is something you have to do. but doesn't serve any purpose with the school as well. The purpose is to get the students to a certain point. How are we going to do it? What should it be? And we want it to be -- to serve a purpose for you. So hopefully, at least the conference call, we know we can get done fairly quickly.

MR. ROBERT PALACIOS: Madam Chair, Commissioners, are there any more expectations or needs from La Academia at this point?

23 THE CHAIR: At this point, no. No. 24

COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Madam Chair, if I could, I'm familiar with Illuminate. I know there's

Page 143

So we don't know -- I could tell you like the end of the year; but I wouldn't know how many grew because we didn't give that same assessment at the beginning of the year that we did to the end.

THE CHAIR: So assuming no growth, because we wouldn't know that, did some students test proficient?

MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Yes. Yes, they did. But, of course, I mean, I'm going to be quite honest, not as many as we would like. But we were working with the new Illuminate, getting our pacing guides in order with illuminate, getting familiar with it.

So, you know, we're familiar with it; we're working with Simone as well, to get it in place so that we can have the [incomprehensible] to show [incomprehensible] making growth we need to target in specific areas.

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: So when you're writing the goals for those students who tested proficient this year, just out of the blue, so to speak, some of those students won't be with you next year because they're going into -- whatever -- high school or something. So some of those students would remain. So you would probably know how many

different ways to administer and use of the

1 2 software. One is just what the company provides, as 3 what was mentioned, the different colors; they 4 color-code the different assessments. So my 5 understanding, if I can ask for clarification, the 6 green assessment was the one that was given?

THE CHAIR: I thought she said blue. MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: I believe it was orange. The blue was [incomprehensible] -- and that one wasn't given at the beginning.

COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Okay.

THE CHAIR: Sorry.

MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: That's okay.

COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: So orange is usually the fall assessment.

MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: And that was given in, I want to say end of October, beginning of November. So we were trying to get our data rolled over from how we share our system with LCPS. So we had to work with them to acquire the data and to get

Illuminate to talk to our student system. So it took us a while to implement

23 Illuminate. But when we finally did, it was, I want 24 to say the end of October to the beginning of 25 November that we gave the orange assessment.

Page 146 1 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Okay. So was it 1 already given us some information what they feel 2 2 administered in October? which standards would be beneficial for the students 3 3 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Yes. to learn so that they're successful in high school. 4 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Okay. And so you 4 And those are the standards that we would like to 5 5 never took the green in the spring? target in our assessments, so that when the students 6 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: We did take the 6 leave La Academia that they're successful in 7 7 green. And then we took the blue. But we can give whatever high school they go to. 8 8 the blue at the beginning. So instead of giving the COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Okay. The last 9 orange, I feel that leads perfectly -- to see if 9 point is you all received your summative assessments 10 10 what the students grew comprehensively is I feel we for your students earlier this month. Will you be 11 11 should have given the blue in October and then the sharing that information when they become finalized 12 blue again in May so that we would be able to see 12 in July? 13 13 what -- the student growth over the year. MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Can you clarify 14 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: So again, for 14 which summative assessments? 15 15 clarification, you do have three data points. COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: The State summative 16 16 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Yes. assessment which was formerly known as PARCC. 17 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Okay. So you should 17 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: I don't believe 18 be able to see growth or how the kids did. 18 we've received those yet. We had a governing 19 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Yes, based on those 19 council meeting yesterday, and our instructional 20 20 coach told us that -- who is also our testing particular standards. So my understanding is that 21 the orange only assesses the orange standards, 21 coordinator -- that we had not received any 22 22 according to the pacing guides that we use from information at this time, vet. 23 Illuminate. So it doesn't necessarily tell us the 23 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: I know they were 24 24 released. The preliminary results were released a comprehensive. It's just for that -- like, that 25 25 couple of weeks ago. quarter, I guess you could say. Page 149 Page 147 1 1 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: That's correct. And MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Okay. I'll get with 2 2 the purpose is to inform instruction. her to make sure. 3 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Yes, yes, and that's 3 THE CHAIR: So that hopefully by the July 4 probably --4 meeting, we would have that or --5 5 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: And -- which is why MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Right. 6 6 it's not comprehensive. But you could see how the THE CHAIR: Can you get us that 7 7 kids are performing according to the standards, you information? 8 8 MR. ALAN BRAUER: Can you repeat that? know, if they're progressing. 9 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Yes. Oh, yes, 9 THE CHAIR: The information from the 10 10 definitely. Definitely. I was just thinking more summative assessments, can you just get that for us? 11 11 so we could see the growth from, you know, beginning MR. ALAN BRAUER: Yeah. We can work on 12 of the year to the end, it would be better to use 12 that. 13 13 the same assessment, which is the blue, the THE CHAIR: Thanks. Okay. So there is no 14 comprehensive, to see how they did overall. 14 action to be taken at this point in time because 15 15 we're not voting on the CAP. But we will proceed COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: And for next year, 16 will you be using it in the same manner? Or will 16 forward, as I mentioned. We'll -- the director will 17 you be creating your own assessments for those 17 set up the conference call for us at some point in 18 different interims? 18 the near future, and we can get that clarifying 19 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: We're working with 19 information so that we can have an appropriate 20 20 benchmark for -- for the July meeting. Simone to create -- well, we put a hold on it 21 21 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Madam Chair, one because we wanted to see where the CAP was going --22 where we were going to be working on so that we 22 last clarifying question. 23 23 could -- we're working with Las Montañas to -- like, Will you all be using Illuminate in 24 vertical alignment. 24 English and in Spanish, or just in English? 25 25 And they're going to help us -- they've MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Currently, we are

Page 150 1 using Illuminate in English. And we chose that just 1 they're receiving services, then I have to give them 2 because when the students take the PARCC assessment 2 an assessment in Spanish. 3 3 we were trying to use it to give us a better COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: That's up to the 4 indication of how the kids would score. They take 4 school to decide. And the direction has always been 5 5 the assessment in English. And that was the -- that in what language will the student be most successful 6 was the reasoning behind the decision to just 6 in. But if you're dual-language, you should be 7 7 purchase the English. monitoring both languages to make sure that -- if 8 8 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: This is a you're back on the trajectory for biliteracy, then 9 dual-language school; correct? 9 you should be tracking both languages, and, you 10 10 THE CHAIR: Yeah, it is. know, making sure you're on track for the kids to 11 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Yes, it is. 11 become biliterate. 12 12 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: So how are you That doesn't mean you have to offer both 13 13 tests in the same tool; but you have to have some monitoring the Spanish component? 14 type of monitoring. So if it's in Spanish, then you 14 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: The Spanish 15 15 component, we monitor their WIDA scores. And also should be monitoring in English somehow. It doesn't 16 16 we worked with the bilingual director and the EL have to be the same tool. It could be a different 17 17 teacher to monitor the students. tool. And vice versa, if you're assessing them in 18 18 English, then you should have another assessment COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Okay. The WIDA 19 19 scores are in English. My question is how are you that's also tracking their Spanish development. 20 20 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you so much. monitoring Spanish? 21 21 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: I'm sorry. It would Oh, I'm sorry. 22 22 MS. JENNY DUMAS: May I say just one quick be the IPT then. I'm sorry. I always get those 23 23 confused. thing? I'm Jenny Dumas. I'm the attorney for the 24 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: So the WIDA ACCESS 24 school. I just wanted to clarify around process. 25 I'm hearing that there is going to be some more fact 25 for ELLs, and IPT Spanish are both language Page 151 Page 153 1 1 development with regard to the capability of the assessments. What about your content assessment in 2 2 Spanish? Illuminate program. 3 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Well, those, we use 3 But my question is, is there going to be 4 the teacher-made assessments. And they also -- let 4 another ongoing coordination with the school and the 5 5 me clarify. So the assessment is in English; but we Department and the subcommittee to reach an 6 6 agreement as to the terms of the CAP? do have the need to create and use the Common Core 7 7 THE CHAIR: I said that, that we would. standards so that the teachers can create their own. 8 8 and that also can be given in Spanish. yes. 9 THE CHAIR: But it's not currently. 9 MS. JENNY DUMAS: Okay. I just wanted to 10 10 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Just the benchmark make sure of that. 11 11 assessments are given in English. THE CHAIR: Yeah. 12 THE CHAIR: Okay. 12 MS. JENNY DUMAS: Okay. 13 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: But we do have the 13 THE CHAIR: Okay. Are we good? 14 ability to pull from Illuminate to generate the 14 Thank you so much. I appreciate the time. 15 15 assessments in both English and Spanish; just not And thank you for traveling up. 16 the benchmarks right now. We're using just the 16 MR. ROBERT PALACIOS: Thank you. 17 English. But we can -- I mean, we can have that 17 MS. MELISSA MIRANDA: Thank you. 18 18 discussion to look at purchasing the Spanish THE CHAIR: Thank you, little box. Voices 19 19 component. come out of the table, and it's, like -- does anyone 20 20 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Ruiz? need a quick break? 21 COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Madam Commissioner. 21 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes. 22 the -- my understanding -- and I assist as a test 22 MS. KAREN WOERNER: A lunch break? 23 23 coordinator -- is that if a student is receiving THE CHAIR: No, no. 24 services, I've never understood that I had an option 24 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: No coffee. Don't 25 25 to test them in English. My understanding was if take 15 minutes to go get coffee.

#### Page 154 Page 156 1 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Eight minutes. 1 include meeting all conditions within the 2 2 THE CHAIR: Because there's very little Commencement of Operation Indicator C Section, Pages 3 3 5 to 7 of the school's Implementation Year left. 4 (Recess held, 12:40 p.m to 12:59 p.m.) 4 Checklist. 5 5 THE CHAIR: Okay. So we are on to Item Raíces has provided a signed lease No. 10, Discussion and Possible Action on the 6 6 agreement and insurance documentation for its 7 7 Commencement of Operations. So that's always one of facility. 8 8 our happy notes. The facility Raíces plans to operate is 9 And the first school that is up is Raíces 9 currently under construction; however, the school 10 10 del Saber Xinachtli. So, yes? Yes. has provided a timeline indicating the construction 11 MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of 11 is projected to be complete by the beginning of 12 12 the Commission, I have a -- just a few -- a few August 2019. 13 13 comments that I'll share. But I wanted to direct Raíces anticipates receiving E-Occupancy 14 certification by the third week of July. To date, 14 you to Section 10. And within your -- within your 15 15 folders, you'll find two different items for both Raíces has not hired any of its licensed teaching 16 schools -- I'll just share for both schools; they're 16 staff; although I wanted to share that the team may 17 17 similar. have updates for today. 18 18 You will find a peer review one-pager on a Raíces provided a staff timeline 19 19 peer review process that we did for both schools indicating they plan to hire three licensed teachers 20 with external reviewers. And then you will find the 20 by mid-June and two licensed education assistants by 21 Implementation Year Checklist for both schools in 21 July. The school has met its projected kindergarten 22 22 enrollment and 65 percent of its projected Section 10. 23 23 THE CHAIR: My computer lost power; so... enrollment for first grade. 24 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I'm sorry. 24 And they might have, again, other updates 25 Where was that? 25 from today, given that, you know, they may have new Page 155 Page 157 1 1 MS. VOIGT: Section 10. enrollment numbers today. THE CHAIR: It's the pink tab? See Tab 10 2 2 THE CHAIR: Okay. The school is certainly 3 3 and go to the pink page. And it's right after the welcome to come up now, if you can all fit. And you 4 pink page is the Implementation Year Checklist. 4 certainly are welcome to take more of these chairs 5 5 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: It's over here. that are up front here. 6 So good afternoon. Thank you all for THE CHAIR: And as people are finding 6 7 7 traveling up. And if you would identify yourselves them, we, of course, have received updates as the 8 8 for the record. information has been dropped throughout the year. 9 MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair and 9 MS. ANGELA STOCK: Good afternoon. My 10 10 Commissioners, that's right. In regard to Raíces name is Angela Stock. I will be the principal for 11 11 Raíces. del Saber Xinachtli Community School, I have a few 12 comments from the Charter School Division regarding 12 MS. EMMA ARMENDARIZ: I am Emma 13 13 Armendariz. I'm the president of the governing their process and their Implementation Year 14 Checklist. 14 board. 15 15 Raíces del Saber Xinachtli Community MR. CARLOS ACEVES: Carlos Aceves, one of 16 School submitted an application to the Public 16 the founders. 17 Education Commission to become an authorized charter 17 MR. FRED MOBLEY: Fred Mobley, CFO for IMA 18 18 school, which was approved with conditions on Asset Managers, the property manager for FYI, who 19 19 August 23rd, 2019. Raíces attended ten meeting owns the facility. 20 20 MS. LUCÍA CARMONA: Good afternoon. Lucía trainings throughout this year provided by the 21 Charter School Division, beginning in September 2018 21 Carmona, co-founder, and starting July 1st, Director 22 22 through April 2019. of Operations and Community Engagement. 23 23 Raíces has successfully submitted all THE CHAIR: So you're welcome to offer any 24 documentation and submissions, when applicable, 24 and all updates that you might have. 25 provided in the Implementation Year Checklist, to 25 MS. ANGELA STOCK: Okay. Well, first I

want to say that I am so excited to be on this venture with this amazing board and the founders that is Raíces del Saber Xinachtli. I -- this is a wonderful opportunity for students of Las Cruces.

Some of the updates that Alan was talking about, we have scheduled, for next week, staff -THE CHAIR: Professional development?
MS. ANGELA STOCK: Staff interviews.
Sorry. I have so much information in my head.
Staff interviews.

So we're going to go ahead and interview our office managers, our teacher assistants, and our teachers. I have some strong leads on some special education teachers.

We are providing a part-time, halftime special education teacher to be working with us. And I have a -- a teacher who is very interested. That is one of the -- hiring a special education bilingual teacher is one of the biggest hurdles, not only for us, but also for LCPS, which is a big public school. So I'm really excited on this one teacher.

THE CHAIR: Great. And we're as confident as we can be that the building is going to be -- they're laughing.

Page 160

27 parents, 15 have to step back, because we're not providing transportation this year. That is a great big threat for us, in terms of -- so we would have more, maybe open another class if we can.

People are really excited receiving this -- this -- this new model. We have -- out of those that are already enrolled, I have -- we have, like, 20 parents, more or less -- 20 parents that are monolingual English, and they really want their children to become bilingual in Spanish and in English.

And then, actually, they're asking, "We'd like to receive support as parents to learn Spanish as well"; of course, how they can help their child.

Also we have right now, I can say, seven parents that ask us, "Please, please consider have us secure for next year because we're involved in Pre-K this year. And they want to be sure that the next year, things don't turn around for next year. That is the kind of response we have.

THE CHAIR: Okay.

COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Madam Chair?

23 So the school, I read that it's a 90/10 model. And so it'll be a two-way model then;

correct?

### Page 159

MR. FRED MOBLEY: Yes, ma'am. We met with our contractor yesterday, and he felt very confident that we can finish up the building the last week in July. And so we -- he's been working on the building for about a month now. We've got our permit -- permit, and he's continuing on. So things are progressing right along.

THE CHAIR: Okay. Great. And you'll keep

THE CHAIR: Okay. Great. And you'll keep us posted if something comes up.

MS. ANGELA STOCK: Absolutely.

THE CHAIR: Commissioners, are there any questions?

COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Questions. THE CHAIR: Sure.

COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: How do the parents and the children break down as to your community so far? And are you satisfied with your results and your target -- original target?

MS. LUCÍA CARMONA: Yes. At this point, we have a pool of 76 contracted parents coming. Out of those 76 -- I've got my numbers here -- 63. 37 kindergartens, 26 that wants to be in the first grade. But really we just have a -- for just 20 spots.

So -- but then, actually -- besides these

Page 161

1 MS. ANGELA STOCK: Yes, it will.
2 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Great. Perfect.
3 THE CHAIR: Any other -- Commissioner
4 Armbruster?

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Okay. I'm extremely conflicted. I think I've expressed that since the beginning. Not against you; it's not that I don't think a bilingual school is phenomenal. I think a new way of learning is phenomenal. My issue runs around capacity and the ability to run a very good school. That's why we do all of this.

At the beginning, I'm actually -- to be honest, I was shocked that with a 68 percent that you even applied; because our goal was -- threshold, I guess, was 95 percent. And so even after six months, when you remediated the issues of Did Not Meet and brought some of the approaches up to Meets, they still didn't go all the way up to Meets and still didn't even hit that particular threshold that we had set, which is lower now, by the way, but then.

And so even in the Implementation Year One, which I went through again, last night, it's great that I see the growth. I admire you for saying, "Hey, I didn't get that right. Let me do it

do it.

again." I think that's really an admirable quality that many people do not have. They say, "No, I'm right." You were not that way and I really like that

But of those -- and I may have miscounted; so let me say that -- there were 40 indicators, I guess is the word I want to use, where you had to redo them; whereas, other schools may be doing 10 or 15 of them. So it concerns me that that shows capacity or doesn't show capacity to be able to run this school well.

On the other hand -- and I'm speaking out of both sides of my mouth -- is that I think that you have a strong principal. I think you have experience in doing this. It would concern me a little bit that we don't have teachers in place already. Good that you've got a special ed teacher, because that's the hard one; technically, a bilingual one.

So those are concerns that I have in terms of timing, getting things in on time, getting them done in a way that would lead you forward. Those are all concerns that I still have; because it's -- it just didn't -- there was something missing, and I can't put my finger on it.

forward, we should be moving forward, because it doesn't help anything by keeping that in the back of our mind. Because when they come in for anything, we're going to be laden with that. Or the perception on their side is that we are already preconceived them as not being able to -- to -- to

It's a new method. It's all Hispanic. It is bilingual. I still believe that learning both languages is an advantage. It has been an advantage to my Anglo cohort students, the guys that I grew up. They are now very successful because they learned both English and Spanish along with the rest of us. And to this point, they don't regret.

And even the African-American guys that I went to school with, one of them is a counselor, and he works primarily in Hispanic schools. And he does very well, because he knows both languages. And he grew up in the barrio; he knows all the stuff that he needs to be able to help Chicanitos.

And so I think that we need to move forward. The only question I have of the school is a little definition of what -- the last word, which is Nahuatl. What does that mean, and how do we pick up the concept that you're trying to share with --

Page 163

But as you know, when someone at the PEC chose to go back and check out your approaches and to make them Meets, remember that. That was a totally different person, who, interestingly, after six months, still didn't find all of them to Meet, which is what our other applicants have had in the past.

So those are my concerns. And I'm just expressing them, because I feel I should be honest.

COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Madam Chair? The only thing I have to say with the summary is that we all have problems with how the procedure was initially. We all had problems. And the Commissioner forgets that, keeps going back to those problems.

And I don't think we're at the point of rehashing problems. If -- if you need to tell a school, a prospective school, that you expect them to stay on top of procedure, just say that. But to discuss stuff that was totally wrong, and then it comes across laden with other stuff that I don't want to have to get into -- but I think we need to stop. We need to reflect on what happened in the past and leave it in the past.

And if the school is already moving

with the world?

MR. CARLOS ACEVES: I think that's a harder question than the Commissioner -- Ms. Armbruster asked.

Well, first of all, thank you for voicing your concerns. What -- we realized from the beginning that this project was not going to be an easy one. And our goals were really -- you know, talk about us setting a high standard. And then to top it off, we're introducing a concept that's not readily known.

Xinachtli, that moment in time when a seed bursts and is not yet a seed and not yet a plant, either, it's a moment of infinite possibilities.

And as human beings, especially in this society, we don't like to talk about infinite possibilities. We want to be certain; we want to be concrete. We want to see -- especially all of you -- we want to see data. And I understand that. I understand that.

But there's things happening in the educational world that are really something to note. And maybe when you go back, you could Google these things.

About, you know, maybe just under ten years ago, in states across the United States, they

Page 166

started introducing a new training for teachers. I know that in Texas, this training was started two years ago; in California, it was started five years ago. In other states. It's simply referred to as "circle training."

And what "circle training" is about is training teachers to engage students while they all sit in a circle, including the teacher, and how to use that circle format to enhance academic projects, how, especially, it's used a lot for the emotive side of child development.

Last -- just this year, I went to a training at Region 19, a service agency provided by the Texas Education Association, to get my certification in first aid response to emotional trauma in the classroom, which is now mandated by the State of Texas.

And one-third of that training was this lady from California who specifically trained us on circle interaction. And circle interaction is something that the Xinachtli project has been doing for 25 years.

When I entered the classroom 25 years, that's one of the first things I did. I didn't know that they would later call it "circle training."

original purpose of charter schools is to take chances with new things in education, to get the

entire public education system moving along and not

stay stagnated on one procedure. So [Native language spoken]. Thank you.

MS. ANGELA STOCK: I'd also like to say something if I could. Thank you for recognizing that I do have the experience to run a school. And that is exactly what I am going to be there for.

As Mr. Aceves has said, the data piece, that is something that I'm really -- that's my forte. And so I know that we can integrate all of these things together.

And the uniqueness of the school was very dear to my heart; because my roots -- and it's no coincidence that the school is called "Raíces" -- also run deep within this culture. And having worked for the public school districts for 25 years-plus, I have that experience to make it possible. Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Commissioner Armbruster?
COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Apparently, I didn't say that very clearly. So I just want to clarify what my concerns were. It was never about what you were going to do or even how you were going

Page 167

But the idea of sitting in a circle and interacting in a circle and ways to use that interaction to enhance human development, academic development, it's not ten years old; it's thousands of years old. It's part of the heritage of this state being a state with an indigenous population. It is part of indigenous culture.

All indigenous cultures, all indigenous societies, whether you go to the Hopi or Zuni Pueblo here, or to the Lakota, or to any nation in Mexico, when they traditionally sit down to make decisions for their community, they don't sit like we're sitting, where the authorities are on one side and the presenters on another.

They sit in a circle. It's sacred.
Sacred, not because it's religious or spiritual.
Sacred because it's the way we humans best interact, when we're all in a circle and feel that we're all at the same level. And when you take that to children, believe me, you know, it's something natural to them.

So I hope I've answered your question, and I hope that -- I want to thank you and the rest of you for taking a chance; because this is a chance on something that's really innovative, which is the

Page 169

to do it. It wasn't about dual language. In fact,
 I was just having a conversation with Commissioner
 Chavez, like, I wish I had learned these things.

So it isn't about that. My concern came from the performance and the data that was having to be turned in from when you learned from the CSD what was going on. It had nothing to do with the bilingual program.

And I really want to make that clear, because those are two totally separate things for me. My concerns came from the quality of work that was coming in, not from what you were going to do.

And I did Google it, and I did read about it before. So that was never an issue for me. And I just wanted to clarify that, because I didn't want you to think that I didn't think what you were going to do or your plans weren't good. I just wanted to make that clear.

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, Raíces team, I believe, in my -- from the Planning Year Checklist, I believe the E-Occupancy is going to be by the third week in July? And I just wanted to see if that is -- if that's squaring up right now in terms of the construction. Because I think you may have said it

			++ (1 ages 170 to 175)
	Page 170		Page 172
1	might not have been ready by that time. I just	1	COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.
2	wanted to clarify that timeline before we move on.	2	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
3	MR. FRED MOBLEY: That is correct. The	3	Crone?
4	E-Occupancy, the Certificate of Occupancy for the	4	COMMISSIONER CRONE: No.
5	building will be given once the construction is	5	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
6	complete. And so we anticipate that we'll actually	6	Raftery?
7	have that within a couple of days of finishing up	7	COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Yes.
8	the last inspection.	8	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
9	THE CHAIR: And, of course, our motion	9	Chavez?
10	will reflect pending the E-Occupancy being sent. So	10	COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.
11	that's you know, that will just be the format	11	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
12	that when you do get it, that you forward a copy of	12	Gipson?
13	that to CSD so that we so that we have that.	13	THE CHAIR: Yes.
14	Are there any other questions?	14	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
15	(No response.)	15	Armbruster votes "No."
16	THE CHAIR: I'll entertain a motion.	16	It passes.
17	MS. VOIGT: Madam Chair?	17	THE CHAIR: Motion passes eight-to-two.
18	THE CHAIR: Commissioner Voigt?	18	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Yes.
19	MS. VOIGT: I'd like to move that the	19	THE CHAIR: Thank you very much.
20	Public Education Commission approve the Commencement	20	Congratulations.
21	of Operations for Raíces for I'm not going to	21	And, secondly, Solare.
22	say the whole name but for Raíces.	22	(A discussion was held off the record.)
23	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Second.	23	THE CHAIR: You're just cruising around
24	THE CHAIR: I think the motion needs to	24	your old stomping grounds.
25	reflect the full legal name of the school. Sorry.	25	DEP. SEC. AGUILAR: Madam Chair, good
	Page 171		Page 173
1		1	
1 2	MS. VOIGT: Okay. That's okay. Raíces	1 2	morning.
2	MS. VOIGT: Okay. That's okay. Raíces del Saber Xinachtli Community School.	2	morning. THE CHAIR: Welcome.
	MS. VOIGT: Okay. That's okay. Raíces del Saber Xinachtli Community School. THE CHAIR: Pending	l	morning. THE CHAIR: Welcome. MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of
2 3	MS. VOIGT: Okay. That's okay. Raíces del Saber Xinachtli Community School. THE CHAIR: Pending MS. VOIGT: Pending E-Occupancy. Yes.	2 3 4	morning.  THE CHAIR: Welcome.  MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, in similar parallel structure,
2 3 4	MS. VOIGT: Okay. That's okay. Raices del Saber Xinachtli Community School.  THE CHAIR: Pending MS. VOIGT: Pending E-Occupancy. Yes.  COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Second.	2 3	morning.  THE CHAIR: Welcome.  MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, in similar parallel structure, you'll find the Implementation Year Checklist, as
2 3 4 5	MS. VOIGT: Okay. That's okay. Raices del Saber Xinachtli Community School.  THE CHAIR: Pending MS. VOIGT: Pending E-Occupancy. Yes. COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Second. THE CHAIR: There's a motion by	2 3 4 5	morning.  THE CHAIR: Welcome.  MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, in similar parallel structure, you'll find the Implementation Year Checklist, as well as the peer review one-pager in your
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#### Page 174 1 will operate at until it is able to move into its 1 2 permanent facility tentatively scheduled for January 2 3 3 4 As of June 10th, the school is fully 4 5 5 staffed with all licensed and non-licensed 6 personnel, and has met over 90 percent of its 6 7 7 projected enrollment target. And they may have 8 8 additional -- similar to Raíces, they may have 9 9 additional updates as well based on their 10 10 [inaudible]. 11 THE CHAIR: And if you would all just 11 12 12 identify yourself for the record. 13 MS. RACHAEL SEWARDS: My name is Rachael 13 14 14 Sewards, lead founder and head of school for Solare 15 15 Collegiate. 16 MR. DAN HILL: Madam Chair, members of the 16 17 17 Commission, I'm Dan Hill, counsel for Solare. 18 18 MR. PETER LORENZ: Peter Lorenz, vice 19 19 chair of the governing board. 20 MS. CAMILLE VASQUEZ: Hello. My name is 20 21 21 Camille Vasquez, governing board secretary, part of 22 22 the finance and academic committee. 23 23 MR. SUBRAMANIAN IYER: I'm Subramanian

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difficulties. So at least we're sure that you can
open when the first day of school starts. So
that's -- that's exciting. It truly is.
     So, Commissioners, any questions? If
     COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: I just forget
where are they going to set up the school.
     THE CHAIR: Well, temporarily, they're
going to be in the old SAHQ school that we closed,
unfortunately, last July. And then they're in the
South Valley.
     MS. RACHAEL SEWARDS: We got our official
address yesterday.
     THE CHAIR: Oh, did you?
     MS. RACHAEL SEWARDS: So, yes, that was
assigned to us. We're on Gibson just east of 98th.
Do you know where the Walgreens is located there?
Barbados is a side street that goes into a little
community. We're right there on the corner.
     THE CHAIR: You're building on how many
portables? It's not portables; it's manufactured.
Is manufactured better or what?
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Page 175

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1 (A discussion was held off the record.) THE CHAIR: And I just want to say, just 2 as an aside, it was never a good thing when the 3 former General Counsel and the former Deputy 4 5 Secretary were sitting in this room at the same 6 time. It was never a good omen for us. So this is, 7 8 9

So anything that you want to add? If not, we'll open it up for questions. Okay?

So welcome. Thank you.

Iver. I'm the treasurer and the chairman of the

finance committee.

you know, different times.

MS. RACHAEL SEWARDS: Just very briefly, we are fully staffed. We are very excited, in that we have two special ed teachers hired because of our high special ed population. And we have a part-time PE teacher who also has SpEd credentials who said she'll come on full-time if the need shows itself. We're at 93 percent of enrollment, 144 students out of our anticipated 156. And we're getting a lot of family referrals coming in each week.

THE CHAIR: And I just want to say thank you for the contingency plan. I think things, you know, were constantly changing in terms of that. And it's -- once again, as we talked before, it's the challenges of not being able to find public

buildings. And that's where we're all facing those

doing a site-built building, keeping on the same timeline and the same budget. So we're having a site-built building. It'll be -- right now the plan is three separate buildings with connected walkways. We may transition to doing two buildings.

City requirements for buildings, facades and

whatnot, we were actually able to transition to

MS. RACHAEL SEWARDS: Because of all the

THE CHAIR: Okay. That's great. And I know -- there were -- could you just clarify, for our own curiosity, what that impact study was that the City -- because it's something we haven't really faced before, and we don't know what its potential is to other schools as we're moving forward.

MS. RACHAEL SEWARDS: Yeah. So the City of Albuquerque redid their zoning requirements. They recoded all the zone -- the different zone areas for the City. And in addition to that, as part of the building requirements, they added something called a "Neighborhood Impact Study," which is a series of just collecting data about the -- the current number of cars, vehicles that are in a specific area, and anticipating what the impact would be of a new building; or new school, in particular.

It's a requirement that is -- for a couple of different types of buildings; but educational institutions would be one of those requirements.

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			40 (Pages 1/8 to 181)
	Page 178		Page 180
1	THE CHAIR: And I would assume there was a	1	THE CHAIR: Yes.
2	cost factor to that. Yes?	2	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
3	MS. RACHAEL SEWARDS: As far as for us?	3	Raftery?
4	Yes.	4	COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Yes.
5	THE CHAIR: You had to conduct the impact	5	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
6	study; so there was a cost to that.	6	Armbruster votes "Yes."
7	MS. RACHAEL SEWARDS: Yes. Uh-huh.	7	Commissioner Robbins?
8	THE CHAIR: Around about what was it?	8	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.
9	MS. RACHAEL SEWARDS: \$14,000.	9	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
10	THE CHAIR: Yeah. So when you're talking	10	Crone?
11	of start-up schools, and that gets thrown in when it	11	COMMISSIONER CRONE: Yes.
12	wasn't certainly in the budget because no one knew,	12	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
13	it's yeah.	13	Caballero?
14	So I think that's you know, something	14	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes.
15	that at least we can inform other schools going	15	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
16	forward that they're probably going to have to face	16	Ruiz?
17	the same. So it's it's just useful information	17	COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Yes.
18	for us.	18	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Ten-to-zero
19	Sorry you had to go through it; but it's	19	vote. The motion passes.
20	good for us going forward to know it.	20	THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.
21	So if there's nothing else, I'll entertain	21	Thank you very much. You already had the
22	a motion.	22	E-Occupancy for that building; so that's we're
23	MS. VOIGT: I'll make the motion.	23	good, then.
24 25	THE CHAIR: Okay. Commissioner Voigt?	24	MS. RACHAEL SEWARDS: If any of the
23	COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yeah. I'd like to	25	Commissioners are available in Albuquerque on
	Page 179		Page 181
1	_	1	
1 2	move that the Public Education Commission approve	1 2	Tuesday at 11:00, we're doing a ground-breaking
	_	1	
2	move that the Public Education Commission approve the Commencement of Operations for Solare Collegiate	2	Tuesday at 11:00, we're doing a ground-breaking ceremony, and you're all welcome to attend.
2 3	move that the Public Education Commission approve the Commencement of Operations for Solare Collegiate Charter School.	2 3	Tuesday at 11:00, we're doing a ground-breaking ceremony, and you're all welcome to attend.  THE CHAIR: Thanks. So, Commissioners, we
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	move that the Public Education Commission approve the Commencement of Operations for Solare Collegiate Charter School.  COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Second. Being in my district.  THE CHAIR: There's a  COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: They'll be in my district.  THE CHAIR: There's a motion by Commissioner Voigt; there's a second by Commissioner Caballero.  Any further discussion?  (No response.)  THE CHAIR: Roll call, please.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Chavez?  COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Voigt?  COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Davis?  COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Tuesday at 11:00, we're doing a ground-breaking ceremony, and you're all welcome to attend.  THE CHAIR: Thanks. So, Commissioners, we bulked all of the contracts into one motion; right?  So that what I'm going to propose is that there's just one vote with all the contracts, unless, through what any Commissioners have read, if they wish to speak about something in particular with a school. Otherwise, we'll just go with this one motion.  But all of the schools, just to be aware, all of the schools have to be identified individually in the motion; so it's not just "all the schools."  And as we do this, I want to thank the schools that are here present and all the schools that are here present for fitting into our really tight schedule. Because of what happened during the Legislative Session and trying to get it all done for lease reimbursement, it really was difficult, and we appreciate all the time the conversation.  Because, for me, that's always the great thing about doing those contract negotiations is you
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	move that the Public Education Commission approve the Commencement of Operations for Solare Collegiate Charter School.  COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Second. Being in my district.  THE CHAIR: There's a  COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: They'll be in my district.  THE CHAIR: There's a motion by Commissioner Voigt; there's a second by Commissioner Caballero.  Any further discussion? (No response.)  THE CHAIR: Roll call, please.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Chavez?  COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Voigt?  COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.  COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Davis?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Tuesday at 11:00, we're doing a ground-breaking ceremony, and you're all welcome to attend.  THE CHAIR: Thanks. So, Commissioners, we bulked all of the contracts into one motion; right?  So that what I'm going to propose is that there's just one vote with all the contracts, unless, through what any Commissioners have read, if they wish to speak about something in particular with a school. Otherwise, we'll just go with this one motion.  But all of the schools, just to be aware, all of the schools have to be identified individually in the motion; so it's not just "all the schools."  And as we do this, I want to thank the schools that are here present and all the schools that are here present for fitting into our really tight schedule. Because of what happened during the Legislative Session and trying to get it all done for lease reimbursement, it really was difficult, and we appreciate all the time — the conversation.  Because, for me, that's always the great

	Dago 192		Daga 194
	Page 182		Page 184
1	things you don't want to know; but most of the time	1	Robbins?
2	things that you do want to know about the school.	2	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.
3	So it's it's always very interesting	3	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
4	for me to do that. And I want to thank, once again,	4	Caballero?
5	all of the Commissioners that took the time out to	5	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes.
6	travel all around and be part of the contract	6	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
7	negotiations.	7	Voigt?
8	So is there any discussion?	8	COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.
9	(No response.)	9	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
10	THE CHAIR: If not, I'll entertain a	10	Ruiz?
11	motion.	11	COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Yes.
12	MS. VOIGT: Madam Chair?	12	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
13	THE CHAIR: Sure.	13	Armbruster votes "Yes."
14	MS. VOIGT: I'll make the motion.	14	Commissioner Crone?
15	THE CHAIR: Oh, sure.	15	COMMISSIONER CRONE: Yes.
16	MS. VOIGT: I move that the Public	16	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
17	Education Commission approve the 2019 charter	17	Davis?
18	contracts and performance frameworks, including	18	COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.
19	mission-specific goals, for the following schools	19	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
20	and their contract terms:	20	Gipson?
21	Alma d'Arte, 2019 to 2022.	21	THE CHAIR: Yes.
22	Cesar Chavez, 2019 to 2024.	22	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner
23	Explore Academy, 2019 to 2024.	23	Chavez?
24	La Academia Dolores Huerta, 2019 to 2021.	24	COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.
25	Middle College High School, 2019 to 2024.	25	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Ten-to-zero
	Page 183		D 105
		l	Page 185 I
1		,	Page 185
1	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to	1	vote. Motion passes.
2	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024.	2	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.
2 3	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024. School of Dreams Academy, 2019 to 2024.	2 3	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.  Congratulations to all, and thank you once again.
2 3 4	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024. School of Dreams Academy, 2019 to 2024. Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and	2 3 4	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.  Congratulations to all, and thank you once again.  We appreciate all the work you do every day.
2 3 4 5	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024. School of Dreams Academy, 2019 to 2024. Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and Science Academy, 2019 to 2024.	2 3 4 5	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.  Congratulations to all, and thank you once again.  We appreciate all the work you do every day.  (Applause.)
2 3 4 5 6	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024.  School of Dreams Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and Science Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Preparatory Learning Center,	2 3 4 5 6	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.  Congratulations to all, and thank you once again.  We appreciate all the work you do every day.  (Applause.)  THE CHAIR: We are on to Item No. 12,
2 3 4 5 6 7	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024.  School of Dreams Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and Science Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Preparatory Learning Center, 2019 to 2024.	2 3 4 5 6 7	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.  Congratulations to all, and thank you once again.  We appreciate all the work you do every day.  (Applause.)  THE CHAIR: We are on to Item No. 12, which is Discussion and Possible Action on Revisions
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024.  School of Dreams Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and Science Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Preparatory Learning Center, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Secondary Learning Center, 2019	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.  Congratulations to all, and thank you once again.  We appreciate all the work you do every day.  (Applause.)  THE CHAIR: We are on to Item No. 12,  which is Discussion and Possible Action on Revisions to the Renewal Application and Amendment Request
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024.  School of Dreams Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and Science Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Preparatory Learning Center, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Secondary Learning Center, 2019 to 2024.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.  Congratulations to all, and thank you once again.  We appreciate all the work you do every day.  (Applause.)  THE CHAIR: We are on to Item No. 12,  which is Discussion and Possible Action on Revisions to the Renewal Application and Amendment Request  Forms with reference to A-to-F. Yesterday, we went
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024.  School of Dreams Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and Science Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Preparatory Learning Center, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Secondary Learning Center, 2019 to 2024.  Taos Academy, 2019 to 2024.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.  Congratulations to all, and thank you once again.  We appreciate all the work you do every day.  (Applause.)  THE CHAIR: We are on to Item No. 12,  which is Discussion and Possible Action on Revisions to the Renewal Application and Amendment Request Forms with reference to A-to-F. Yesterday, we went through, and hopefully purged out, any vestiges to
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024.  School of Dreams Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and Science Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Preparatory Learning Center, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Secondary Learning Center, 2019 to 2024.  Taos Academy, 2019 to 2024.  And our new schools: We have Raíces del	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero. Congratulations to all, and thank you once again. We appreciate all the work you do every day. (Applause.)  THE CHAIR: We are on to Item No. 12, which is Discussion and Possible Action on Revisions to the Renewal Application and Amendment Request Forms with reference to A-to-F. Yesterday, we went through, and hopefully purged out, any vestiges to the A-to-F. As the Deputy Director said this
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	New Mexico School for the Arts, 2019 to 2024.  School of Dreams Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics and Science Academy, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Preparatory Learning Center, 2019 to 2024.  Southwest Secondary Learning Center, 2019 to 2024.  Taos Academy, 2019 to 2024.  And our new schools: We have Raíces del Saber Xinachtli Community School and Solare	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	vote. Motion passes.  THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero. Congratulations to all, and thank you once again. We appreciate all the work you do every day. (Applause.)  THE CHAIR: We are on to Item No. 12, which is Discussion and Possible Action on Revisions to the Renewal Application and Amendment Request Forms with reference to A-to-F. Yesterday, we went through, and hopefully purged out, any vestiges to the A-to-F. As the Deputy Director said this morning, we'll probably come across the line where
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	Page 186		Page 188
	-		1 age 100
1	otherwise, the forms and the renewal application,	1	ten-zero.
2	there were no changes to the intent of those forms	2	We're on to Item No. 13. We had really a
3	or the processes; it was simply any identification	3	very robust conversation yesterday about
4	of the A-to-F grading system, which no longer	4	reengagement. Once again, we're not in a place
5	exists. So we had to place in what the new language	5	where I hoped we could be with that. We really got
6	that was appropriate to the new accountability	6	a lot of work done, and I think the discussion was
7	system. So	7	more than valuable. And we have a clearer sense of
8	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Madam Chair, I move	8 9	I think where we need to go with this.
9 10	that the Public Education Commission adopt the	10	So we're on the move to finalizing this
11	revisions to the PEC renewal application and	11	maybe maybe in October? Maybe? You, know, 'Cause we might have a short work session in August.
12	amendment request forms referencing to A-to-F school	12	
13	grades.  COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Second.	13	But it depends on the number of schools with the new applicants.
13	COMMISSIONER RUIZ. Second.	14	So the schedule is a little in flux until
15	THE CHAIR: There's a motion by	15	we know exactly how many schools that we have to
16	Commissioner Robbins; there's a second by	16	hear for the new applications. So if we can
17	Commissioner Chavez.	17	continue that work in August, that would be great.
18	Seeing no further discussion because	18	But then it would be October.
19	you can't see discussion	19	So that was just that you know, that
20	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: So on renewal,	20	little update. So there's no vote to be taken at
21	Commissioner Armbruster votes "Yes."	21	this point in time. Just for those that couldn't
22	Commissioner Robbins?	22	make it yesterday, it really was a very valuable
23	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.	23	discussion. And I appreciate Tani from Cesar Chavez
24	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	24	coming up and all the work that she does, not only
25	Caballero?	25	what they do at the school, but truly in the
		1	
	Page 187		Page 189
1	Page 187 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes.	1	
1 2	_	1 2	Page 189 research and promoting and moving forward, the discussion about reengagement schools. She helps
	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes.	2 3	research and promoting and moving forward, the
2	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	2 3 4	research and promoting and moving forward, the discussion about reengagement schools. She helps keep it out there when sometimes we kind of forget; because it is you know, it's not that many of our
2 3	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Voigt?	2 3 4 5	research and promoting and moving forward, the discussion about reengagement schools. She helps keep it out there when sometimes we kind of forget; because it is you know, it's not that many of our schools. And you don't want to say, "Oh, well, it
2 3 4	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Voigt? COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes. COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner Chavez?	2 3 4 5 6	research and promoting and moving forward, the discussion about reengagement schools. She helps keep it out there when sometimes we kind of forget; because it is you know, it's not that many of our schools. And you don't want to say, "Oh, well, it doesn't matter." And it does. So we need to get
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Page 190 legal counsel and the Director will be there to further this conversation. And hopefully, it would be really nice if we could have that MOU in place for the August meeting. It would be great if it could be available for the July meeting. But, you know, we weren't originally targeting to have a July meeting. But it really would be great if it could be available for us to agree to in July; but, absolutely, for August. So I think it's really going to -- to help move things forward and clarify a lot. COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: And, Madam Chair, is the MOU between PED and us, or --THE CHAIR: It is. COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: -- or the Division and us? THE CHAIR: Well, CSD is part of the Division. So the formal agreement is between us and COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: And we mention the Division? THE CHAIR: Absolutely, yes. Yeah. So it does help to sort of codify, solidify the relationships. And certainly, it'll be in the packet for your perusal before the meeting. Okay?

ducks in a row. But then the first day of school comes, and it's, "What do I do?" And, "I didn't know that this was going to happen."

There's just -- you know, anything can happen, as you all know.

So what I am proposing is that we set up a -- and I've referred to this publicly, but it's probably not a politically correct term -- to set up a "SWAT" team.

MS. VOIGT: "SWOT," meaning S-W-O-T; right? O-T, not A-T.

THE CHAIR: So that we have more people that can come in, whenever there's an identified issue in a school, throughout the school year, to say, "Hey, we've got these people here that can come in and can spend a day."

And I know the Director and I have spoken. And that's in the budget. But I think we need to amp it up a little bit for the first week of school, minimally, for the new schools that are opening, and say, "Here you go. Here's your guy," or "Here's your gal. And they're yours for the week."

This is a no-questions -- no-judgment zone. Thank you. Not a no-question zone. A no-judgment zone. So this isn't they're going to

Page 191

All right. Wow, we're moving on here. Discussion and Possible Action for Contract for Support -- oh, yes, that's mine as well.

So we've been talking about this for a long time. We identify that there are particular needs that a new head administrator has when they're coming into a charter school.

And those are two -- and there's actually two different avenues there. Someone who's experienced as a head administrator from a traditional public school, so that they've got at least the strong administrative background going into what an administrator does, they still need help in being a mini-superintendent. So that's one need, not as intense as the need when someone hasn't been a head administrator anywhere and now is a head administrator at a charter school; because it's a double whammy.

"I'm not sure, you know, really, what I'm doing here as a head administrator, but I also need to conduct myself in many ways as a superintendent," so that there's -- it is a stressful situation. And if you put that burden additionally on opening up a brand new school, that's just one more layer to the concern, because you can think you've got all your

rat back, unless there is a health-and-safety concern. Then there has to be a call-out.

But this is a person who's going to be there to offer whatever help and support that individual needs to make sure that that school starts off on a good foot.

MS. VOIGT: You know, having lived that that you just spoke of, I think, also -- I think the first week of school is not a good time for that; number one, because the principal is going to be buried, literally, with lifting off that first school year. But I think a good time frame might be within the first 90 days, you know, depending on what is in place already; because every new charter school principal is building the ship while they're sailing it, really. So -- and a lot of administrators don't know what they don't know in that regards.

But I think the first week of school would not be the most opportune time, having been through that, I think; but within the first 90 days for sure. And then an as-needed, on-call basis to whatever the liaison or the mentor is going to provide would be good, just having that open door or open-phone-call piece. But I think just that first

Page 193

Page 194 Page 196 1 week, it's pretty compacted. 1 for the school to figure that out. 2 THE CHAIR: And that's part of my concern. 2 But it is -- they are just as that, you 3 3 And I also have a concern, especially with new know, little guardian angel to say, "We're here to 4 schools, that if something really goes south and we 4 help." 5 don't know it, there has to be someone there. 5 MS. VOIGT: I just really think it's 6 MS. VOIGT: I think also we don't want to 6 hovering. 7 7 THE CHAIR: I think it's up to us to micromanage. If we're hovering over this new 8 8 administrator who's really trying to set the culture establish that criteria for whoever does it so that 9 for his or her school and really trying to be the 9 they're clear that they're not hovering. 10 10 one, that's a really crucial time for a new But I have -- based on especially the 11 principal. And I think someone there, you know, in 11 openings this year, I have -- I have serious 12 12 that capacity might be -- it might be a little -concerns with not being around. not necessarily a threat; but I think it's something 13 13 MS. VOIGT: Uh-huh. You know, I think the 14 that might not be fully appreciated or -- it might 14 administrators that are choosing to open charter 15 not have the intention -- the intention might not be 15 schools -- and I know in New Mexico, there's pretty 16 16 strong administrators, because at least 98.9 percent taken as it's intended. Do you know what I mean? I 17 17 just think that first week is not a good time. of them are coming from previous administrative 18 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: They might not 18 experiences with traditional public schools. 19 19 know what they don't know. But -- and the community of charter 20 20 schools in New Mexico is really strong, and there is THE CHAIR: I'm going to reflect back to 21 a lot of collaboration, thanks to the Charter School 21 someone I spoke to and had several conversations 22 22 Division and the Public Charter Schools of with that actually sat -- I don't know if they sat 23 23 as the charter school director; but they worked for New Mexico, in bringing these folks together to 24 the Charter School Division back when there were no 24 share, you know, as either in a critical friends 25 group or best practice sessions, and then Luncheon 25 State-authorized charters; it was only APS charters. Page 195 Page 197 1 1 So -- but there was a Charter School Division. Learns. 2 And -- and a number of other people --2 But I think coming from an authorizer, 3 MS. VOIGT: There's only a Charter School 3 okay -- maybe if it's passed off to the Charter 4 Division that came with the State-chartered schools. 4 School Division as a support model; but coming from 5 5 That's when the Charter School Division was created. an authorizer, it's going to look like hovering. 6 6 THE CHAIR: They worked for PED, and they And I speak to this as a former charter school 7 7 did the support for charter schools. And it was founder -- the first State charter school in 8 8 APS. This is where the conversation actually New Mexico, having paved the way for a lot of these 9 started. 9 schools to come through. That's how I would see it. 10 10 But I'm going to say that from all the new THE CHAIR: But I'm going to say they're 11 11 administrators that I have spoken to, they thought the compliance component. We're not. 12 12 it was -- it would have been a value. Because I MS. VOIGT: Right. Right. 13 want to make it clear we're not looking to 13 THE CHAIR: So you put the Charter School 14 14 micromanage. Division in. Now it's a compliance issue. 15 MS. VOIGT: Okay. Yeah. 15 COMMISIONER VOIGT: And that's why it's 16 THE CHAIR: This is not a -- this is not 16 [incomprehensible] micro-managing, because it's 17 17 compliance. an evaluation. 18 MS. VOIGT: Right. 18 THE CHAIR: But you said you'd prefer to 19 THE CHAIR: We are not there to say, "This 19 have the Charter School Division --20 is what you should do." 20 MS. VOIGT: That's my schtick, and I'm 21 21 This person is going to be there just to going to stay with it, because I think the first 22 22 say -- just so someone can say, "What should I do?" week is hectic as you-know-what. 23 23 They're not there to say -- unless it's. THE CHAIR: That's exactly why I'm saying 24 once again, a health-and-safety issue, they're not 24 the support needs to be there. 25 25 there to say, "Don't do it that way." Because it's MS. VOIGT: It shouldn't be there. You

Page 198 1 have to give the administrator freedom and liberty 2 to run their school, and learn by doing so is 3 important. Learning by doing is really important. 4 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Madam Chair, I 5 think it's a good concept, that I support the idea 6 that it should be done. I know I gave to some new 7 directors during the conferences, "Just make sure 8 this is what needs to happen. This is what needs to 9 happen. This is what we look at." 10 Some of them knew, and some of them were 11 surprised, like, "Oh, shit." 12 (A discussion was held off the record.) 13 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: And so my take is 14 that we provide it somehow -- I'm sorry -- that we 15 have something that -- that says, "I'm a new 16 administrator, upcoming administrator." So this is 17 prior to the first week of opening. Then after the 18 first week of opening, within the first 90 days is 19 how -- "Now, how do I administer this new school?" 20 Because there's a bunch of stuff that you need to do to open a school. 21 22 THE CHAIR: Uh-huh. 23 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: That's not the 24 same as when you already started it. 25 THE CHAIR: Right.

in the building the first week, further stressing out the principal that's trying to get the school off the ground.

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THE CHAIR: Commissioner Ruiz? MS. VOIGT: And that's all I'm going to

COMMISSIONER RUIZ: And I have to say that I tend to agree with you. I'll tell you why. Because I work still in the traditional public school. And I'm just saying that for three weeks, you -- it's just, like -- like, literally, you see a flash, a bolt, and that's me. And the principal is the other flash going the other way.

It is really, really hectic at the beginning.

Maybe an alternative -- and Karyl Ann --Commissioner Armbruster and I were just discussing that. Perhaps an alternative to that might be -because I do think new principals and new charter schools leaders do need some kind of guidance. I don't know how they would take to that because, honestly, I know how busy it is.

But perhaps there might be a way that prior to the opening of that school, you know, or of the school year, it's like, "Okay, you know what?

### Page 199

# COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Once you started it, there's -- make mistakes and learn. But we could minimize the mistakes, because mistakes are very costly to the school and children, and have that available to them, which is -- and taking what you're saying as not hovering and not punitive and not, "Okay, I know what they're doing wrong," and just give that support somehow.

And so the concept that I'm talking about is -- I think it's a -- it's a worthwhile concept to continue.

MS. VOIGT: I think before the doors open, an administrator has to have so much in place, okay? That could be happening before the doors open. Once those doors open, you have all kinds of organic matter running around, you know. And I think it -to be at a school site within the first week is not a good idea. It's not a good idea. And I'm not going to say do it and let's see what happens; because -- and I told you so. But I just know it's not going to be a good time.

But if we have a lot of things in place that we think are good practices for that first week and be proactive with the administrators that way, I think it would be a lot better received than being

Page 201

In one of the trainings that we're doing..." -whatever, however you all determine that --"...we're going to spend, you know, three hours. And these three hours, we're going to go over, you know, these are best practices and things that would help you with the opening of your new charter, your new school year."

But I have to tell you, I'm -- I tend to agree with you. I do not think it would be a good thing to put somebody right there, because I think it is -- I'm telling you. Even when I've had like people interning under me, whew, and they start that day one as just an intern under you, and they're shadowing you, it's great; but it's so hectic.

And --

THE CHAIR: We could say within the first 90 days; and -- because we don't know when we're going to get this executed. We don't know what.

Or we could say within the first 90 days and/or up to that head administrator.

MS. VOIGT: As needed.

22 THE CHAIR: They might want to say, "I 23 want someone here tomorrow. I want someone here 24 this week because I'm not sure."

And someone else might say, "Hey, you know

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Page 202

what? I think we're better off as a trial-and-error."

MS. VOIGT: I think it's better to leave it flexible like that. Because if you're running -- I don't know if there's a boot camp that's going to be run for new charter school principals or whatever. But I think a boot camp is kind of a good thing, too, to be proactive and operating ahead of time, to just say, "Double-check yourself. Are all these things in a row," you know?

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, members of the Commission, I appreciate this conversation, for sure. I think that at this -- the heart and spirit -- I think I don't hear any arguments around how do we support new administrators and new schools to start off as fine as they possibly can.

I think the devil is in the details, for sure, as we think about what are the different needs of different leaders. And I think that has to be a relational act with them to kind of figure out that.

I'm on board with the -- with -- I don't know if the SWAT -- I'm okay with the SWAT. We could talk about it like an executive -- executive coach, executive mentor, we could call it.

THE CHAIR: We can nuance the name.

1 MS. VOIGT: Sure. Yeah.

MR. ALAN BRAUER: If we don't have those systems in place to react to that, we will never have those systems in place.

MS. VOIGT: You know what, Alan? I'd love to work with you on that. Let me know how we can work together. Because having, you know, done that, and during a time in 2007, when there were many State charter schools being opened during that time, and us forming a dynamic critical friends group amongst each other and going through those scenarios together within our first school years was really meaningful. I can share with you some of the things we constructed.

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Absolutely.

Madam Chair, Commissioners, I don't know -- I know we're a week away from this conference. On Saturday of the conference, we have an 11:30-to-1:00 longer extended period of time for folks to do a Professional Learning Community/Critical Friends Group opportunity. I'm going to set that up during lunch so that at tables, folks can share certain problems and practice, or get feedback peer-to-peer from governing council members and head administrators and teachers and so forth.

Page 203

MR. ALAN BRAUER: We could nuance it and make it sound like what it is so that they see that this is truly putting their learning and the school's success at the heart.

So I think that there is probably some type of sweet spot that we can find between -- before the school year starts. Because as we all know, if you don't have the systems in place and you don't have somebody who both, like, can do it from the support and compliance that the Charter School Division does, as well as the authorizing body does, having a separate person as a peer, as an executive leader, that's another area that could put -- could support and put pressure on ensuring that the school is open.

And so that could very well happen maybe a week before school starts. You just sit down. I'm envisioning an executive leader sitting down with me and just kind of going through, "What are all the systems you have?" "What's your -- what's going to happen when you have your first fire alarm pulled that first day," or, "What are you going to do with" -- you know, "How are you going to react," and kind of go through some of the hypothetical things that we all know happens.

Page 205

I wonder if we could figure out a way to know who are the newbies coming in. I know we know two of them, Solare and Raíces. We could jump on that next week, potentially, and just be smart to bring some folks together.

MS. VOIGT: You know what might really be a great format for that -- I haven't looked at the agenda for the conference. But if you have that time block set aside already for small PLC sharing, if you have a tables and you put the topic, and then whoever wants to go to that table, and they just sit there and share or whatever, something like that would be great. Then you could get it all done real quickly, and people self-determine where they want to do their stuff.

And if you'd like, I would be willing to facilitate one of those.

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Great. Thank you. THE CHAIR: Because I think -- I think there's also a possibility, where if we can get these regional teams together so that, you know, they don't necessarily always have to be there, but they're at least on call -- but we'll also have to set some kind of guidelines as to how much time schools can actually -- you know, you're not 24/7;

1 because there's only a finite amount of money that 2 we're going to pay these folks. 3 So that schools need to know that, you 4

know. You can't just keep calling these people and they're at your disposal whenever, that we'll have to place those parameters around what that looks like, and probably less time as the year goes on, you know. So we can work that out.

Commissioner Armbruster?

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COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Yeah. I think that's a terrific idea. I am not volunteering because I don't know anything about administration. So let me just get myself out of there and throw some more on them.

But I think, you know, I remember having Harry Wong's First Day of School. I thought, "Oh, my God, thank goodness," because I would never have thought, "Greet each child." I just wouldn't think about that.

So I think if there were a first day of school for administrators, whether that's a new administrator who's never been at a charter school -- they are different in different ways, because you have more responsibilities -- or just a -- or a brand new school person doing that.

Page 208

1 slight tag-on. When we're having the Special Ed 2 Division talk to Alma, which we had set up, right,

3 that they're going to go and look and --

> THE CHAIR: We said if they felt it appropriate.

6 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: If they're going 7 to Las Cruces, I think that a lot of people in 8 Las Cruces, including Las Cruces Public Schools 9 possibly would be -- it would be advantageous to 10 share those resources. One school needs to have 11 them, real particular things. But honestly, some of 12 the things they were talking about, I had never even 13 heard about.

So I'm not sure that everybody's even doing that. But once we send a group down or to Albuquerque, or wherever we're sending them, maybe we can expand it so that more than one school or two schools are getting that information; because I don't think that you can ever have too much information.

THE CHAIR: I think we're talking two different things.

23 COMMISSIOENR CABALLERO: Are you talking 24 about the --25

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I'm talking

Page 207

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I can say that in parts of our state, that probably would have been quite helpful. And rather than new administrators struggling, they would have had nowhere to go; because in the end, you know what? It's our time that's taken up, but not helping them on the front end. So I would like to see that.

Another thing I had written down was -again, I don't know whether it's the CSD's responsibility or someone -- Pattie, maybe you have someone in mind who could tag onto the end of the last CSD learning, you know, a training that they have. So assuming that they would all make it, just to say, "Hey. Here's something much like the Harry Wong thing, pass it out. These are things that you might want to think about. Or pass on to the person you are wanting to hire.

Because then you are kind of doing what Pattie was talking about, Commissioner Voigt, except not micromanaging, because that person wouldn't be there. But at least you have some idea what to do.

Because I think that some of these people that we've been talking about don't have any idea what to do; and I can understand why they wouldn't. This is not a condemnation in any sense, just a

1 about the mentor.

> THE CHAIR: But that's not necessarily the -- that's not necessarily coming out of the bureaus that are here.

COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: I think we need to stay on point.

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Right. But

THE CHAIR: That's not what we're talking -- we're talking about --

outsiders. They could be outsiders, but they could be attached to something. Because one of the things Glenna, I thought, was saying -- thank you for saying -- is that sometimes the first day -- and Trish was saying the same thing -- is like unh-unh, you can't do that.

If it was the Harry Wong type of thing that was attached to something, no matter who said it -- it doesn't have to be CSD; it should be someone who really knows about administering charter schools -- that that could be attached to that so they would have that little heads-up. I'm sorry.

THE CHAIR: I'm lost. I'm sorry. I'm lost.

COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: I agree that there's a lot of information.

1 THE CHAIR: I'm just owning it. I'm just 2 owning it. 3 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: There is a lot of 4 information in the area of special ed. And, 5 certainly, new -- new directors of charter schools 6 should be aware or have a checklist, if nothing 7 else. 8 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I would think 9 so. 10 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: If I were a new 11 administrator, I certainly would have missed half 12 the requirements. It's a lot. It's a lot. 13 THE CHAIR: And I think part of that core 14 of the teams that are created, that that's part of 15 the skill set, that you need someone who can go in 16 and offer that help for special ed if that's what it 17 is, someone who can help with finances, someone who 18 can help with just general operational 19 administrative issues, so that there's -- you know, 20 there's a core of people that can be sent out, 21

depending on what the need is. 22 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Right. 23 THE CHAIR: Or just a call; so that it's 24 not a call to an official phone number. It's a call 25 to, you know, someone's private number, that -- you charter school principals.

MR. ALAN BRAUER: Madam Chair, Commissioners, one -- I don't want to belabor this any more than we need to. You just jarred something for me, Commissioner Voigt. I do think that there is the -- there is the mentorship between a school -- a new school leader and the mentor. And then there's an opportunity potentially for us to think about how do we create our own in-shop kind of Principals Pursuing Excellence model that we could use, as you just mentioned.

There should be an opportunity to make this relational, too, so that it's not just mentor to school leader, but also bringing the mentors and the school leaders together over the course of time. And, again, this is in the vacuum of budgeting and that sort of thing.

But if we want to think about that, I wonder if maybe we have like a smaller step back throughout the year, periodically, maybe three times a year with the new school leaders; because I think what I'm hearing is that we want to do something different than what we have done before, is there hasn't really been, like, a protocol. So now let's create that.

Page 211

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know, so that there's that less onus that's on there.

COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Or at least, "We set up our systems. Can you come out to see if I'm in compliance?" I mean, that's -- that's half the battle.

THE CHAIR: There's a lot of people out there that have exited out of Principals Pursuing Excellence, retired financial people, that there's just this -- there's a wealth of support and help and knowledge out there. And they may not want to work full-time.

MS. VOIGT: So in 2009, I think it was, Dr. Linda Paul created this great group called Charter Leaders something-or-other. And many of the charter school principals that are here now, and myself, we were in this group. It was great

learning. It was better than my master's degree. It was all shared work by charter school leaders.

If there's something that we can do to bring in experience and local wisdom from what we have in our communities to help with these -- with our new charter administrators. I think that would

24 be one of the best practices we could do is utilize 25

our local wisdom that we already have with our State

And we can bring -- we can do a -- we can do the individual elbow-to-elbow work at schools with the leader and the mentor, and then we could also bring more formalized kind of training, you know, maybe beginning-of-the-year, midyear, end-of-the-year kind of way to bring people together.

Anyway, I think we have a lot of different opportunities we can build that kind of thing.

THE CHAIR: So it's going to be a simple motion; because I think it can be fluid enough that we can figure out what it's going to look like, but that we need to move forward on getting some contract work done. And the particulars of exactly how it's going to look like, that can be figured out once we have the folks that we can contract with.

MS. VOIGT: Okay. I'll make that motion if we're ready.

THE CHAIR: Sure.

MS. VOIGT: I move that the Public Education Commission direct its staff at Charter School Division to contract with an entity or entities to mentor or provide support to new schools and new head administrators in compliance with the New Mexico Procurement Code.

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1	THE CHAIR: I'll second it.	1	But the next LESC is in Santa Teresa. So
2	There's a motion by Commissioner Voigt, a	2	how fortuitous. So it's it's nice that once
3	second by Commissioner Gipson.	3	again, it's close to home. So I will be there.
4	No further discussion?	4	We I'm trying to think we're all
5	(No response.)	5	going, or many of us will be there next week. I
6	THE CHAIR: Roll call, please.	6	don't think we had any other events in between.
7	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	7	No, no.
8	Voigt?	8	I want to I guess I'll extend a
9	COMMISSIONER VOIGT: Yes.	9	thank-you to the School Boards Association for the
10	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	10	invitation to the Law Conference; but,
11	Ruiz?	11	unfortunately, it's going on now, so we are
12	COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Yes.	12	obviously unable to attend.
13	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	13	So we thank them. And I guess he's not
14	Davis?	14	here; so anyway, next up is actually, Matt,
15	COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes.	15	you didn't get put on the agenda.
16	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	16	MR. MATT PAHL: 16-B.
17	Raftery?	17	MS. KAREN WOERNER: Yeah, 16-B.
18	COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: Yes.	18	THE CHAIR: Oh, I'm sorry. I'm looking at
19	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	19	my motions; I'm not looking at the agenda. We're
20	Crone?	20	not approving anything. I don't see Matt there.
21	COMMISSIONER CRONE: Yes.	21	MR. MATT PAHL: I hope that's not wishful
22	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	22	thinking, Madam Chair.
23	Chavez?	23	Just a quick update from us; I always try
24	COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yes.	24	and keep them quick. July 1st through the 3rd is
25	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	25	the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools
23	COMMISSIONER ARMBROSTER. COMMISSIONER	23	the Patronal Panance for Labre Charter Schools
	Page 215		Page 217
1	Robbins?	1	conference in Las Vegas. There's still time to
2	COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Yes.	2	register. Las Vegas is a quick flight. I had
3	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	3	mentioned that the last couple of times. I'm sure
4	Armbruster votes "Yes."	4	you've gotten some notices; but
5	Commissioner Gipson?	5	THE CHAIR: I think it's probably
6	THE CHAIR: Yes.	6	unfortunately too late for us to make those
7	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Commissioner	7	travel we wouldn't be able to get the
8	Caballero?	8	reimbursement.
9	COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Yes.	9	And it was unfortunate, because they had a
10	COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Ten-to-zero	10	great strand, and I didn't know it until too late,
11	vote.	11	on governance, I thought. So it would have been,
12	THE CHAIR: Motion passes, ten-zero.	12	you know yeah.
13	Thank you.	13	MR. MATT PAHL: Yeah. Sorry it's coming
14	I'll make myself short. Besides just a	14	from us late. But but, yeah. I'm sure I
15	ton of phone calls, I appreciate all the work that	15	don't know. There's a lot of e-mails going out
16	the Director has been doing in terms of trying to	16	around this; so the other thing I just want to
17	get us straight with Illuminate. And that's a	17	spend a little bit of time on is around facilities.
18	conversation that will continue to move forward.	18	-
18	I did not attend the last the	19	First is a thank-you to the Commission, because I just see there's an understanding from you
20	first-of-the-year LESC. I had anticipated going,	20	all that this thing it just doesn't work out.
_ ZU	misi-or-me-year least. I had anticipated going.	1	9 0
		21	There's no way to systematize this because every
21	particularly because it was Senator Pinto's	21	There's no way to systematize this, because every
21 22	particularly because it was Senator Pinto's services were that day as well. So I was sorry I	22	property is different. There are steps we all can
21 22 23	particularly because it was Senator Pinto's services were that day as well. So I was sorry I missed that. But my HVAC system decided that it's	22 23	property is different. There are steps we all can take to maybe make it a little more systematized.
21 22 23 24	particularly because it was Senator Pinto's services were that day as well. So I was sorry I missed that. But my HVAC system decided that it's not doing well. So I had to do some triage; so I	22 23 24	property is different. There are steps we all can take to maybe make it a little more systematized.  But I hear that from the Commission when
21 22 23	particularly because it was Senator Pinto's services were that day as well. So I was sorry I missed that. But my HVAC system decided that it's	22 23	property is different. There are steps we all can take to maybe make it a little more systematized.

hearing. I heard it yesterday from the work session when we talked about this additional thing in Albuquerque, that now most schools, if they're building, are going to have to go through.

So I appreciate that. And I wanted to alert you of something that could be happening as early as July, which is the new lease assistance decision from PSCOC. They have been true to their word. They have been going to charter schools for the last year -- I think they did two rounds -- to measure square feet.

They are choosing to take a very conservative read on the legal language that instructional space is all that they will fund. Instructional space, to them, is only classrooms; not hallways, not bathrooms, not office space. And so we will find that most of our charter schools will experience a cut under that scenario.

There is a chance that something called "tare" can be added onto this. And that, to us, is very important. I believe that it is up to us -- our bill this last year on facilities, it didn't get too far but was well-received -- did change that language. So we're not talking just about instructional; but tare provides for an additional

Through the conversations we've had, we've also run into some other issues that I want to highlight for you.

One is a -- nothing that has been decided yet, but there seems to be a direction of not allowing for land leases to be covered by lease assistance.

THE CHAIR: Right. We've actually got that communication, that it won't be. Yeah.

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: If I could modify that, that was a vote that was taken back in May to not allow land leases. However, because of feedback and things, the subcommittee -- I forget what the initials for the other subcommittee is, Finance or something like that -- they've agreed to revisit it to come up with what's reasonable. And when we were looking at it in May, there was one school that had something like 30 or 40 acres that they were leasing --

THE CHAIR: Right.

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: -- which seemed prohibitive, which, you know, the largest high schools are only about 60 acres; that's with 2,000, 2.500 students.

So to be leasing that many acres when you

Page 219

percentage of square footage on top of what they would measure for just instructional.

It's really important to our schools that we get tare that's commensurate with the standards that are applied to all other public schools. I know they're working on that now; but I think the tare rate they're considering is anywhere between 20 and 30 percent.

So if a school gets 30,000 square feet, whatever it is -- I'm making up that number; I don't know if that's real -- we would expect to see 20 percent on top of that. We're entering fair territory there, where schools can actually, you know, maybe have that money used to pay for their -- their lease.

So I see that as a heads-up. I know that Commissioner Robbins is the -- the guy for the PEC on PSCOC, and I know that he's well aware of these issues. I'm just not sure, you know, if the whole Commission knows. So just wanted to make sure that's there.

Obviously, significant budget pressure as a result of these cuts. And to be clear, not every school gets cuts. Some are actually going to see some increases.

don't have these big sports complexes and things like that and athletic fields and things like that seemed to be excessive. And that was causing the average cap to bump up by almost 70 percent. If you took that one out, it was causing the cap to go up very high on what they would allow.

They are going to go back, the subcommittee, and look at what is reasonable in terms of land leases and bring that back to the PSCOC so that it won't necessarily be totally eliminated.

MR. MATT PAHL: Yeah. And, Commissioner Robbins and Madam Chair, a lot of that -- you present an example that I think would not be reasonable. A -- an issue -- and this is not a PEC school, so I'll mention it by name. It's Mosaic Academy up in Aztec. They just happened to have a land lease, and they leased with somebody else for their portables. They were going to -- under the previous agreed-upon rule -- or decision from the PSCOC, they wouldn't get any lease assistance just for the land that their portables are sitting on.

This is the kind of thing that I think the PSCOC is interested in fixing. Portables cannot float in the air and have students attend classes in

them; so that -- that's the thing that we're looking at right now. And I think it highlights the fact that even though the PSFA has been going into charter schools quite a bit over the last year, there's still more to learn. And these facility issues are really big, and they're compounded by the fact that 20 percent of small school size is going away.

We've also had discussions with PSFA and a couple of the PSCOC members regarding portable transport. That's the item that's prohibited right now. We can find a portable. Not every school has the \$40,000 to \$60,000 to transport, hook it up, all of that. They've been open to annual solutions there. So we're hoping in the next couple of months they'll be able to figure that out.

So there's a lot of pieces there. I just want to note that the tare thing, I believe, is pretty up-in-the-air, whether it's offered at all and, if so, at what rate. So I would hope that as you are able to connect with folks that have interests with the PSCOC, that you can advocate for schools to be able to get some additional overhead on top of the square footage that they will be approved for.

family. But many others, we'll want to share with you all. Of course if you have ideas for some questions that we can add to that survey that would be useful to you all, bring those up either now, or always e-mail me or call me; or through Alan, I'd be

happy to consider those and potentially add that in.

It's a good opportunity to survey the majority of the charter schools in the state.

majority of the charter schools in the stat
 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.
 MR. MATT PAHL: Thank you.

11 THE CHAIR: I need to go back a little
12 bit; because I didn't mention the NACSA conference,
13 that Bev mailed out the information so that the
14 decision needs to be made, like, yesterday, you
15 know, if you're interested in going to St. Louis.
16 It's posthaste.

MS. VOIGT: I am.

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: If no one else is, I went last year to Florida. I would be willing to go again if you want to have more than one person go. But I don't have to go.

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: What are the parameters of that in terms of how many people can go or not go or are paid or whatever?

MS. FRIEDMAN: Basically, it's up to the

## Page 223

The other thing I'll just note on the facilities piece is we will -- this is just a heads-up; it's not for a while. But we will present that bill again this next session. I think we did get out of the Senate at committee unanimously. I think it just wasn't the top-of-the-heap priority-wise in a session where we passed 150 bills.

So we're hoping this session, we're able to get more traction. We liked the fact that it was a bipartisan bill, that people had agreed on what we had put on there. So I may -- if it suits the Commission, I'd love to go over the bill point by point sometime in the fall so you all know what's in there, and, of course, take feedback on any ways to improve it.

But we'd love to have that stamp of approval from the PEC as well when we bring that around. We think it does solve some short- and long-term problems for facilities. But in the immediate term, it's all about lease assistance. We're real concerned about that.

Lastly, we will be conducting our annual survey of members this summer. Some of those questions, we'll want to kind of keep amongst the Page 225

1 Chair. And if you'd like to go, you can go. They 2 always seem to find money.

THE CHAIR: I'm going to go. So I'm going to say yes.

MS. FRIEDMAN: Okay.

THE CHAIR: And if I -- I'll know sooner

than later if I can't make those dates.

MS. FRIEDMAN: Let me just mention to you.

Those of you who have traveled before, I have been able to get a PCard, where your hotel and your flights are paid for ahead of time.

We can no longer do that. I tried to get that for David last year. And even though he was a State employee, they still would not give me the PCard for his travel. So you'll have to pay for your travel, your airline, ahead of time, and your hotel.

I will pay for the registration. And if you'll save receipts, we'll try to get that turned around as soon as we can.

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: The dates are the 21st to the 24th of October. So basically, you fly out for the 20th if you want to be there for the full three-and-a-half days.

MS. FRIEDMAN: And I would say one of the

Page 226 Page 228 1 advantages of doing without the PCard is that you 1 that's flying day. The actual conference starts on 2 2 Monday, and it runs through noon on Thursday. So can get tickets now while sometimes they go on sale; 3 3 and... it's three-and-a-half days. 4 THE CHAIR: And you get the mileage. 4 THE CHAIR: Most people -- there's very 5 5 MR. FRIEDMAN: And you get the mileage in few people that are left there on Thursday, because 6 6 people start -- you know, the only people that are your own account. 7 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: \$650 on Southwest, 7 there is because their flight leaves late, you know. 8 8 and if you do Travelocity, it's about \$400. That's the bottom line; because they usually have 9 MS. FRIEDMAN: The main thing is making 9 almost nothing really scheduled; little, "Oh, let's 10 10 the reservation in the hotel where everything is do this," you know. 11 going to be happening. And so that would be one of 11 Because people -- and the same thing. 12 your first considerations. 12 Some people don't come in until Monday, you know. 13 13 THE CHAIR: Right. It just depends on where they're coming from. Some 14 MS. FRIEDMAN: Yes, ma'am. 14 people drive. And so it's --15 15 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Well, I tried to COMMISSIONER RUIZ: When I looked at the 16 16 link -- because I will be going; it will be my first find the sessions, because you can say, "I don't 17 17 one -- I thought it said you had to be registered. care about this one," so you can come in later. 18 18 I may be wrong. I think it said you had to be THE CHAIR: But your flying in is usually 19 registered first, because then you get the code for 19 either Sunday or -- if you're not there by early 20 20 the hotel; so... Monday, you're going to miss all of Monday. 21 MS. FRIEDMAN: As soon as I find out who 21 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Right. 22 22 would like to go, I will get all of that information MS. FRIEDMAN: Madam Chair, if I could 23 for you, and I will register. 23 mention, those of you who are going to the Charter 24 24 School Conference next week, someone from Charter This is something else, also. The end of 25 25 the fiscal year is June 28th or 30th, whatever. So Schools will be picking up your travel, because --Page 227 Page 229 1 1 this will be in next year's money. So what I will your travel documents, if you want to be reimbursed. 2 2 do is as soon as we get into next year's money, I'll THE CHAIR: Oh, I thought they were paying 3 start that. 3 for us. When you said they were picking up our 4 One of the first things is to pay our dues 4 travel, I thought they were paying for us. 5 5 to NACSA, and then the second thing is to register MS. KAREN WOERNER: Just the form. 6 6 those people who were going to go at the lower rate. MS. FRIEDMAN: Oh, no. They'll be picking 7 7 And I'll get all that information, and we'll get up your travel to give to me for reimbursement. 8 8 They'll give that to me the following week. And if that done. 9 THE CHAIR: Okay. Thanks. Appreciate 9 you're going to LESC or LC or anyplace like that in 10 10 the next two weeks -- next week and the next week -that. 11 11 in the next two weeks. I need all of that no later So --12 12 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: So do you want than the 28th. THE CHAIR: The LESC ends on the 26th. 13 to confirm now? Or by Monday morning? Or what do 13 14 14 vou want? MS. FRIEDMAN: Okay. If you can send it 15 15 MS. FRIEDMAN: Let me know in the next to me as soon as possible. 16 16 THE CHAIR: I can put it in the mail that week if you would like to go. And the information 17 17 is on the website. If you need more information, I afternoon. 18 can talk to you about it. Basically, you can pick 18 MS. FRIEDMAN: Okay. If you have any 19 19 other expenses, I need that by the 28th, to be paid, your air flights. The hotel is a very large hotel 20 20 and in a timely manner. And as soon as we get that on the river, probably closer to the hotel now. 21 21 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Maybe you know done, then we'll send it out to you, and then send 22 22 it back to me as soon as you can. this, because I did go on the website. Sometimes 23 they say it starts on the 20th; but it really 23 THE CHAIR: Okav. 24 24 MS. FRIEDMAN: Thank you. doesn't. You know what I mean? Like --25 25 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: The 20th is Sunday; THE CHAIR: Thank you.

Page 230 1 1 So PEC Comments. 2 2 Commissioner Raftery? 3 3 COMMISSIONER RAFTERY: I just want to 4 comment on Raíces school. When I was in Lybrook --4 5 5 or Jemez Mountain -- about 2000, in the year 2000, 6 6 one of the schools up there in Lybrook had the --7 7 the circle teaching thing. And what they did was 8 8 they taught by modalities, and they taught by, I 9 guess, their culture, because it was Native 9 10 10 American. 11 And at the very beginning, it kind of 11 12 scared me to death, because I thought, "Now I'm in 12 school. 13 charge of these people, trying to get test scores 13 and all of that." 14 14 15 15 But I was there for three years. It was 16 16 part of their culture, and they really learned a 17 17 lot. And that's how they learned at home. So the issue. And... 18 18 teachers who were Native American just brought it 19 19 into the school. 20 The way the room was set up wasn't even a 20 21 regular classroom. They had the desk, you know, in 21 22 22 a different place. Kids learned thematic units --23 23 well, thematically. That's not the way they do it students. 24 24 anymore. It was like a medicine wheel or a wheel, 25 and they just kind of went around it. And as they 25 Page 231 1 1 taught the concepts, they would bring in their 2 culture and all the concepts so that the kids could 2 issues with, "Yeah, we could use this building"; 3 3

there, they were doing student-led conferences, which I had never heard of before. So it's like a parent-teacher conference, but the student is in charge. And so we went through that. And they were just spectacular students.

And then we saw their achievement, their academic achievement. They have Grades 6 through 10. And the first person I saw was -- this was her first year there. She arrived at below grade level, and now she was above grade level. And it's only because of the commitment of the teachers in that

So -- but it was. They incorporated all their culture into their academics and so forth; so they were learning everything. And that school would like to increase to Grade 11, but money is an

THE CHAIR: They've always been our Little School That Can, you know. And it's -- the size of the school has been a constant challenge.

COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yeah. Recruiting and retaining teachers is an issue. They had 39

THE CHAIR: Yeah. And I forget how many times we had to -- they had to stretch out where

So when he was speaking -- or when they were speaking, I kind of envisioned that model. And it was -- it was really quite successful, and I really enjoyed the three years that I observed it.

So, you know, it was scary. And I was scared, because I didn't know how I was going to evaluate it. But it was really a success. And I don't know if they're still doing it. But it was really a success. And I don't know if they're still doing it. I don't think they are. But that's my comment.

THE CHAIR: Okay. Thank you.

Commissioner Davis?

COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Well, I have something similar to say.

So I was invited to do a -- to observe a school year-end activity at little Navajo, New Mexico. And the school acronym is DEAP. And the "D" stands for some word I could never say.

So they did something similar. They had six cultural values that they incorporated into their academic learning. And the -- when I was they were going to be; because they had so many

"No, now we can't use that building."

And it was really -- it was questionable whether they were going to get up and running because of that. So it's really -- when we look at small schools, it's -- it is hard to maintain a school with that few kids.

COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yeah. And it's so remote.

THE CHAIR: Exactly. So that adds all those extra challenges to it. But I'm excited you got to see them because they've come up often before us. And it's -- you know, it's always one of those little heart-wrenching things when we know they're struggling to be able to just literally stay alive.

COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yeah. So I was told they weren't sure they would apply for renewal.

THE CHAIR: Oh, no.

COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yeah. And it's

because, I think, of the money.

THE CHAIR: Oh, okay. Huh. Wow.

23 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: That would be really 24

sad.

THE CHAIR: That would be. That would be.

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Page 234 1 Commissioner Caballero? 2 COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: You know, the 3 returning about the circle. And I had asked 4 Mr. Aceves at one time to describe what he was 5 trying to do. Like, I think I was catching it, but 6 not completely. 7 And I had asked the ladies, and they said 8 "No, it's Carlos." And he started to. We got 9 interrupted, and he never really explained anything.

And, of course, all his team was very, very excited with what they were doing. It ran from him to the organizing team to parents. And I wanted to know why.

And I remain curious as to what -- what he was

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doing.

But, anyway, when I went from teaching in the schools to junior college and university, I used the Socratic Method. And it was not received by my department, the Political Science department, very well. And so after many years of teaching, I -- I asked why I hadn't been evaluated. And the director says, "You've been evaluated almost every semester.

And I said, "You've never been to my classroom."

And some of the -- somebody else walked up

updates with NMPSIA. New Mexico Highland, we approved the agreement for them to join the risk program; so they're now with NMPSIA.

And then we talked about looking at increasing coverage. It's going to be called "excess coverage," because they've had a higher -- I guess a higher rate of hailstorms and all, the rain and all that, and so it's causing damage. And so because of that, we're looking at increasing those limits, which is going to actually make an increase for all of those members.

And then we talked about Sandy Hook. And we've been talking about it for a while. We had tried the STOPit program a couple of years ago. We didn't get a lot of buy-in; I think Rio Rancho and Clovis. And they're actually still doing it.

But you have to pay for that program. So because the insurance pool is asking us to prove that we are doing everything we can to ensure student safety -- so next July 1st, I'm sure you'll hear about this, because I know that they were going to make a presentation at the law conference -we're going to give the school districts till July 1 to either get in with the Sandy Hook Promise Program or something similar to that. And if they choose

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to me and said, "He stands out in the hallway listening to" -- and it wasn't a lecture --"listening in." And it was all question-and-answer, critical thinking. And for junior college students, that was the hardest thing to get acquainted with, critical thinking.

And -- but once they got it, they all excel, very, very much, and they all learn the political science or government -- the -- what most of my colleagues were just regurgitating to them from the pulpit.

And so I get it that when you start something new, it's very hard to be received. But you have to just continue with it.

THE CHAIR: Right. I know a number of the people on their governance council. That's how they started their first meetings. They were in a circle. And they were -- it's, like, "What are you doing," you know? And it was -- they really hesitated; but they embraced that from the beginning. And so that the -- you know, the governance council is very versed in what the school truly means.

Commissioner Ruiz?

COMMISSIONER RUIZ: I just have a few

not to, if the school district chooses not to do that, there's going to be more than likely a

10 percent --

COMMISSIONER CABALLERO: Surcharge? COMMISSIONER RUIZ: You'll get charged 10 percent for not having that; because the insurers are wanting us to prove we're doing everything we can to ensure student safety.

But we did also talk about if, like, Clovis is doing it and also Rio Rancho, I think there's a couple of districts that are doing their own or something similar. We're going to see how we can align that, as long as it's using the same criteria.

They wanted to do it effective August 1. And I was like, "Unh-unh, you cannot do that." So we moved it to July 1st of next year; so...

THE CHAIR: Thank you.

Commissioner Armbruster?

COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: I am fine.

21 THE CHAIR: Great. 22

Commissioner Crone?

23 COMMISSIONER CRONE: So two of our 24 Commissioners were flooded out recently; so I hope

you have a home.

Page 238 Do you have a home? COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Me? COMMISSIONER CRONE: Yeah. COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yes, I have a home. COMMISSIONER CRONE: Didn't they open the dam at Navajo? COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Yeah. So there's a lot of water in the river, and the river looks really good. I live up on top of the hill. COMMISSIONER CRONE: And thanks for the parking space today. I actually --THE CHAIR: Commissioner Robbins? COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Well, without going into the Socratic Method, I do want to point out a couple of things besides what we shared with Matt Pahl in terms of the space and the minimum -- the space tare considerations. One thing that they did do is they looked at, for public schools, the minimum space calculations; because very small schools and very large schools were basically being shortchanged

based upon the number of students, and that, you

just the number of students. If they have

10 students, this is the size school you need.

know, they were -- the old calculation was basically

Congress. And it's also the date -- June 14 is the day that's recognized as the founding of the United States Army. So it's very important that we understand that, I think.

And when we pledge allegiance to the flag -- and I understand we had a member last year that stopped wanting to say the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

We aren't pledging to a person. We aren't pledging to an administration. We are pledging to an ideal. And that ideal is put forth in the preamble to the Constitution. And the Constitution was issued because the confederacy wasn't working.

And it says "We, the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union...," and it goes on. It doesn't say, "to form a perfect union." It says, "to form a more perfect union."

And I will be the first to admit that this country is not perfect. But I think it's the best thing that's around right now. So God Bless America, and God Bless each and every one of you. Thank you.

THE CHAIR: Commissioner Voigt?
MS. VOIGT: Thank you, Commissioner

COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: You know -- but my

Page 239

They weren't taking into account that you have to have administrators, counselors, things like that. They readjusted that, and that was approved by PSCOC. Those are minimum space standards. They're not really what schools should have; but it's the minimum that they should at least be designing to, and preferably above that for program purposes.

And the land leases, as I mentioned, they're going to be reevaluating that, because in cases where, you know, you have to -- you have a building, it's a portable building but you have to have a place to put it, land leases do make it appropriate. And you have to have space for parking and -- you know, a reasonable amount. So they're going to look at it from the standpoint of what's reasonable.

But the last thing I wanted to say, really has nothing to do with us today except for how we started and how we start each and every convention meeting. And that's with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Today is Flag Day. A lot of people may not know it's Flag Day, June 14th.

It was the date that the flag of the United States was adopted by the Second Continental

Robbins. And you're so full of little tidbits, I mean, the football huddle and -- you've got to get

3 on Jeopardy.

kids gave me -- years ago, they gave me an electronic game that was 1001 useless facts.

Hopefully, these aren't.

MS. VOIGT: No. Thank you for that.

So this week, it was an honor to finish up the work with the Assessment -- Student Success Task Force.

THE CHAIR: You're done?

MS. VOIGT: Yes, we're done. It was such a great working group. And we really dug in to look at equity and cultural relevance behind our assessments. But I think the bigger picture, and what the PED is really supporting, is a more balanced approach to assessment, where summative has always been way down here, right, if you're looking at a teeter-totter.

And so they're bringing the bar a little more level so we have summative, but we have a big block for interim assessments, and we have a big block for formative assessments, which we really know is where our instruction improves.

Page 244 Page 242 1 And what was really, really re-inspiring 1 challenges to our charter schools. 2 2 was to see the support for performance assessments, And I was just wondering if there has been 3 3 which is exhibitions, portfolios, presentations; some type of convening of charter schools to just 4 because we know that when students can defend what 4 kind of discuss what is the impact, what's been the 5 5 they know and why what they know is important to financial impact of all the decisions that have been 6 know, then they become masters in their learning. 6 made. And just to kind of get an idea. And if 7 7 that -- and if there has been, if that information So that was a really great experience. 8 8 On Tuesday, I attended the Innovations can be shared to this Commission. 9 symposium sponsored by Future Focused Education. 9 THE CHAIR: We -- we've tried that. 10 10 And the Public Education Department, I believe, were COMMISSIONER RUIZ: They're having a 11 in on that. And that was also reinvigorating to see 11 conference next week. 12 12 the different models that are out there that are THE CHAIR: We were shot down; so I'll 13 13 leave it at that. supporting performance assessment, and hearing from 14 students and teachers about what they value in 14 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Okay. It's just --15 15 education. THE CHAIR: I know. I know. I agree. 16 16 Because that's really our stakeholders, COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Okay. 17 17 right, is our kids and our parents and our teachers? THE CHAIR: On that note... COMMISSIONER RUIZ: Motion to adjourn. 18 So when those voices can come forward, especially 18 19 the students', that's when we know we're doing 19 COMMISSIONER ROBBINS: Second. 20 something right when they can validate us. So it 20 COMMISSIONER ARMBRUSTER: Aye. 21 21 THE CHAIR: Any opposed? Safe travels. was a great week. 22 I had to get up early four days this week; 22 (Proceedings concluded at 2:49 p.m.) but it was worth it. 23 23 24 THE CHAIR: Thanks. 24 25 MS. VOIGT: It was good to get up and go 25 Page 243 Page 245 1 BEFORE THE PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION 1 to work. 2 STATE OF NEW MEXICO 2 THE CHAIR: Commissioner Chavez? 3 3 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Well, I, too, 4 attended on Tuesday. And it didn't start till 9:00. 5 5 So I'm wondering, "early"? You had to get up early? 6 6 MS. VOIGT: I'm always up; but I'm like 7 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 7 putzing around the house. I'm up. 8 I, Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR, CCR #219, Certified 8 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: I just want to just 9 Court Reporter in the State of New Mexico, do hereby 9 share, hearing from Commissioner Davis about the 10 certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true 10 school that may not reapply and what Matt Pahl 11 transcript of proceedings had before the said 11 shared as far as the impact on funding on our 12 NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION, held in the 12 schools. And then I heard earlier this week that 13 State of New Mexico, County of Santa Fe, in the 13 the district charter school in Deming is looking to 14 matter therein stated. 14 close down as well. 15 In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my 15 16 hand on June 28, 2019. THE CHAIR: Really? 17 16 COMMISSIONER CHAVEZ: Yeah. And so I'm 18 17 just wondering about -- I mean, it seems like our 19 18 charter schools took a big -- had a big target, you Cynthia C. Chapman, RMR-CRR, NM CCR #219 19 know, on them. And I'm just wondering -- I'm just 20 BEAN & ASSOCIATES, INC. 20 wondering the changes that have been made and the 201 Third Street, NW, Suite 1630 21 impact that it's having on our charter schools, 21 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102 22 and -- because I know, like, the Small School Size 22 23 Funding factor and At-Risk being at the district 23 24 level not necessarily -- there's just all these 24 25 things that I think are presenting some big 25 Job No.: 2358N (CC)

63 (Page 246)

	I	Page 246
1	RECEIPT	
2	JOB NUMBER: 2358N CC Date: 6/14/19	
3	PROCEEDINGS: OPEN PUBLIC MEETING	
4	CASE CAPTION: In re: Public Meeting of the Public	
5	Education Commission	
6	********	
7	ATTORNEY: MS. BEVERLY FRIEDMAN - PED	
8	DOCUMENT: Transcript / Exhibits / Disks / Other	
9	DATE DELIVERED: DEL'D BY:	
10	REC'D BY: TIME:	
11	*********	
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13	DOCUMENT: Transcript / Exhibits / Disks / Other	
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15	REC'D BY: TIME:	
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22	ATTORNEY:	
23	DOCUMENT: Transcript / Exhibits / Disks / Other	
24	DATE DELIVERED: DEL'D BY:	
25	REC'D BY: TIME:	

A	accurately 72:3	adequate 77:24 137:21
A-F 3:20	accuse 115:23	adequately 66:18
<b>A-F</b> 3.20 <b>A-T</b> 192:11	<b>ACE</b> 10:10,12 11:22,23 12:17	adjourn 4:7 244:18
<b>A-to-F</b> 185:9,11,13,25 186:4,11	15:11,14	administer 145:1 198:19
	Aceves 157:15,15 165:2 168:10	administered 146:2
<b>a.m</b> 1:11 5:3 27:9,9 70:5,5 <b>abilities</b> 9:22 20:2	234:4	administering 209:19
	achievement 42:23 43:14 44:17	administration 51:23 63:16 95:6
<b>ability</b> 40:4 52:10 151:14 161:10	232:6,7	206:12 240:10
<b>able</b> 12:19 16:9,10 17:8 21:20 22:4,22 24:15 26:12 29:2 38:2	acknowledge 27:22 31:18 32:5	administrative 65:24 110:15
38:12,21 40:14 41:3 42:25 45:3	32:20 33:2,12 42:11 43:18	191:12 196:17 210:19
57:12 58:5 64:17 79:15 85:2	44:10,12,22 126:8	administrator 28:9,18,20 43:22
86:18 90:3 93:20 96:8 108:4	acknowledging 31:14	78:22 110:7 111:24 115:11
117:14 124:1,13 133:21 134:13	acknowledgments 42:9	191:6,10,13,16,17,20 194:8
137:21 138:3 144:8 146:12,18	acquainted 235:5	198:1,16,16 199:13 201:20
162:10 164:6,20 174:1 175:24	acquire 145:20	206:22 210:11
176:25 217:7 222:16,21,23	acres 220:18,23,25	administrators 4:4 42:21 193:17
223:9 225:10 233:16	acronym 231:21	195:11 196:14,16 199:24
absent 96:1,2,3	act 26:15 33:4 57:21,22 81:4	202:15 204:25 206:21 207:3
<b>absolutely</b> 20:10 24:19 38:14	101:12 117:9 202:20	211:23 213:24 239:2
41:3 159:10 190:9,22 204:15	Acting 2:9	admirable 162:1
abstain 68:6	action 3:12,13,15,16,17,19,21,23	admire 161:24
<b>abstention</b> 67:25 69:24 70:1	4:3 45:10 54:21 55:9 70:8	admit 121:20 240:19
<b>abstentions</b> 68:23 130:7	105:3 106:18,20,21,25 132:1,2	adopt 186:9
<b>Academia</b> 3:16 132:2,23 144:22	132:23 133:3,23 134:1 138:23	adopted 239:25
148:6 182:24	149:14 154:6 185:7 189:9 191:2	adult 12:3 24:6
Academia's 133:9	Actions 3:11	adulthood 21:10
academic 43:14,24 44:16 47:4	activity 231:20	adults 12:7
103:15 166:9 167:3 174:22	actual 36:25 47:9 62:6 89:24	advantage 164:10,10
231:25 232:7	228:1	advantageous 208:9
academically 47:12 102:6,16	actuality 100:5	advantages 226:1
103:9,20 120:15	adaptive 13:4 22:24	advice 95:20
academics 232:14	add 25:23 47:17 72:17 82:4 97:1	advise 96:5
academies 100:12	138:16 139:24 175:9 224:3,6	advising 101:15
<b>Academy</b> 3:8 9:7,16 19:16 43:19	added 72:24 73:4,17 74:1 177:16	advocate 222:22
46:14 67:18 182:23 183:3,5,10	218:20	Aeronautics 183:4
221:17	adding 62:1	affirmative 69:25
Academy's 58:12	addition 41:7 43:5 61:7 94:3	African-American 164:15
acceptable 105:2	122:15 177:15	afternoon 133:19 157:6,9,20
access 21:7 30:12 150:24	additional 24:17 28:22 44:16	229:17
accessible 101:1	61:23 62:2 115:9 117:12 136:3	afterward 53:22
accessing 77:16	141:5 174:8,9 218:2,25 222:23	age 11:4 24:14
accommodate 12:19 37:18 47:15	additionally 191:23 address 36:23 119:9 142:3	agencies 92:6 107:5 agency 166:13
52:5,7 66:14,19	176:13	agenda 3:5,7 6:22,24,25 7:1,20
accommodations 87:6,10	addressed 109:3	7:23 17:18 34:19 45:16,19 46:4
account 99:15 226:6 239:1	addresses 35:19	56:2 60:18 64:1,12 205:8
accountability 185:24 186:6	addressing 72:3 142:9	216:15,19
accurate 89:2	adds 233:11	aging 88:24
		ngg 00.2 i

amendment 3:12.20 9:19 45:11 applicable 155:24 173:18 **ago** 83:11 93:1 148:25 165:25 **applicants** 163:6 188:13 166:3,4 236:14 241:5 47:6,21 48:17 49:13,17,18 agree 39:25 73:11 190:9 200:8 50:19 51:9 53:12 56:3,9 62:9 **application** 3:19 30:7 127:5 201:9 209:24 244:15 64:5,6,8,10,13,23 65:3 185:8 155:16 173:11 185:8 186:1,10 agreed 10:12 220:15 223:11 186:11 **applications** 57:4 127:6 188:16 agreed-upon 221:20 amendments 29:22,24 30:2 **applied** 64:2 161:14 219:5 **agreement** 26:13 118:13 128:11 48:16 apply 233:18 153:6 156:6 173:24 190:18 **appreciate** 26:6 37:21 40:5 41:22 **America** 240:22 236:2 **American** 230:10,18 56:15 75:14 79:6 104:8 131:21 **AGUILAR** 172:25 134:3 153:14 181:21 185:4 **AMI** 2:15 ahead 11:20 49:6 56:2 132:4 amount 36:15 79:23 80:3 88:25 188:23 202:12 215:15 218:5 158:11 202:8 225:11,16 206:1 239:15 227:9 aid 166:15 **amp** 192:19 appreciated 194:14 **AIMS** 7:2 **ample** 127:9 approach 241:18 air 221:25 227:19 analysis 47:5,11 approached 36:9 ancillary 93:15 95:14,16 102:20 **airline** 225:16 approaches 161:17 163:2 103:4 111:6 125:6 Alan 2:9 14:17 27:13 28:2,13 **appropriate** 149:19 185:24 186:6 29:6,16 31:11,16 34:6,13 42:1,6 and/or 11:4 135:23 201:20 208:5 239:14 approval 3:5 6:22 29:24 45:21 43:22 45:8 70:10 127:11,24 **angel** 196:3 133:10 136:16 138:18 149:8,11 **Angela** 157:9,10,25 158:8 159:10 122:17 223:18 154:11 155:9 158:5 169:19 161:1 168:6 **approve** 45:25 56:11 65:20 67:17 173:3 202:11 203:1 204:2,5,15 **Anglo** 164:11 170:20 179:1 182:17 205:18 212:2 224:5 **Ann** 2:4 200:16 **approved** 15:16 45:20 52:9 53:13 alarm 203:21 anniversary 33:3 155:18 173:12 222:25 236:2 **Albuquerque** 1:22 3:8 9:6,15 announce 67:24 239:3 10:8 19:10 23:9 39:7,8 41:17 annual 32:6 73:22 76:5 77:20 **approving** 54:14 216:20 42:16 177:13 180:25 208:16 222:14 223:23 approximately 134:9 answer 23:23 34:24 71:15 72:12 approximation 138:9 218:3 245:21 alert 114:8 218:6 108:10 114:1 115:18 137:7 **April** 38:7 155:22 173:16 189:20 align 237:13 **APS** 19:15 194:25 195:8 141:25 alignment 30:2 147:24 **arbiter** 107:13 answered 137:1 138:15 167:22 alive 233:16 answers 100:20 112:16 137:1,2 architect 17:4 allegiance 3:3 6:15,17 239:21 area 19:22 37:18 38:23 41:10,14 anticipate 170:6 240:5.7 anticipated 175:18 215:20 63:7 79:19 85:19.19 86:3 98:25 **Alliance** 216:25 anticipates 156:13 100:8 121:8 138:20 177:20 **allow** 98:2 137:7 220:12 221:6 anticipating 177:20 203:13 210:4 allowing 220:6 anymore 120:11 230:24 areas 57:21 79:19 83:9 100:17 allows 25:6 anyplace 229:9 125:13 143:18 177:15 **Alma** 3:14 6:24 34:1 70:8,12,17 anyway 51:15 53:25 54:5,24 argument 12:10 78:23 82:20 84:23 104:18 110:6 121:18 213:8 216:14 234:16 arguments 202:14 126:9,11 127:12 132:20 182:21 **Armbruster** 2:4 5:4,5,8,11,12,15 Apodaca 1:12 208:2 **apologize** 46:20 70:22 5:18,22,25 6:3,6,9 8:4,7,10,13 Apparently 168:22 alternative 140:8 200:16,18 8:16,19,20,23 9:1 23:18,19 **Altura** 34:8 35:6 44:13 217:25 appeals 67:3 24:19,25 25:1,10 58:20,21,24 amazing 158:2 appears 81:8,13 121:14 124:23 59:2,5,8,11,14,15,18,21,24 60:3 amenable 64:19 applaud 18:3 19:4 66:23,24 67:8,14 68:9,13,16,22 amend 62:8 129:25 **Applause** 28:1 185:5 69:1,4,7,10,13,16,17,20,23 75:8 **apples** 142:2 amending 65:3 76:24 77:10,22 84:20,21 85:21

86:15 87:9,15 92:23,24 93:22
94:9,18,23 95:5 101:25 102:1
102:25 103:18 104:1 112:8
120:3,13 121:2,6 124:12 130:6
130:9,12,15,18,21,24 131:2,5,6
131:9,12 133:17 134:15,19,25
141:11,12,22 142:11 143:19
154:24 155:5 161:4,5 165:4
168:21,22 171:12,15,18,21,24
172:2,5,8,11,14,15,18 179:15
179:18,21,24 180:2,5,6,9,12,15
180:18 183:22,25 184:3,6,9,12
184:13,16,19,22,25 185:20
186:20,21,24 187:2,5,8,11,14
187:17,20,23 194:18 200:17
206:9,10 208:6,25 209:9 210:8
214:7,10,13,16,19,22,25 215:3
215:4,7,10 224:22 227:12,21
228:15,21 237:19,20 244:20
Armendariz 157:12,13
<b>Army</b> 240:3
arrived 232:9
articulate 115:17
articulating 126:5
Arts 183:1
as-needed 193:22
aside 61:11 175:3 205:9
asked 9:18 25:3 48:14 55:7,9
70:12,12 72:20 73:1 87:23
103:12 107:4 108:12,14,17
112:21 113:15,20 115:14
137:18 165:4 234:3,7,21
asking 23:24 49:17 52:20 61:13
62:13 71:22 72:7,10 85:9 100:2
123:4,8 142:18 160:12 236:18
asks 81:16
<b>ASL</b> 15:10
ASLA 30:14
ASLA 30:14 assesses 146:21
assesses 146:21
assesses 146:21 assessing 152:17
assesses 146:21 assessing 152:17 assessment 43:9 76:6 134:5
assesses 146:21 assessing 152:17 assessment 43:9 76:6 134:5 141:16,16 142:4,8,23,24 143:3
assesses 146:21 assessing 152:17 assessment 43:9 76:6 134:5 141:16,16 142:4,8,23,24 143:3 145:6,15,25 147:13 148:16
assesses 146:21 assessing 152:17 assessment 43:9 76:6 134:5 141:16,16 142:4,8,23,24 143:3
assesses 146:21 assessing 152:17 assessment 43:9 76:6 134:5 141:16,16 142:4,8,23,24 143:3 145:6,15,25 147:13 148:16
assesses 146:21 assessing 152:17 assessment 43:9 76:6 134:5 141:16,16 142:4,8,23,24 143:3 145:6,15,25 147:13 148:16 150:2,5 151:1,5 152:2,18 241:10,18 242:13
assesses 146:21 assessing 152:17 assessment 43:9 76:6 134:5 141:16,16 142:4,8,23,24 143:3 145:6,15,25 147:13 148:16 150:2,5 151:1,5 152:2,18 241:10,18 242:13 assessments 43:6 138:2 140:9
assesses 146:21 assessing 152:17 assessment 43:9 76:6 134:5 141:16,16 142:4,8,23,24 143:3 145:6,15,25 147:13 148:16 150:2,5 151:1,5 152:2,18 241:10,18 242:13

```
241:24 242:2
Asset 157:18
assigned 78:23 176:16
assist 97:19 151:22
assistance 92:7 100:10 218:7
  220:7 221:21 223:21
Assistant 27:20
assistants 156:20 158:12
Associates 1:20 245:20
Association 166:14 216:9
associations 17:16
assume 48:15 77:3 178:1
assuming 50:12 51:9 94:23
  105:11 141:19 143:5 207:13
assumption 52:21,22 54:4 89:6
assure 72:13
At-Risk 243:23
athletic 22:10 221:2
attached 209:11,17,20
ATTACHMENTS 4:9
attacking 121:4
attempt 63:19
attend 181:2 215:19 216:12
 221:25
attendance 32:9
attendants 32:18
attended 155:19 173:14 242:8
 243:4
attendees 32:24
attending 19:7
attention 121:10
attorney 46:18,20 152:23 246:7
  246:12,17,22
audience 74:22
audit 109:22 110:11 117:6,19
  129:25 130:1
auditor 119:15
audits 131:18
August 28:15 29:8 36:20 117:3
  117:25 118:4,19,23 119:9 120:7
  123:22 127:1,3,6,17 128:14
  129:1 136:9 155:19 156:12
  173:13 188:11,17 190:4,9
 237:15
authorities 167:13
authority 61:8 63:9 105:12
  107:13
authorized 155:17
```

authorizer 197:2,5 authorizing 28:18,20 203:11 automatically 95:14 available 30:19 36:14 39:4,6 41:2 60:24 61:13 62:17 99:7 118:12 135:13 136:6 180:25 190:5,8 199:5 avenues 191:9 average 221:4 averaged 43:6 awaiting 29:23 aware 106:3 181:11 210:6 219:18 Aye 244:20 Aztec 221:17

### B

**B** 49:24 50:7,21 52:20,21 54:1,5 54:21 56:17 58:22 88:2 101:12 back 9:25 12:22 16:19,22 24:8,15 54:15 56:3,21 60:5 72:23 73:24 74:12 76:1 83:11 92:25 93:20 104:25 105:9,9,18 107:20,23 110:23 111:10 113:12 114:3 116:5.8 127:3 129:20 132:4.4 134:13 135:8 137:2 152:8 160:1 163:2.14 164:2 165:22 193:1 194:20,24 212:19 220:11 221:7 221:9 224:11 229:22 background 191:12 **bad** 39:20 121:14.19 **Baiardo** 46:10,12,14 47:18 48:14 52:5 54:12 60:6,12 62:21,22 63:23 64:14 66:22 70:2 **balance** 52:7 115:21 balanced 241:18 **ball** 17:17 ballpark 89:12 bar 241:21 **Barbados** 176:18 **Barely 28:12 barrio** 164:19 base 21:8 101:3 based 13:15 48:19 81:19 95:20 138:1 141:10 146:19 174:9 196:10 238:22 basic 72:12 122:23

**basically** 11:13 24:5 39:18 87:10

95:5 224:25 225:22 227:18

**bigger** 36:12 241:16 **briefly** 175:11 238:21.23 biggest 45:2 158:19 bring 120:12 138:8 205:5 211:21 basis 87:25 89:10 92:11 93:5 102:23 193:22 bilateral 18:2 213:1,4,6 221:9 223:18 224:4 **basketball** 22:11,19 23:8 **bilingual** 150:16 158:19 160:10 231:1 bathrooms 218:16 161:8 162:19 164:9 169:8 **bringing** 32:22 196:23 212:14 **battle** 211:6 biliteracy 152:8 241:21 Bayne 27:19,25 biliterate 152:11 **broad** 100:21 **bill** 218:22 223:4,11,13 **brought** 62:5 161:17 230:18 **Bean** 1:20 245:20 **becoming** 46:11 58:1 **billing** 95:15 **Brown** 33:14 **budget** 22:18 126:23 129:24 Beery 30:24 **bills** 223:8 began 111:17 bimonthly 116:9 177:2 178:12 192:18 219:22 beginning 42:24 142:4,8,24 bipartisan 223:11 budgeting 212:16 143:4 145:10,17,24 146:8 **build** 12:5 15:24 16:16,18 213:9 **bit** 17:1 20:17 33:10 40:6,7 43:23 147:11 155:21 156:11 161:7.12 75:25 82:13 90:24 97:1 139:2,9 builder 17:4 165:7 173:15 200:15 230:11 162:16 185:15 192:19 217:17 **building** 1:12 13:15 15:17,25 235:21 222:4 224:12 36:9.13 37:2 39:6 40:15 47:13 beginning-of-the-year 213:5 **blanks** 13:18 62:6 110:16 158:24 159:3,5 begun 123:22 bless 114:19 240:21.22 170:5 176:20 177:1.3.16.21 **behalf** 68:3 **block** 205:9 241:23,24 180:22 193:15 200:1 218:4 **behavior** 103:22 **blue** 142:22,22 143:21 145:7,9 233:2,3 239:12,12 behaviorally 103:21 146:7,8,11,12 147:13 **buildings** 26:20,21 35:12,25 36:23 175:25 176:24 177:4,5,24 beings 165:15 **board** 33:25 34:4 47:25 157:14 belabor 212:3 158:2 174:19,21 202:21 **built** 13:1 36:7 48:7 believe 16:20 22:19 34:2,9 42:16 **Boards** 216:9 **bulked** 181:4 58:3 72:15 107:19 108:11 114:2 **Bobroff** 189:18 **bump** 221:4 115:4 123:20 145:8 148:17 **bodies** 22:22 **bunch** 198:20 164:9 167:20 169:20,21 218:21 **body** 203:11 burden 191:23 222:18 242:10 **bolt** 200:12 burdensome 96:20 belong 90:15 116:12 120:11 book 85:24 **bureau** 70:24 71:4,5 74:2,12,17 benchmark 149:20 151:10 **boot** 202:5,7 78:10,20 79:1 87:21 95:21 benchmarks 142:9 151:16 **bottom** 15:9 109:2 228:8 98:11 101:9 104:23 105:1,16,21 beneficial 148:2 **box** 15:6 140:18 153:18 106:9 107:10 108:4,10,23 109:8 **benefit** 97:11 116:4 117:10,18 118:4 122:18 boy 16:21 100:2 **Bernalillo** 16:8,14,15 23:6 **brand** 111:24 191:24 206:25 123:14 124:3,21 125:2,9,12,20 best 33:7 97:3 144:9 167:17 BRAUER 2:9 14:17 27:13 28:2 126:22 196:25 201:5 211:24 240:20 bureaus 75:11 107:17 209:4 28:13 29:6,16 31:11,16 34:6,13 better 26:12 31:4 44:1,4 57:16 42:1,6 43:22 45:8 70:10 127:11 **buried** 193:11 58:5 106:12 110:14.14 111:12 127:24 133:10 136:16 138:18 **bursts** 165:13 111:14 113:4 147:12 150:3 149:8,11 154:11 155:9 169:19 busy 200:22 176:22 199:25 202:1,3 211:18 173:3 202:11 203:1 204:2,15 **buy-in** 236:15 **Bev** 224:13 205:18 212:2  $\mathbf{C}$ **BEVERLY** 2:12 246:7 **breach** 116:21 117:1,2 126:2,6 C 1:20 2:1 3:1 4:1 156:2 173:20 beyond 12:4 55:23 82:9 87:19 126:12.24 245:8.19 100:11 101:3,10 108:15 109:20 break 21:18 27:8 70:4 153:20,22 Caballero 2:4 6:10 26:4 49:7,11 159:16 126:13 49:15 55:11 59:25 60:1 62:24 breakdown 31:24 **big** 23:13 30:11 32:3 40:8 135:18 67:23,24 68:23 89:17,19,20 158:20 160:3 221:1 222:6 breakdowns 88:16

241:22,23 243:18,18,25

90:7,13 91:21 92:2,21 98:21,23

brief 29:20 51:1 82:7

99:14 101:23 112:6 113:6,9 114:20 116:17 121:16 130:5 131:10,11 153:21 154:1 159:13 159:15 163:10 170:23 171:5,8 171:16,17 176:6 179:4,7,11 180:13,14 184:4,5 186:25 187:1 190:12.15.20 198:4.13.23 199:1 208:23 209:5,24 210:3,10,22 211:3 215:8,9 234:1,2 237:4 calculation 238:23 calculations 238:20 calendar 126:25 **California** 166:3,19 **call** 3:3,3 5:1,4 8:3 52:12 58:19 92:4,12 97:16,17 99:8 139:6,16 144:5.18 149:17 166:25 171:11 179:14 183:21 202:24 205:23 210:23,24,24 214:6 224:5 **call-out** 193:2 called 51:11 91:25 92:3 136:15 168:16 177:17 211:14 218:19 236:5 calling 23:9 206:4 calls 93:18 215:15 Camille 174:20.21 camp 202:5,7 campus 34:15 109:10 candidates 28:21 cap 12:4 47:6 48:10,11 50:5,8 51:16,17 52:4,24,24 53:8,11,24 54:5,10,14,18,22 55:14,23 62:15 65:6,14 66:5 67:7,12,17 68:12,14 140:21,22 147:21 149:15 153:6 221:4,5 capability 153:1 capacity 11:19 12:16 13:11,12 15:15,15,16 20:1 47:13,14,19 48:2 52:3 55:18 62:4,6 107:13 161:10 162:10,10 194:12 **CAPTION 246:4** capture 135:24 138:4 care 140:10 228:17 **careful** 101:17 Carlos 2:4 157:15,15 165:2 234:8 Carmona 157:20,21 159:19 Carolyn 27:19,25 **Carrie** 16:11

case 33:8 90:2,16 97:22,22 98:5 246:4 caseload 97:22 caseloads 97:24 98:2 cases 239:11 catch 17:21 catching 234:5 categories 91:9 category 103:12 Cause 188:11 **caused** 126:5 causing 221:3,5 236:8 **CC** 1:25 245:25 246:2 **CCR** 1:20 245:8.19 celebrate 29:7 42:11 43:14 celebrating 33:4 **celebration** 10:23 43:12 **Center** 183:6.8 **century** 100:24 ceremonial 24:12 ceremony 181:2 certain 90:6 139:1 144:15 165:17 204:22 **certainly** 26:24 47:15 79:6 89:18 104:12 125:11 137:8 144:6 157:2,4 178:12 190:24 210:5,11 Certificate 4:8 170:4 245:7 **certification** 71:19 156:14 166:15 173:25 certifications 73:8 Certified 245:8 **certify** 245:10 Cesar 182:22 188:23 cetera 36:24 **CFO** 157:17 CFR 101:20 **CHAIKEN** 2:15 189:23 **chair** 2:3,3 4:5 5:1,24 6:12,21 7:5 7:9,13,15,21,22 8:1,15 9:3,10 9:13 10:2,17 12:16 14:10,11,17 14:22 15:1,3,4,12 16:2,5 17:22 17:24,25 18:9 20:9 22:7,14 23:18 24:24 25:11,25 26:3,16 26:18 27:1,3,6,10,13,24 28:12 29:5,7,15 30:13 31:9,13,15 34:5 34:9,11,17 35:1,3,8,14,21 36:4 36:16 37:4,9,15,20 39:10,14,16 39:21 40:1,13,17 41:15,18,21

41:25 42:1,4 43:21 45:2,8,9,14 45:17,21 46:1,6,9,11,23 47:2,17 48:13 49:8,10,12,16,23 50:7,14 50:18,25 51:7,8 52:18,23 53:4 53:10,15,19,23 54:7,9,19 55:4,7 55:12,15,20,22 56:1,5,7,14,16 56:17 57:1 58:6.7.15.19.22 59:17 60:2,4,10,16,20 62:23 64:6,21 66:23,24 67:5,10,16,20 68:7,12,15,20,25 69:25 70:3,6 70:10 71:8,9 72:15 74:20,24 75:4,5,10,16,18,20 76:22 78:3,6 78:11,15,18 79:2 80:16 82:3,5 82:14 83:10,19 84:8,11,18 87:16 89:18 92:23 95:7 96:23 96:25 98:9.20.22 100:1 101:25 104:4,7,10 105:5,14 106:2,16 106:19,24 107:9,25 108:9,16,20 108:23 109:8,13,18 110:4 111:2 111:15,21 113:6 114:19 115:20 116:14,16,18 118:16,19,22 119:1,7,10,14,17,19,23 120:2 120:21 121:21 122:10,14 123:1 123:2,8,20 124:10 125:10,17,24 126:1,3,7 127:11,14,19,21,24 128:11 129:6,9,15,18,23 131:4 131:14,16,19,22,25 132:17 133:10,16 134:18,21 135:4 136:16,19 137:23 138:3,18 139:24 140:10,17,24 141:1 143:5 144:4,20,23,24 145:7,12 149:3,6,9,13,21 150:10 151:9 151:12,20 152:20 153:7,11,13 153:18,23 154:2,5,11,23 155:2 155:6,9 157:2,23 158:7,23 159:8,11,14 160:21,22 161:3 163:10 168:21 169:19 170:9,16 170:17,18,24 171:3,6,11 172:13 172:17,19,23,25 173:2,3 174:11 174:16,19 175:2,20 176:8,14,20 177:6 178:1,5,8,10,24 179:6,9 179:14 180:1,20 181:3 182:10 182:12,13,15 183:16,21 184:21 185:2,6,22 186:8,15 187:16,25 189:24 190:12,14,17,22 192:12 194:2,20 195:6,16,19 196:7 197:10,13,18,23 198:4,22,25 200:4 201:16,22 202:11,25

cars 177:19

204:16 205:19 208:4,21 209:2,7 circumvent 63:19 183:13 191:7,17 193:14 194:23 209:22 210:1,13,23 211:7 212:2 194:24 195:1,3,5,7 196:14,19 **cited** 64:23 213:10,19 214:1,6 215:6,12 196:21,22 197:3,6,7,13,19 citizens 21:20 216:18,22 217:5 220:8,20 200:19 201:6 202:6 203:10 citizenship 12:8 city 11:14 23:5 39:8 176:24 177:9 221:13 224:9,11 225:1,3,6 204:9 206:22 209:19 210:5 211:15,16,19,23 212:1 213:21 226:4,13 227:9 228:4,18,22 177:12,15 229:2,13,16,23,25 231:15 **clarification** 42:2 57:12,15 60:7 216:25 218:9.17 222:4 224:8 228:23,24 243:13,18,21 244:1,3 60:11,13 61:4 67:6 72:19 232:18,24 233:11,19,22,25 235:15 237:18,21 238:12 **charters** 26:8,8 33:5 41:17 77:15 107:21 123:3 145:5 146:15 240:24 241:12 242:24 243:2,15 194:25.25 clarified 63:6 244:9,12,15,17,21 **chasm** 13:16 clarifier 139:25 chairman 174:24 Chavez 2:5 5:20 26:4 59:3,4 **clarify** 63:2,24 68:10 73:15,18 84:22 102:2 119:15 148:13 Chairperson 140:5 69:18,19 130:10,11 144:24 **chairs** 157:4 145:11,14 146:1,4,14,17 147:1 151:5 152:24 168:24 169:15 Chairwoman 104:15 147:5,15 148:8,15,23 149:21 170:2 177:7 190:11 150:8,12,18,24 152:3 160:22 **challenge** 10:13 26:20 35:22 39:2 **clarifying** 54:7 75:13 76:25 39:10 232:20 161:2 169:3 172:9,10 179:16,17 133:2 135:9,22 137:12,20 149:18.22 **challenges** 12:18 26:23 37:7 182:22 184:23.24 186:14.17 175:24 233:12 244:1 class 10:20 84:25 85:3,7 86:6 187:6,7 188:23 214:23,24 243:2 challenging 135:16 243:3,8,16 244:14,16 93:23,25 94:2,5 160:4 **chance** 43:11 73:5 138:21 167:24 **Chavez'** 76:16 **classes** 221:25 **check** 107:23 117:7 163:2 **classroom** 81:15 84:3,4 85:17 167:24 218:19 86:6,25 95:19 110:24 112:9 chances 168:2 **checked** 94:10.11 **change** 22:5 34:4,8,14 45:15,19 checklist 154:21 155:4,14,25 125:7 166:16,23 230:21 234:24 156:4 169:21 173:5,19,22 210:6 61:22 97:19 98:3 114:7 185:21 classrooms 218:15 185:22 218:23 checks 94:9 cleaned 57:22 **changed** 58:2 67:2 75:25 Chicanitos 164:20 cleanly 57:13 cleanup 57:22 **changes** 6:23 7:3 51:10 186:2 Chief 33:16 243:20 **child** 18:2 19:6 21:10 77:6,23,24 **clear** 57:7 63:21 71:12 74:8 **changing** 58:2 66:10 175:22 93:5,6 95:25 96:3 102:4,5,8,9 105:6,20,24 117:25 138:11 channels 128:5 102:12 103:1 160:14 166:11 139:2 169:9,18 195:13 196:9 **Chapman** 1:20 245:8,19 206:18 219:23 characteristic 88:10 **children** 18:4,24,25 19:1 23:20 clearer 40:7 185:15 188:7 **charge** 93:25 230:13 232:4 85:25 94:1,4 109:5 114:25 **clearly** 57:13 168:23 charged 237:5 122:6,7 142:16 159:16 160:10 close 42:8 56:20 75:7 81:23 83:1 167:20 199:4 Charlene 78:21,22 79:15 80:17 216:3 243:14 82:15 83:23 84:9,12 93:10 94:6 choice 11:5 closed 116:24 176:9 94:11,20 97:2 98:18 99:1 **choose** 236:25 closely 82:8 102:18 103:4 **chooses** 139:6 237:1 closeness 19:13 **charter** 3:10,12,14 15:8 17:10 **choosing** 196:14 218:12 closer 64:20 227:20 28:3,17 29:10,21 30:17 32:8 **chose** 150:1 163:2 closest 138:8 33:3,17 41:5,9,13 42:10,16 Christmas 29:5,8 closing 44:23 118:8 128:1 closures 30:22 44:18,25 45:11 46:18,23 52:9 **Cindy** 129:19 57:10,21 63:4 64:3 70:9 99:16 circle 25:5 166:5,6,8,9,20,20,25 Clovis 236:16 237:10 co-directors 35:6 99:24 114:9,10,25 115:1,2,5,17 167:1,2,15,18 230:7 234:3 115:23,25 116:10 126:20 133:6 235:18 co-founder 157:21 133:9,18 155:12,17,21 168:1 circled 57:5 co-founding 11:3 173:9,10,12,15 179:3 182:17 circumstances 129:3 **co-teaching** 85:13 87:1 112:10

coach 22:19 23:8 148:20 202:24 coaches 23:9 coalesce 139:19 Coalition 119:21 code 213:25 226:19 **codify** 190:23 coffee 153:24.25 **cohort** 139:20 164:11 coincidence 168:16 collaborate 18:18,19 collaboration 15:7 74:1 196:21 colleague 28:19 colleagues 235:10 collecting 177:18 college 22:9 24:6 182:25 234:17 235:4 **Collegiate** 42:16 44:21 173:10 174:15 179:2 183:13 Collegiate's 42:25 **color** 70:20 color-code 142:21 145:4 **colors** 145:3 **come** 18:16 36:4 38:21 39:19 51:25 52:11 53:7,8 54:14,15 56:3 104:12 109:10 116:5 124:21 125:9 126:16 127:3 137:2 139:17 153:19 157:3 164:3 175:16 185:12 192:13,15 197:9 211:4 220:16 228:12,17 233:13 242:18 comes 14:2 31:23 46:21 52:8 81:22 128:16 131:23 159:9 163:21 192:2 comfort 58:3 **comfortable** 65:9 134:11 coming 5:20 9:25 11:21 12:22 24:8 28:23 40:5 64:19 65:5 102:14 114:5 127:8 135:24 159:20 169:12 175:19 188:24 191:7 196:17 197:2.4 205:2 209:3 217:13 228:13 **coming-up** 136:7 **Commencement** 3:18 31:3 42:13 154:7 156:2 170:20 173:20 179:2 **commend** 15:5 121:20 commensurate 219:4

231:14 comments 4:6 34:2 44:15 124:24 154:13 155:12 173:8 230:1 **COMMISIONER** 197:15 **COMMISSIOENR** 208:23 **Commission** 1:1 5:2 14:18 16:6 18:10 22:15 26:17 27:14.18 32:7 42:2 48:14,25 49:4,25 50:22 51:10 57:11 58:3.10.12 60:20 61:12,14,15,21 62:1,11 62:13 63:1,8,11,14,20 67:17 70:11 72:4 74:13 104:16 105:24 107:7 114:6 126:8,19 132:22 133:8,11,15 138:19,24 139:15 154:12 155:17 169:20 170:20 173:4 174:17 179:1 182:17 186:9 202:12 213:21 217:18.24 219:20 223:13 244:8 245:1.12 246:5 Commission's 48:19 Commission/Public 3:23 Commissioner 5:4,5,5,7,8,8,10 5:11,11,13,14,15,17,18,20,22 5:22,25,25 6:2,3,3,5,6,6,8,9,9 6:15,19 7:7,8,10,10,24,25 8:2,2 8:4,5,6,7,7,9,10,10,12,13,13,16 8:16,18,19,19,21,22,23,23,25 9:1 15:3,13 17:24,25 18:1,10,13 19:4 20:10,13 22:7,8,15 23:17 23:18,19 24:19,25 25:1,10,11 25:12 26:4,4 37:22 46:19 49:7 49:11,15 50:1,4 55:11,13,16 56:25 58:6,7,8,14,16,16,19,21 58:24,25 59:1,2,2,4,5,5,7,8,8,10 59:11,11,13,14,14,16,18,18,20 59:21,21,23,24,24 60:1,3 62:24 63:23 65:10,12 66:23,24 67:8 67:14,15,19,21,21,23,24 68:9 68:13,16,22,23,24 69:1,1,3,4,4 69:6,7,7,9,10,10,12,13,13,15,16 69:16,18,19,20,20,22,23 71:8,9 71:10 73:11 75:8 76:16,24 77:10,22 84:20,21 85:21 86:15

108:13 112:6,7 113:6,9 114:20 116:17 118:2,25 119:3,8 120:3 120:13 121:2,6,16 123:23 124:12 127:25 129:17,22 130:3 130:5,6,9,10,11,12,12,14,15,15 130:17,18,18,20,21,21,23,24,24 131:1.2.2.5.5.7.8.9.9.11.12 133:17,17 134:15,19,25 141:11 141:12.22 142:11 143:19 144:24 145:11,14 146:1,4,14,17 147:1,5,15 148:8,15,23 149:21 150:8,12,18,24 151:20,21,21 152:3 153:21,24 154:1,24 155:5 159:13,15 160:22 161:2,3,5 163:10,14 165:3 168:21,22 169:2 170:18,23 171:5,7,7,12 171:12,14,15,15,17,18,18,20,21 171:21,23,24,24 172:1,2,2,4,5,5 172:7,8,8,10,11,11,14,14,18 176:6 178:24,25 179:4,7,10,10 179:15,15,17,18,18,20,21,21,23 179:24,24 180:2,2,4,5,5,7,8,9,9 180:11,12,12,14,15,15,17,18 183:14,15,17,18,22,22,24,25,25 184:2,3,3,5,6,6,8,9,9,11,12,12 184:14,15,16,16,18,19,19,22,22 184:24,25 185:20 186:8,13,14 186:16,17,20,21,22,23,24,24 187:1,2,2,4,5,5,7,8,8,10,11,11 187:13,14,14,17,17,19,20,20,22 187:23 190:12,15,20 194:18 198:4,13,23 199:1 200:4,7,17 206:9,10 207:19 208:6,25 209:5 209:9,24 210:3,8,10,22 211:3 212:5 214:2,3,7,7,9,10,10,12,13 214:13,15,16,16,18,19,19,21,22 214:22,24,25,25 215:2,3,3,5,7,7 215:9,10 219:17 220:10,21 221:12 224:18,22 225:21 226:7 226:15 227:12,21,25 228:15,21 230:2,3 231:16,17 232:21 233:9 233:17,20,23 234:1,2 235:24,25 237:4,5,19,20,22,23 238:2,3,4,5 238:7,10,12,13 240:24,25 241:4 243:2,3,8,9,16 244:10,14,16,18 244:19,20 **Commissioners** 2:2 6:12 7:12

comment 120:4 122:12 230:4

26:1 27:7 47:2 56:23 65:4 75:4

87:9,15,16,17 89:17,18,20 90:7

93:22 94:9,18,23 95:5 97:1 98:9

98:10,21,23 99:14 100:2 101:23

101:25 102:1,25 103:18 104:1

90:13 91:21 92:2,21,23,24

concept 14:14 49:3 52:2 53:16,17 **connect** 222:21 75:20 76:23 78:3 104:4 110:4 53:18 164:25 165:10 198:5 connected 22:24 177:4 116:15 127:12,25 132:18 140:6 144:21 155:10 159:11 176:4 199:9.10 **connection** 10:4,6,14 19:1 21:23 180:25 181:3,7 182:5 204:16 conception 18:12 23:4.11 212:3 237:24 **concepts** 231:1,2 connections 17:12 commitment 232:11 conceptual 17:19 consensus 57:10 committee 174:22.25 223:5 concern 3:14 33:25 37:5.10 40:8 Consent 3:7 6:24.25 7:20.23 **Common** 151:6 71:12 72:8 73:7 87:20 95:2 34:19 45:16,19 46:4 **communicate** 11:11 25:23 108:25 116:20.23.24 126:10.16 consequence 33:6,6 communicates 20:15 162:15 169:4 191:25 193:2 Conservancy 16:13 **communication** 20:18 220:9 194:2.3 conservation 16:19 21:17,22 communities 211:22 concerned 72:5 119:4 223:22 conservative 218:13 **concerning** 80:20 89:5 108:9 consider 56:3 160:16 224:6 community 11:10 21:12 22:3 concerns 33:25 66:3 73:12 74:7 23:12 25:15 26:8 33:19 38:1,3 consideration 87:5 107:18 38:12,16,16 40:2,4,24,25 48:7 74:10 79:4,4,10,13,14 82:9 **considerations** 226:12 238:17 155:11.15 157:22 159:17 87:19.19 105:19.24 106:4 considered 86:7 167:12 171:2 176:19 183:12 107:17 108:3 117:8 125:14 considering 219:7 196:19 126:10.13 162:9.20.23 163:8 consist 16:11 Community/Critical 204:20 165:6 168:24 169:11 196:12 consistent 89:3 125:15 compacted 194:1 conclu-86:20 constant 18:16 232:20 company 145:2 concluded 244:22 **constantly** 114:5 175:22 comparing 142:2 conclusion 136:7 constituents 32:11 **compensatory** 82:11 83:8,13 concrete 165:17 **constitute** 91:5 245:10 84:8,10 91:14 111:6 condemnation 207:25 **Constitution** 240:12,12 complaint 117:10 conditions 133:13 155:18 156:1 constructed 204:14 complete 127:2 131:17 156:11 173:19 construction 156:9,10 169:25 conduct 178:5 191:21 170:6 170:5 completely 20:20 40:3 72:3 consult 105:1 conducted 6:18 126:23 130:1 112:2 127:7 234:6 conducting 223:23 consults 7:21 confederacy 240:13 contact 19:19 105:21 106:13 complex 58:1 conference 31:10,12,17,18 32:3 complexes 221:1 contacted 37:12 **compliance** 79:18 88:19 90:5 32:12 33:14,23 139:16 144:5,18 content 80:7,10 82:20 85:19 89:4 97:8 100:6 101:10 105:22 106:5 149:17 204:17,18 205:8 216:10 151:1 106:6.7.24 107:1.11.14.17 217:1 224:12 228:1.24 232:3 context 30:10 44:16 97:3 108:3,12 197:11,14,17 203:10 236:22 244:11 Continental 239:25 211:5 213:24 **conferences** 32:6 99:2 198:7 contingency 175:21 **complicated** 121:15 122:2,3,4 232:1 **continue** 15:25 24:3 26:10 73:20 conferring 44:17 comply 70:14 106:22 102:16 126:14 136:11 188:17 component 91:14 97:9 122:25 **confidence** 98:12 108:20 199:11 215:18 235:14 124:7 136:10 150:13,15 151:19 **confident** 158:23 159:2 continued 4:1 79:3 108:2.24 197:11 **confirm** 227:13 continues 109:2 126:17 **components** 122:19 123:12 conflicted 161:6 **continuing** 25:3 159:6 confused 53:24 65:13 66:25 compounded 222:6 contract 3:12 4:3 41:5 45:11 **comprehensive** 11:6 142:22,23 150:23 64:17 117:17 118:11 119:15 142:25 146:24 147:6,14 confusion 55:8 114:11 125:19 128:4 130:2 132:19 comprehensively 146:10 congratulations 44:24 172:20 133:20 181:23 182:6,20 191:2 **computer** 154:23 185:3 213:14,16,22 conceive 25:6 Congress 240:1 contracted 159:20

counted 105:8 **CSD's** 207:9 contractor 159:2 **contracts** 117:5 118:8 126:20 **CSP** 14:13,16 counter-motion 68:5 127:23 128:13 181:4,6 182:18 **country** 25:13 240:20 cultural 231:24 241:15 control 40:3 county 16:7,8,10,14,15 17:8,12 **culture** 70:24 74:2 167:7 168:17 convened 91:2 17:14 23:5,6 245:13 194:8 230:9.16 231:2 232:14 convening 244:3 **couple** 29:13 34:20 79:10 95:21 cultures 167:8 convention 239:20 117:5 118:11 133:5 139:13 curiosity 177:8 **curious** 234:10 conventional 97:7,13 148:25 170:7 177:23 217:3 current 15:17 38:15 51:20 55:14 conversation 35:9 53:20 58:9,9 222:10.15 236:14 237:11 63:14 135:7 138:17 139:4 144:8 238:15 55:24 62:11 65:15 66:17 123:9 169:2 181:21,25 188:3 189:21 course 13:25 74:21 96:7 143:9 135:1,2 177:19 185:24 190:2 195:8 202:12 215:18 155:7 160:14 170:9 212:15 currently 36:1 77:20 149:25 **conversations** 139:13 194:21 151:9 156:9 223:15 224:2 234:12 220:1 Court 1:21 245:9 curriculum-based 44:2,5 cover 96:21 cookie 78:12,14 Custodian 2:12 **cool** 12:13 **coverage** 236:5,6 cut 218:18 cooperating 75:12 covered 125:13 140:13 220:6 cuts 219:23.24 **coordinate** 125:12.19 create 10:14 13:25 16:8 40:24 cycle 21:18 134:5 138:2 141:15 coordinated 92:4 105:2 106:18,20 125:20,21 141:16 **coordination** 126:21 153:4 144:12 147:20 151:6,7 212:9,25 Cynthia 1:20 78:24,25 79:9 **coordinator** 29:11 136:14 148:21 created 21:21 25:16 106:19 85:11 86:8 87:3,14 103:5,24 195:5 210:14 211:14 151:23 104:3 245:8,19 **copy** 170:12 creating 9:21 10:13 33:15 147:17 D core 151:6 210:13,20 **cred** 14:5 **d** 3:1,1 4:1,1 6:24 231:22 **corner** 176:19 credentials 175:15 **d'Arte** 3:14 6:24 34:1 70:8,12 Corps 16:13 21:23 criteria 90:6,8,11 103:14 196:8 78:23 82:20 104:19 110:6 correct 25:4 35:25 40:20 54:5,6 237:14 126:11 127:12 132:20 182:21 critical 196:24 204:10 235:4,6 54:12,24 55:18,19 68:14,15 d'Arte's 126:9 75:1 77:10 83:12 87:14 93:7 Crone 2:5 6:4,5,15,19 7:8,25 8:2 **daily** 93:5 8:8,9 22:7,8,15 23:17 58:14,16 102:10 104:3 105:13 110:2 dam 238:6 120:2 123:24 126:7 138:3 59:19,20 69:2,3 130:13,14 **damage** 236:8 141:15 147:1 150:9 160:25 172:3,4 180:10,11 183:15 **Dan** 174:16,17 184:14,15 187:21,22 214:20,21 170:3 192:8 dancing 71:14 **Corrective** 3:16 105:3 106:18,19 237:22,23 238:3,5,10 dashboard 135:24 136:6,8,9 106:20,25 132:2,23 133:3,22 cross 122:2 data 28:8 78:25 81:4 92:17 94:15 crown 121:16 134:1 138:23 111:8 134:8 136:3 145:18,20 cost 178:2,6 Cruces 112:17 132:20 158:4 146:15 165:19 168:10 169:5 **costly** 199:4 208:7,8,8 177:18 council 32:8 64:17 65:25 66:1 **crucial** 194:10 date 98:7 135:13,14 156:14 104:18 117:8 134:23 140:7 **cruising** 172:23 239:24 240:1 246:2,9,14,19,24 141:4 148:19 204:24 235:16,22 **Crum** 78:18,19 79:7 82:5 87:18 dated 67:1,2,6 counsel 2:14,15,15 7:21 135:12 87:23 90:1,9,23 91:25 92:3 93:9 dates 225:7.21 174:17 175:4 189:18,20,25 96:25 100:1 101:24 104:9 daughter 20:14 190:1 108:15 **David** 2:7 225:13 counselor 102:9 103:2 120:15 crystal-clear 63:25 Davis 2:6 5:13,14,17 8:17,18 **CSD** 33:11,12 47:5 71:7 72:16,25 164:16 55:13,16 56:25 59:12,13 69:11 counselors 239:2 74:1 117:5 119:17 169:6 170:13 69:12 130:22,23 171:25 172:1 count 44:14 87:1 90:19 189:13 190:17 207:12 209:18

	İ	
179:22,23 184:17,18 187:9,10	<b>DELIVERED</b> 246:9,14,19,24	128:5 142:20 145:1,3,4 147:18
214:14,15 231:16,17 232:21	demands 99:25	152:16 154:15 163:4 175:7
233:9,17,20,23 238:2,4,7 243:9	<b>Deming</b> 243:13	177:14,24 191:9 202:18,19
day 31:7,13 42:19 43:17,20 48:4	demonstrate 42:25 123:11	206:23,23 208:22 212:23 213:8
· ·		
65:3 96:1 111:10,16,20 127:13	demonstrated 43:8	217:22 230:22 242:12
127:18 176:2 185:4 192:1,16	denied 51:9	difficult 26:24 88:1 181:20
201:13 203:22 206:16,20	deny 56:10 62:11,12 115:13	difficulties 176:1
209:13 215:22 228:1 239:22,23	<b>DEP</b> 172:25	dig 138:13
240:2	department 3:24 28:4 99:17	digging 110:5
days 6:20 96:1 170:7 193:13,21	119:16 153:5 234:19,19 242:10	dilemma 57:8
198:18 201:17,19 225:24 228:3	<b>Department's</b> 61:7	diploma 24:14
242:22	depend 87:4	direct 21:17 64:21 108:10 121:12
de 132:2	dependent 86:9	133:8 154:13 213:21
<b>deaf</b> 10:8,9,13,15 12:6 13:1 14:2	<b>depending</b> 90:20 193:13 210:21	directed 104:25 106:17
14:6,7 16:23 18:7,22,24,25 19:1	depends 94:16 95:2 188:12	direction 20:18 50:22 106:8
19:24 20:24 21:2,6,9,12,25	228:13	152:4 220:5
22:11 23:11 25:14,21	<b>depth</b> 90:4	directive 112:12
deal 54:15 97:8,9 128:24,25	<b>Deputy</b> 2:11 78:19 100:3 175:4	directly 125:1 136:4
<b>DEAP</b> 231:21	185:11 189:18	director 2:9,11 9:17 15:5 27:21
dear 168:15	describe 234:4	42:16 78:19 100:3,23 135:20
death 230:12	described 97:2	136:13 137:15 138:16 149:16
Deborah 100:23	description 123:14	150:16 157:21 185:11 189:19
December 104:25	descriptions 122:20	190:1 192:17 194:23 215:16
decide 114:16 115:11 152:4	descriptor 123:17	234:21
decided 47:25 61:14,15 215:23	descriptors 123:17	directors 198:7 210:5
220:4		
220:4	design 17:19	directors' 99:2
220:4 <b>decision</b> 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5		
220:4 <b>decision</b> 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14
220:4 <b>decision</b> 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8
220:4  decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14
220:4  decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9 deficiency 83:21	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21 development 12:5 100:11 152:19	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4 discussed 34:9
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9 deficiency 83:21 definitely 14:21 90:6 147:10,10	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21 development 12:5 100:11 152:19 153:1 158:7 166:11 167:3,3	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4 discussed 34:9 discussing 200:17
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9 deficiency 83:21 definitely 14:21 90:6 147:10,10 definition 3:22 63:18 64:4	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21 development 12:5 100:11 152:19 153:1 158:7 166:11 167:3,3 devil 202:17	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4 discussed 34:9 discussing 200:17 discussion 3:10,12,13,15,17,19
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9 deficiency 83:21 definitely 14:21 90:6 147:10,10 definition 3:22 63:18 64:4 164:23	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21 development 12:5 100:11 152:19 153:1 158:7 166:11 167:3,3 devil 202:17 diagnosed 92:8	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4 discussed 34:9 discussing 200:17 discussion 3:10,12,13,15,17,19 3:21,23 4:3 12:1 29:23 34:16,17
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9 deficiency 83:21 definitely 14:21 90:6 147:10,10 definition 3:22 63:18 64:4 164:23 degree 100:4,4 211:18	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21 development 12:5 100:11 152:19 153:1 158:7 166:11 167:3,3 devil 202:17 diagnosed 92:8 diagnosis 91:4	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4 discussed 34:9 discussing 200:17 discussion 3:10,12,13,15,17,19 3:21,23 4:3 12:1 29:23 34:16,17 45:10 48:19 49:1,5,7 50:5,20
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9 deficiency 83:21 definitely 14:21 90:6 147:10,10 definition 3:22 63:18 64:4 164:23 degree 100:4,4 211:18 degrees 113:2,2	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21 development 12:5 100:11 152:19 153:1 158:7 166:11 167:3,3 devil 202:17 diagnosed 92:8 diagnosis 91:4 dialogue 32:18	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4 discussed 34:9 discussing 200:17 discussion 3:10,12,13,15,17,19 3:21,23 4:3 12:1 29:23 34:16,17 45:10 48:19 49:1,5,7 50:5,20 57:2 58:17 62:14,24 64:24 65:7
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9 deficiency 83:21 definitely 14:21 90:6 147:10,10 definition 3:22 63:18 64:4 164:23 degree 100:4,4 211:18 degrees 113:2,2 del 154:10 155:11,15 158:3 171:2	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21 development 12:5 100:11 152:19 153:1 158:7 166:11 167:3,3 devil 202:17 diagnosed 92:8 diagnosis 91:4 dialogue 32:18 dibs 31:3	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4 discussed 34:9 discussing 200:17 discussion 3:10,12,13,15,17,19 3:21,23 4:3 12:1 29:23 34:16,17 45:10 48:19 49:1,5,7 50:5,20 57:2 58:17 62:14,24 64:24 65:7 67:16,22 68:21 70:7 111:1
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9 deficiency 83:21 definitely 14:21 90:6 147:10,10 definition 3:22 63:18 64:4 164:23 degree 100:4,4 211:18 degrees 113:2,2 del 154:10 155:11,15 158:3 171:2 183:11	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21 development 12:5 100:11 152:19 153:1 158:7 166:11 167:3,3 devil 202:17 diagnosed 92:8 diagnosis 91:4 dialogue 32:18 dibs 31:3 dictate 90:8	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4 discussed 34:9 discussing 200:17 discussion 3:10,12,13,15,17,19 3:21,23 4:3 12:1 29:23 34:16,17 45:10 48:19 49:1,5,7 50:5,20 57:2 58:17 62:14,24 64:24 65:7 67:16,22 68:21 70:7 111:1 112:6 130:4 132:1 134:1,2
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9 deficiency 83:21 definitely 14:21 90:6 147:10,10 definition 3:22 63:18 64:4 164:23 degree 100:4,4 211:18 degrees 113:2,2 del 154:10 155:11,15 158:3 171:2 183:11 DEL'D 246:9,14,19,24	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21 development 12:5 100:11 152:19 153:1 158:7 166:11 167:3,3 devil 202:17 diagnosed 92:8 diagnosis 91:4 dialogue 32:18 dibs 31:3 dictate 90:8 different 13:3 31:19 33:7 51:21	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4 discussed 34:9 discussing 200:17 discussion 3:10,12,13,15,17,19 3:21,23 4:3 12:1 29:23 34:16,17 45:10 48:19 49:1,5,7 50:5,20 57:2 58:17 62:14,24 64:24 65:7 67:16,22 68:21 70:7 111:1 112:6 130:4 132:1 134:1,2 136:22 151:18 154:6 171:9
220:4 decision 28:14 49:18,19 63:1,5 63:12,13,19,20,21 103:22 133:1 133:7 137:9,21 150:6 218:8 221:20 224:14 decisions 63:10 101:16 107:18 141:3 167:11 244:5 declined 73:3 dedicated 112:22 deep 168:17 deeper 138:13 defend 18:20 242:4 deficiencies 110:9 deficiency 83:21 definitely 14:21 90:6 147:10,10 definition 3:22 63:18 64:4 164:23 degree 100:4,4 211:18 degrees 113:2,2 del 154:10 155:11,15 158:3 171:2 183:11	design 17:19 designing 239:7 desk 230:21 detail 101:2 detailed 111:18 details 202:17 determine 75:24 92:6,19 107:14 117:21 201:2 determined 124:16 determines 107:11 develop 48:17 developed 85:22 developing 48:21 development 12:5 100:11 152:19 153:1 158:7 166:11 167:3,3 devil 202:17 diagnosed 92:8 diagnosis 91:4 dialogue 32:18 dibs 31:3 dictate 90:8	directors' 99:2 disabilities 19:10 23:22 82:2 88:23 93:14 disability 16:24 18:25 22:23 80:21,22,25 81:2 91:1,1,3,8 92:9,15 103:8 disagreement 133:14 disbursement 30:25 disbursing 30:23 discovered 136:13,20 discrepancy 76:2,7 discretionary 97:16 discuss 163:20 244:4 discussed 34:9 discussing 200:17 discussion 3:10,12,13,15,17,19 3:21,23 4:3 12:1 29:23 34:16,17 45:10 48:19 49:1,5,7 50:5,20 57:2 58:17 62:14,24 64:24 65:7 67:16,22 68:21 70:7 111:1 112:6 130:4 132:1 134:1,2

**Dolores** 3:16 132:3,20,24 138:20 easiest 136:1 183:19 185:7,17,18 186:18,19 139:18 182:24 east 38:23 176:16 188:6,23 189:2,9,17,19,25 191:2 198:12 214:4 **Dominguez-Clark** 100:24 easy 95:17 101:7 165:8 discussions 113:10 137:15 222:9 door 193:24 ed 14:6 22:22 23:25 74:11,12,17 doors 199:12,14,15 **Disks** 246:8.13.18.23 78:10 79:1 83:18 84:3,4,24,25 disorders 23:21 103:19 **dot** 122:1 85:1,14,15,17,17,23,25 86:9,24 disposal 206:5 **double** 191:18 87:11.11 90:15 93:2.25 94:5 95:21 96:6 102:4,8,11,12 disproportionality 91:11 92:12 Double-check 202:9 disproportionate 91:10.12 **doubly** 22:23 104:23 105:1,21 106:5,8 107:1 distance 37:6 38:18 65:23 doubt 97:11 107:15 108:3,4,10,23 109:8 distinguishing 88:10 **Dr** 104:20 110:3 111:5,16 112:7 114:16,21,25 117:17,18 118:4 district 11:6 40:19 51:12,25 113:8 120:8,20,23 121:5 127:17 120:5,10,11,14,18 121:12,17 124:3 125:11,12,20 126:15,21 56:18 58:13 60:17 61:20,25 131:24 211:14 62:3 64:1 179:5,8 237:1 243:13 draft 140:20 126:22 162:17 175:13,14 208:1 243:23 dramatically 60:22 210:4,16 district's 11:12 drastically 128:13 **Editor** 33:16 districts 99:8 168:18 236:23 **Dreams** 183:3 **EDT** 91:3 237:11 drive 124:19 139:8,8,12 228:14 **education** 1:1,12 3:23,23 5:2 disturbed 102:5 12:3 14:2,7 18:22 20:24 21:6 driver 12:8 diversity 33:5 dropped 155:8 23:15 24:7 32:7 58:12 67:17 **divided** 11:13 36:19 dual 169:1 70:17,21 71:1,3,5 72:14 74:13 76:5 78:20,22 80:19,22,23 81:6 **Division** 2:10,11 3:10 28:4 33:17 **dual-language** 150:9 152:6 42:10 44:18 45:1 46:24 126:20 ducks 192:1 81:7,11,14 82:18,18,19,21,24 133:7,18 139:18 155:12,21 **due** 60:19 82:25 84:16 87:20 90:25 91:4,5 173:9,15 190:16,18,21 194:24 dues 227:4 91:17 92:6 93:19.21 98:11.14 195:1,4,5 196:22 197:4,14,19 dug 241:14 101:3 102:4,13,22,23 103:6,17 **Dumas** 152:22,23 153:9,12 203:11 208:2 213:22 103:25 104:2 105:13 110:10,12 document 32:2 70:19,25 71:1 duration 123:14 110:23 112:15,23 113:2,3,13 189:21 246:8,13,18,23 durations 122:20 114:14 122:18 123:13 124:14 **documentation** 45:25 47:10 81:1 126:8 133:14 155:17 156:20 **dynamic** 204:10 93:11 98:13,15,19 155:24 156:6 158:14,16,18 166:14 168:2,3  $\mathbf{E}$ 173:17,24 170:20 179:1 182:17 186:9 **E** 2:1,1 3:1,1,1 4:1,1,1 documented 74:7 213:21 242:9,10,15 245:1,12 e-mail 224:5 **documenting** 93:13,16 246:5 e-mailed 112:18 **documents** 33:17 75:6 99:5 educational 15:15 165:21 177:24 e-mails 217:15 108:18.22 229:1 **effective** 189:15 237:15 **E-Occupancy** 36:14,17 39:6 40:8 doing 10:3 12:9,11 13:22 18:4 effectively 51:13 40:14 41:2 45:3 55:24 62:7 19:2,3 47:12 61:7 76:17 77:5 effort 21:17 44:11 65:16 66:16 156:13 169:22 85:3 86:2,4,23,25 95:6 96:20 **efforts** 44:23 170:4,10 171:4 173:24 180:22 eight 6:11,12 39:19 154:1 98:25 99:19.19 102:6.15 109:22 **EA** 112:23 120:25 114:12,13 120:14 162:8,15 eight-to-two 172:17 Ear 10:6 166:21 177:1,5 181:1,23 191:20 Eight-to-zero 9:1 earlier 21:16 66:15 148:10 198:2.3 199:7 201:1 206:25 eight-zero 9:3 207:18 208:15 215:16,24 226:1 either 11:4 15:24 125:18 165:14 early 27:8 33:21 92:4,4 110:10 231:11,13 232:1 234:11,13 196:24 224:4 228:19 236:24 114:7 136:22 137:15 218:7 235:19 236:16,19 237:7,10,11 EL 70:22,23 75:24 77:1,19,20,21 228:19 242:22 243:5,5 242:19 108:4 126:17 150:16 ease 114:24 dollar 23:3 **Elaine** 140:5,6,13

elbow-to-elbow 213:2 **entering** 76:5 219:12 execute 128:9 entertain 7:5,22 12:14 49:24 electronic 241:6 executed 201:18 elements 31:24 33:16 133:2 170:16 178:21 182:10 executing 88:8 **eligibility** 103:12,14 entire 28:4 29:18 168:3 **executive** 9:16 27:20 32:16 75:3 202:23,23,24 203:12,18 eliminated 221:11 entirely 117:20 Elisha 46:15.15 **entities** 26:15 213:23 **exempt** 139:25 entity 213:22 exhibitions 242:3 **ELL** 105:1.13 entries 87:21 Elliott 104:13,17,22 105:7,25 **Exhibits** 246:8.13.18.23 106:15,17,22 107:2,20 108:7 **environment** 88:13 89:11 exist 16:17 18:14 19:17 73:10 109:7,9,16 110:1 124:9 129:14 envisioned 231:5 existed 11:1 13:20 64:9 131:16.20 envisioning 203:18 existence 13:14 **ELLs** 150:25 **equate** 135:5 existing 66:14 124:15 equity 30:12 241:15 exists 9:20 49:4 141:9 185:13 ELs 76:17,21,21 else's 104:2 Española 22:10 186.5 **embedded** 70:21 71:3 especially 31:5 33:14 100:17 exit 81:5 112:3 122:3 165:15.18 166:10 **embraced** 235:20 exited 77:19,23 78:1 211:8 Emma 157:12.12 194:3 196:10 242:18 **expand** 51:20 55:17 60:22 62:19 essentially 24:16 61:1 139:5 emotional 166:15 64:15 68:11 90:24 208:17 establish 64:15 189:16 196:8 **expanding** 9:19 14:15 26:11 36:3 emotionally 102:4 **emotive** 166:10 et 36:24 36:12 61:2 employee 225:14 evaluate 231:10 **expansion** 14:14 15:18 16:3 employment 10:15 **evaluated** 234:21,22 30:18 **empty** 36:8 evaluation 195:17 **expect** 88:4,7 163:18 219:11 encouraging 30:21 evaluations 98:8 expectation 139:11 **end-of-the-vear** 43:12 213:6 **evening** 133:19 **expectations** 124:25 144:21 endeavor 12:3 events 39:24 216:6 **expected** 44:9 108:8 ended 135:3 eventually 53:9 **expedite** 128:5,8 ends 229:13 everybody 102:12 104:2 120:6 expeditiously 129:13 **engage** 32:10 166:7 everybody's 208:14 expenses 229:19 **Engagement** 157:22 everyday 22:20,20 **experience** 23:20 25:14 162:15 **English** 76:4 77:23 86:21 113:1 exactly 24:23 26:7 78:2 138:14 168:8,19 211:21 218:18 242:7 149:24,24 150:1,5,7,19 151:5 168:9 188:15 197:23 213:14 experienced 191:10 151:11,15,17,25 152:15,18 233:11 **experiences** 44:16 196:18 160:9.11 164:13 **example** 38:23 79:21 81:20 93:18 expert 112:14 **enhance** 166:9 167:3 103:19 221:14 **experts** 109:18 enjoyed 231:7 examples 30:16 explain 95:20 enrolled 160:7 **exceeded** 44:8,9 explained 234:9 **Explore** 45:13 46:14,16 58:12 **enrollment** 37:10 47:6 48:23 exceeding 47:20 49:1 51:21 52:8,24,24 53:7,11 **excel** 235:8 67:18 182:23 **Excellence** 211:9 212:10 53:24 54:5,10,14,18,22 55:23 explored 19:7 60:23 61:2 62:15,19 64:16 65:6 excellent 118:3 exposed 90:9 67:7,12,17 68:12,14 156:22,23 excess 236:6 **expressed** 66:9 161:6 157:1 174:7 175:17 excessive 221:3 expressing 163:9 ensure 30:11 93:10 101:12 excited 32:15 33:11 158:1.21 **extend** 216:8 236:19 237:8 160:5 175:12 233:12 234:13 **extended** 117:3 126:24 204:19 ensuring 203:14 exciting 10:18 12:1,12 23:13 extending 128:21 entail 90:16 26:14 176:3 **extension** 16:14 61:18 **entered** 166:23 Excuse 98:5 extensive 101:18

extent 58:9 61:9 feel 30:4 31:1 38:17 47:18,24 **firmly** 23:15 **first** 10:20,21 12:3 27:11,17 28:7 external 154:20 48:6 68:4 94:16 98:16 99:16,18 extra 233:12 114:24 115:17 117:21 134:10 31:3,3 42:15 44:23 49:19,24 extremely 124:21 161:6 139:21 146:9,10 148:1 163:9 50:8 54:21 55:6,8,10 56:4,11 167:18 62:12 65:14,18 70:16,16,22 F **feeling** 115:24 72:20 73:1 75:9,9,15 79:8 81:18 fabulous 14:23 feels 117:18 109:23 110:7 111:11 127:13.18 **facades** 176:24 feet 218:11 219:9 141:13 142:13 154:9 156:23 face 119:1 128:19 178:16 **felt** 19:11 42:10 57:15 105:22 157:25 159:22 165:5 166:15,24 **faced** 177:10 106:6 133:20 159:2 208:4 176:2 192:1,19 193:9,11,13,19 facilitate 205:17 **fields** 221:2 193:21,25 194:17 197:7,21 facilities 26:22 39:1 61:23 64:4 **fight** 24:9 198:17,18,18 199:17,23 200:1 66:20 217:17 218:22 223:2,20 201:16,19 203:21,22 204:12 **fighting** 183:16 facility 38:25 60:14 61:23 62:2,2 figure 24:20 138:1,7,21 196:1 206:16,20 209:13 217:18 62:3 64:15 66:14 156:7,8 202:20 205:1 213:12 222:16 226:12,16,19 227:4 232:8,9 157:19 174:2 222:5 **figured** 213:15 235:17 240:19 **facing** 175:25 **figuring** 106:7 First-graders 44:3 fact 23:8 84:23 90:24 91:15 first-of-the-year 215:20 **file** 75:7 108:1 113:11 152:25 169:1 **filed** 117:10 fiscal 118:8,9 226:25 222:2,7 223:10 files 89:24 110:12 Fish 16:12 factor 178:2 243:23 **fill** 13:17 **fit** 15:17 124:14,18 157:3 facts 241:6 filled 28:10 29:19 fits 25:8 **faculty** 112:25 **filling** 28:5 110:18 **fitting** 181:17 failure 88:8 final 122:17 137:9 five 37:13 38:20,24 44:8 166:3 faint 70:19.23 **finalized** 117:12 148:11 **fixing** 221:24 fair 62:21 219:12 **finalizing** 28:14 188:9 **flag** 3:4 6:16,18 239:22,22,23,24 **fairly** 57:1,7 144:18 **finally** 29:9 44:12 145:23 240:6.8 fall 91:9 99:3 106:24 145:15 flash 38:11 200:12,13 finance 174:22,25 220:14 223:14 **finances** 210:17 flexibility 47:22 48:9 51:3 62:14 **falls** 49:3 **financial** 11:19 13:12 28:8 47:4 flexible 13:4 202:4 familiar 77:1 142:7 143:12,14 211:9 244:5 **flight** 217:2 228:7 144:25 financially 47:12 flights 225:11 227:19 families 2:10,11 13:15 37:12,12 find 40:14 45:3 70:16 96:8 97:5,8 float 48:11 221:25 38:19,24 41:7 43:13 116:8 135:21 154:15.18.20 **flooded** 237:24 **families'** 37:19 163:5 173:5 175:24 203:6 **Florida** 224:19 family 19:11,12,13,14 175:19 218:17 222:12 225:2 226:21 flourish 23:1 224:1 228:16 flow 76:20 far 17:9 22:17 159:17 178:3 **finding** 97:6 99:21 155:6 fluid 213:11 218:23 243:11 **finds** 51:18 flux 188:14 **fast** 127:22 **fine** 54:2 65:17 101:11,13 103:19 flv 225:22 **fault** 112:1 103:20 119:4 121:7,20 202:16 flying 228:1,18 **favor** 7:11 65:14 66:7 237:20 focus 101:10 Fe 1:12 18:7 19:9 136:20 245:13 finger 162:25 Focused 242:9 feat 45:5 **finish** 159:3 241:9 **folders** 154:15 February 107:3 folks 15:24 26:10 32:9 72:16 **finished** 11:3 42:18 78:11,13 federal 10:5 finishing 170:7 104:11 105:1 137:2 196:23 feedback 111:7,18,19 112:2 **finite** 206:1 204:19,22 205:5 206:2 213:16 141:10 204:23 220:12 223:15 fire 48:2 203:21 222:21

follow-up 40:18 87:24 99:14 frame 117:2 123:16 124:1 193:12 geography 11:14 **followed** 101:12 frameworks 182:18 **GEORGINA** 2:6 **following** 9:22 47:8 87:7 126:11 Fred 157:17,17 159:1 170:3 getting 10:11 16:19 53:4 94:5 134:13 135:8 182:19 229:8 freedom 198:1 95:18 116:6 119:4,5 121:12 **foot** 193:6 freshmen 120:9 142:6 143:11,12 162:21,21 footage 219:1 222:24 Friday 5:3 32:13,13 175:18 208:18 213:13 **football** 25:16.20 241:2 FRIEDMAN 2:12 18:18 118:18 **Gibson** 176:16 118:21 132:6,10,15 224:25 **GILLESPIE** 85:10 95:1 Force 241:11 foregoing 245:10 225:5,8,25 226:5,9,14,21 **Gipson** 2:3 5:23 8:14 59:16 68:24 131:3 172:12 179:25 184:20 foremost 27:17 227:15 228:22 229:6,14,18,24 foreseeable 129:4 246:7 187:15 214:3 215:5 Forest 16:12 21:15 friends 196:24 204:10,20 give 21:18 25:3 28:7 30:21 31:17 **front** 31:22 157:5 207:6 44:24 55:23 71:24 85:4 97:10 **forget** 140:17 176:6 189:3 220:13 232:24 **fulfilling** 41:5 72:13 112:2 116:5 117:13,19 118:4 **forgets** 163:14 full 43:8 170:25 225:24 241:1 127:8 135:22 142:3,23 143:3 **form** 45:24 46:6 47:9 64:10 **full-time** 175:16 211:12 146:7 150:3 152:1 198:1 199:8 229:5 240:15.16.17 fully 88:18 105:22 106:3 174:4 225:14 229:7.8 236:23 formal 126:2 190:18 175:12 194:14 given 11:5 14:5 15:15 31:5 62:5 formalized 213:4 fun 17:17 105:3 137:20 145:6,10,16 format 166:9 170:11 205:7 **function** 100:14 146:11 148:1 151:8,11 156:25 formative 241:24 **fund** 218:14 170:5 former 22:19 23:8 175:4,4 197:6 gives 32:2 106:8 **funding** 17:13 25:7 243:11,23 **formerly** 148:16 further 49:5 58:17 63:6 64:24 giving 39:22 40:6 72:11 101:14 **forming** 204:10 67:22 68:20,22 74:6,11 90:4 101:14 146:8 forms 185:9,16 186:1,2,11 130:4 171:9 179:12 183:19 glad 40:7 87:23 gladly 140:23 formula 25:7 98:4 186:18 189:24 190:2 200:1 **forte** 168:12 214:4 glance 32:4 **forth** 66:6,8 71:11 72:4 98:8 glaring 20:23 **fuse** 119:6 105:9.10 116:9 204:25 232:14 **future** 40:22 149:18 242:9 **Glenna** 2:7 209:12 240:11 **FYI** 157:18 glossary 57:23 fortuitous 216:2 **go** 11:20 13:9 22:1 23:25 24:12 G Forum 3:6 7:18 29:24 45:15 47:22 49:5 50:23 **G** 3:1 4:1 forward 28:22 30:5 39:23 52:3 52:10 56:2 75:15 77:25 79:8,12 gal 192:22 52:10,20 57:13,25 60:21 61:16 90:17 92:25 93:4 106:14 107:20 **Gallaudet** 25:17,22 72:22 122:6,9 123:11 124:7 107:23 111:10 116:8 118:7,23 **Gallup** 43:19 131:21 141:2,3,6 149:16 162:22 122:12 132:4 148:7 153:25 game 25:20 241:6 164:1,1,22 170:12 177:11 155:3 158:11 161:18 163:2 gap 81:23 82:1 83:2 110:19 178:16,20 185:16 189:1 190:11 165:22 167:9 178:19 181:9 gaps 18:15 213:13 215:18 242:18 188:8 192:21 201:4 203:24 Gene 104:13,17,22 105:7,25 **foster** 61:18 205:11 207:4 208:3 210:15 106:15,17,22 107:2,20 108:7 **found** 92:8,11 97:5 110:13 218:4 221:5,7 223:13 224:11,20 109:7,9,16 110:1 124:9 129:14 Foundation 16:11 224:21,21,24,24 225:1,1,3 131:16.20 226:2,22 227:6,16,22 242:25 **founder** 46:14 174:14 197:7 general 81:14 84:3,4 85:14,17 **founders** 157:16 158:2 goal 79:21 94:8 122:7 134:11 86:20 87:11 175:4 210:18 founding 240:2 135:5,17,23 138:7,13 139:11,20 generally 86:16 88:1 four 142:20 242:22 140:2 144:9 161:14 generate 151:14 **fourth** 57:2 goals 80:4 81:19 83:3 86:9,12,16 **geographic** 35:23 38:2 fourth-grade 21:4 87:12 122:22 123:18 138:24

143:20 165:8 182:19
God 114:19 206:17 240:21,22
goes 15:22 22:18 48:15 55:23
93:14 101:8 176:18 194:4 206:7
240:16
going 5:1 6:14 9:7 13:10 14:11
14:24 15:18 21:19 27:7 29:20
31:8 32:12 33:18 34:9 35:23
36:20 37:13 38:20,23 40:9
47:19 49:23 50:22 52:21 54:4
56:9,22 57:14 61:5 63:3 64:24
65:2,22,23,25 70:3 79:23,24
84:24 86:8 98:8 105:17,17
109:21 111:21 115:7 117:6
119:20,22 120:6 123:24 124:7
125:24 127:10,15 128:17
129:12 132:4,13 133:3 134:16
135:6,12 136:6,8,9,24 138:1,6
141:6,9 142:3 143:9,23 144:9
144:15 147:21,22,25 152:25
153:3 158:11,24 163:14 164:4
165:7 168:9,25,25 169:7,12,16
169:22 170:21 176:7,9 178:15
178:16,20 181:5 185:15 190:10
191:12 192:3,25 193:3,10,23
194:20 195:10,21 197:5,10,21
199:19,21 200:5,13 201:3,4,18
202:5 203:19,20,22,23 204:11
204:21 206:2 208:3,6 213:10,12
213:15 215:20 216:5,11 217:15
218:4,9 219:24 221:7,19 222:3
222:7 224:15 225:3,3 226:11,16
227:6 228:20,23 229:9 231:9
233:1,5 236:5,10,21,23 237:2
237:12 238:13 239:10,16
<b>good</b> 9:12,13,14 23:13 25:10,25
27:14 37:24,25 42:11 46:9,10
46:13 47:24 48:1 78:18,21,24
93:9 100:22 104:15,20 110:21
129:14 130:9 133:21 140:24
153:13 157:6,9,20 161:11
162:17 169:17 172:25 175:3,6
178:20 180:23 185:14 193:6,9
193:12,24 194:17 198:5 199:18
199:18,21,23 201:9 202:7 224:7 238:9 242:25
goodness 206:17
Google 35:19,24 165:22 169:13

```
Googled 34:21
gotten 217:4
governance 64:16 65:24 66:1
  104:18 117:8 141:4 217:11
 235:16.22
governing 32:8 33:24 34:4
  134:23 140:7 148:18 157:13
  174:19.21 204:24
government 17:20 26:14 136:21
 235:9
grabs 41:4
grade 13:2 44:7 156:23 159:23
 232:9,10,16
grades 186:12 232:7
grading 3:20 87:13 186:4
graduate 9:25 11:4 24:1,2,4,9
graduated 9:24 10:22,24 24:13
Graduates 3:9
graduating 10:20
graduation 21:2 24:22,22
grant 10:5 11:18,21 13:12 14:13
  15:7 25:5,5 29:11,14,21 30:2,9
  30:18
gratitude 33:21
great 15:10,11 16:4,6 22:16
  25:24 29:17 30:16 33:16 34:13
  34:13 37:4 39:1 40:1 41:21.21
 42:6 43:13 51:5 132:17 137:3
 158:23 159:8 160:2 161:2.24
 177:6 181:22 188:17 190:5,8
 201:14 205:7,13,18 211:14,17
 217:10 237:21 241:14 242:7,21
greater 35:17
greatly 75:14
green 9:9,10 35:1 75:18 104:13
  142:22 145:6 146:5.7
Greet 206:18
grew 20:14 143:3 146:10 164:11
  164:19
ground 200:3
ground-breaking 181:1
grounds 172:24
group 10:21 21:16 85:12 196:25
 204:10,21 208:15 211:14,17
 241:14
groups 85:18
grow 15:25 21:10 52:13 68:3
  101:8
```

**growth** 38:8 43:7,9 44:6,8,9 51:5 62:11 99:16 134:9 139:23 142:13 143:5,17 146:13,18 147:11 161:24 guardian 196:3 guess 23:20 37:5 105:4 146:25 161:15 162:7 216:8.13 230:9 236:7 **guests** 32:25 **guidance** 58:4 99:6 200:20 **guided** 60:25 guidelines 205:24 guides 143:12 146:22 **guilt** 92:25 **gun** 55:1 guy 114:21 192:21 219:17 164:11,15

guys 14:8 16:14 54:15 114:6,15 H hailstorms 236:7 half 57:9 113:1,1 210:11 211:5 halftime 158:15 Hall 1:12 halls 48:4 hallway 235:1 **hallways** 218:16 **hammer** 63:17 hand 65:1 162:12 245:16 handle 65:23.24 handouts 31:19 hands 24:10 **hands-on** 21:17 happen 14:20 15:18 17:20 35:11 40:10 57:14 61:10 88:19 105:3 192:3,5 198:8,9 203:16,21 happened 36:13 74:9 142:19 163:23 181:18 221:17 happening 83:25 92:20 165:20 199:14 218:6 226:11 happens 24:14 26:7 199:19 203:25 happenstance 40:13 happy 34:24 40:13 50:10 122:5 154:8 224:6 hard 15:23 43:2 70:18 76:8,19 122:1 162:18 233:7 235:13 hard-of-hearing 10:8,16 12:6

16:24 143:23 148:3,7 165:9 175:14 Hospital 16:11 host 99:5 harder 95:19 165:3 182:25 220:22 221:6 hardest 235:5 higher 21:14 236:6,7 hotel 225:10,17 226:10,20 227:19 Harry 206:16 207:14 209:16 Highland 236:1 227:19,20 hours 79:24 83:12 90:18,19 Harvard 13:25 highlight 26:10 34:7 39:22 42:15 **head** 4:4 86:16 158:9 174:14 42:22 43:18 45:2 79:3 220:3 93:12,21 122:21,21 201:3,4 191:6,10,16,16,20 201:20 highlights 35:15 222:2 house 41:6 243:7 **highly** 92:16,17 96:12 housed 19:9 37:17 77:14 204:24 213:24 heading 74:12 hill 174:16.17 238:9 hovering 194:7 196:6,9 197:5 headlines 32:3 hindering 102:7 199:6 heads-up 209:21 219:16 223:3 Hines 34:24 35:2,5,5,13,20 36:1 **Hózhó** 43:19 health-and-safety 193:1 195:24 36:6,22 37:8,11,16,24 38:5,14 huddle 25:16,20 241:2 hear 49:21 50:1,3,4,13 51:6 38:19 39:5,9,18,25 40:11,21 **Huerta** 3:16 132:3,21,24 138:20 75:17 78:9 132:11 188:16 41:1,12,20,23 139:18 182:24 202:14 217:24 236:21 hire 20:7 156:19 207:17 huge 23:14 heard 52:5 60:8 82:6 90:10 121:7 hired 110:10.20 112:14.14 Huh 233:22 121:8 141:8 208:13 217:25 156:15 175:13 **human** 165:15 167:3 218:1 232:2 243:12 hiring 27:20 28:3,14 29:3,11 **humans** 167:17 hearing 7:15 18:2,25 20:4 57:9 158:18 hurdles 128:12,19 158:19 124:23 152:25 212:22 218:1 **Hispanic** 164:8,17 HVAC 215:23 242:13 243:9 historic 20:25 hypothetical 203:24 hearing-impaired 18:2 historical 18:22 I heart 168:15 202:13 203:4 **history** 20:11 i's 122:1 heart-wrenching 233:15 **hit** 90:6 161:19 **ID** 40:25 **hold** 14:1 48:25 53:25 54:23 hectic 197:22 200:14 201:14 idea 25:6 48:22,23 49:22 50:3 held 111:1 154:4 172:22 175:1 71:19 147:20 51:5,8 52:14 88:2 101:12 198:12 245:12 Holly 104:19,20,21 110:3 111:5 142:14 167:1 198:5 199:18,18 Helen 32:21 111:16 112:7 113:8 120:8,20,23 206:11 207:21,23 244:6 Hello 174:20 121:5 127:17 131:24 ideal 240:11.11 help 19:18,20 35:17 81:16 83:1 home 77:25 216:3 230:17 237:25 ideas 224:2 85:19 97:19 100:9 106:6,12 238:1,4 **identification** 75:23 102:3 186:3 110:21 111:24 112:19 115:2,12 homes 64:20 identified 62:7 77:18 90:25 91:2 116:1 121:19,23 122:7 124:8 **honest** 14:5 65:2 142:12 143:10 91:8,18 110:6,9 134:7 181:12 125:20 147:25 160:14 164:2,20 161:13 163:9 192:13 honestly 12:7 109:14 112:4 190:10,23 191:14 193:4 196:4 identify 35:3 78:16 157:7 174:12 201:5 210:16,17,18 211:10,22 200:22 208:11 191:5 **helped** 124:11 honor 241:9 **identifying** 74:4,4 76:21 91:17 **helpful** 13:13 124:21,25 144:5 hook 222:13 236:12,24 92:13 134:6 207:2 hope 17:8 26:7,9,14 28:22 29:17 **IEP** 80:6,9,15 81:3,19 83:3 86:12 helping 114:8 122:6 207:6 30:15 89:13 100:20 167:22,23 87:4.7 88:12 91:2 93:12.18 helps 89:14 189:2 216:21 222:20 237:24 95:23 96:14 102:8 103:10 hereunto 245:15 **hoped** 188:5 122:22 140:7.14 heritage 167:5 hopeful 22:4 **IEPs** 74:16 79:10,17 80:19 82:17 hesitated 235:20 hopefully 14:24 26:9 29:2 144:17 85:1 88:5,9 90:3 94:1 95:9 98:7 Hev 161:25 192:15 201:25 149:3 185:10,15 190:2 241:7 109:14,24 110:2 111:8 112:18 207:14 **Hopi** 167:9 123:19 140:1,3,12 hi 34:23 37:23.24 hoping 28:15 29:6,7 112:25 illuminate 134:5,6,11 135:7,21

**high** 3:22 9:24 10:10 21:3 77:2

222:15 223:9

136:12,14,19 137:2,25 138:8,14 independent 54:11 insurance 156:6 173:24 236:18 indicate 7:12 83:6 84:5 129:1 139:5,12 141:13 142:1,7,20 insurers 237:6 143:11,12 144:25 145:21,23 indicated 73:24 80:18 82:1 84:5 integrate 168:12 146:23 149:23 150:1 151:14 94:1 134:4,12 140:3 intellectual 20:1 153:2 215:17 **indicating** 83:5 84:1,2,6 156:10 **intended** 62:16 194:16 **IMA** 157:17 156:19 **intense** 191:15 immediate 41:10 223:21 indication 53:12 83:20 150:4 intensive 88:3 indications 21:13 **impact** 38:1 80:23 91:24 177:8 intent 47:20 68:2,2 96:15 186:2 177:17,20 178:5 243:11,21 **indicator** 156:2 173:20 intention 39:3 40:18 64:2,14 244:4.5 indicators 162:6 194:15.15 impactful 88:20,22 91:20 **indigenous** 167:6,7,8,8 intentionality 40:24 impacting 81:1 individual 140:14 193:5 213:2 intentions 63:24 impediment 20:7 **individually** 181:13,24 **intents** 57:23 **implement** 48:18 145:22 individuals 19:24 interact 167:17 **Implementation** 154:21 155:4,13 inferring 82:22 interacting 167:1 **infinite** 165:14.16 interaction 19:12 166:20,20 155:25 156:3 161:22 173:5.18 173:21 **inform** 147:2 178:15 167:2 information 19:19 43:23 70:13 implementing 88:9 interactions 19:11 70:14 71:3 75:13 77:14,16,18 interested 158:17 221:24 224:15 **imply** 88:17 **important** 11:19 19:12,14,21 79:5 89:7,21,22 107:16 113:18 interesting 182:3 31:1 198:3,3 218:21 219:3 117:13,15 122:23 134:6 135:9 interestingly 163:4 135:12,21,22 137:13,18,20 interests 222:22 240:3 242:5 **improve** 112:20 223:16 141:6 144:9 148:1,11,22 149:7 interfere 132:13 **improves** 241:25 149:9,19 155:8 158:9 173:7 interfering 103:23 in-depth 109:21 178:17 208:18.20 209:25 210:4 **interim** 241:23 **in-shop** 212:9 224:13 226:22 227:7,16,17 interims 147:18 inappropriate 112:3 244:7 intern 201:13 inaudible 174:10 initial 73:21 139:13 internal 43:5 inclination 62:12 **initially** 163:13 **International** 36:2.8 37:1 40:19 include 133:12 156:1 173:19 **initials** 220:14 interning 201:12 included 43:3 112:11 **initiate** 119:22 interns 22:25 23:4 including 61:23 101:19 166:8 initiating 119:23 interpreter 12:25 182:18 208:8 initiative 110:2 **interrupt** 92:1 95:7 140:15 inclusion 84:25 86:6,14 87:8 **Innovations** 242:8 interrupted 234:9 **innovative** 15:6 167:25 **intervention** 92:4,5 116:21 88:14 110:25 incoming 120:9 **input** 38:16 137:8 interview 158:11 incomprehensible 143:16,17 **inputted** 89:22 113:18 interviewing 120:25 145:9 197:16 inspection 170:8 interviews 28:23 29:1,12 158:8 inconsistencies 80:12 **instance** 101:16 158:10 **introduce** 27:17 104:19 **incorporated** 231:24 232:13 Institute 10:7 incorrect 141:13 institutions 177:25 **introducing** 165:10 166:1 increase 51:16 52:25 53:11 54:22 instruction 79:20 81:3,12,18,21 **inventory** 31:1,5,8 investigation 90:17 55:23 66:6,11 67:7,18 68:12,13 83:1,7,25 84:2,7,13,17 85:4 99:24 232:16 236:10 86:2,7 87:11,12 121:12 139:8 invitation 216:10 increased 52:4 147:2 241:25 **invite** 43:17 109:10 instructional 148:19 218:14,15 increases 219:25 **invited** 231:19 increasing 47:6 65:14 66:5 86:17 218:25 219:2 involved 99:20 160:17 236:5.9 instrument 76:3 **IPT** 150:22,25

issue 24:22 52:25 53:1 57:2.6 K 62:6 67:11 97:8 108:15,25 **K-12** 9:20 24:16 109:4 128:22.23 142:3 161:9 **K-5** 38:9 41:7 169:14 192:14 195:24 197:14 **K-8** 36:11 221:15 232:17.22 KAREN 2:11 45:14,18,24 46:3,8 **issued** 240:13 46:25 64:8 72:18 74:21 75:3 issues 73:21 102:7 106:5 126:17 78:9,13 83:16 95:11 108:18 161:16 210:19 219:19 220:2 153:22 216:17 229:5 222:6 233:2 **Karyl** 2:4 200:16 **Istation** 43:1 keep 11:9 94:21 95:13 96:6 101:7 it'll 128:9 144:4 160:24 177:3 112:11 159:8 189:3 206:4 190:24 216:24 223:25 item 7:17,19 9:5 27:10,12 49:9 keeping 94:21 95:4,22 112:13 58:23 60:17 67:25 70:6,7 111:3 164:2 177:1 131:25 154:5 185:6 188:2 keeps 163:14 222:11 Kelly 29:9 30:9 items 46:4 55:2,4 79:17,17 87:8 kick 32:19,23 154:15 **kid** 94:7 **Iyer** 174:23,24 kids 9:23 10:8,11,15,21 11:14,24 12:22,23 13:16 15:10,16,19,20 J 21:7,18 22:18,21,22,22,23 24:1 **JAEGER** 2:15 24:7 41:19 52:3 60:15 61:3 January 105:11 106:3 174:2 62:18 85:7 86:17 115:10,12 **iarred** 212:4 116:2,12 146:18 147:7 150:4 **Jemez** 230:5 152:10 230:22 231:2 233:8 **Jenny** 152:22,23 153:9,12 241:5 242:17 Jeopardy 241:3 kind 10:12,25 12:4 13:14 15:21 **Jerry** 1:12 16:19 17:6 18:17,20 20:22 21:8 Jessica 32:21 23:6 38:2 50:14 65:13 72:2 **job** 1:25 20:5 99:10 101:8,12 89:12 100:21 139:9,19,19 245:25 246:2 160:20 189:3 200:20 202:7,20 ioin 29:16 43:11.17 236:2 203:19,24 205:24 207:18 212:9 **joining** 33:19 213:4,6,9 221:23 223:25 230:11 judge 96:16 230:25 231:5 244:4,6 **July** 128:17,18 137:10 148:12 kindergarten 43:25 114:17,18,21 149:3,20 156:14,21 157:21 156:21 159:4 169:23 176:10 190:6,7,9 kindergartens 159:22 216:24 218:7 236:20,23 237:17 kinds 86:20 199:15 jump 20:24 32:14 49:6 205:3 **KIRSI** 75:16,19 77:9,12 78:2,8 **jumping** 54:25 knew 35:9 94:4 105:19 178:12 **June** 1:11 5:3 31:7 32:13 36:3 198:10 174:4 189:22 226:25 239:23 know 13:5,8,21 14:6 15:25 16:25 240:1 245:16 17:5,14 19:20 23:7,23,24 24:6 iunior 234:17 235:4 24:21 27:3,8 34:15 35:11 36:18 **Justin** 46:10,12,13 47:18 54:12 37:5 38:7,10 39:23 40:15 41:5 60:6,12 62:22 63:23 64:14 44:19 47:11 48:24 49:20 53:19

57:20 65:21,21,22 71:21,25 72:5 74:8 75:15 82:3,21 85:23 85:24 92:9 93:23 94:1 97:10,14 97:21 98:4 99:8 101:8,22 104:10.17 106:14 108:11 109:15,20,20 110:13,18 111:21 113:14 115:20.21 116:14.18 117:9 118:3 119:21 120:5.5 121:3 123:11.12 125:8.8 127:4 127:7 128:18,24 129:2 133:13 134:17 137:14 138:25 139:10 140:1 142:17 143:1,2,6,14,25 144:7,18,25 147:8,11 148:23 152:10 156:25 163:1 165:8,24 166:2,24 167:20 168:12 170:11 175:7.22 176:17 177:7.10 178:14,20 182:1,2 188:10,15,19 189:4 190:6 191:19 192:3,4,5 192:17 193:7,13,17,17 194:5,11 194:16,19,19,22 196:3,13,15,24 198:6 199:7,16,20 200:21,22,24 200:25 201:3,4,17,18,25 202:5 202:10,22 203:8,23,25 204:5,6 204:7,16,16 205:2,2,2,6,21,25 206:3,4,8,12,15 207:4,9,12 210:19,25 211:1 213:5 217:10 217:12,15 219:6,11,14,16,18,19 220:22 223:14 224:15 225:6 227:15,21,24 228:6,7,10,12 230:21 231:8,9,11,12 232:19 233:14.15 234:2.15 235:15.19 235:21 236:21 238:23 239:11 239:15,23 241:4,25 242:4,5,5,6 242:19 243:19.22 244:15.15 **knowing** 76:9,10 116:13 128:8 knowledge 101:3 211:11 known 148:16 165:11 knows 164:18,19 209:19 219:20 **kudos** 13:6

### L

La 3:16 132:2,23 133:9 144:22 148:6 182:24 lab 82:20 labeled 102:11,12 labs 93:23 lack 31:4 89:3,4 ladder 116:21

66:22 70:2

53:25 54:16,23 55:2,20 56:8

164:13 169:3,6 230:16,17,22 liked 223:10 laden 163:21 164:4 **ladies** 234:7 learning 13:18 20:14 82:20 93:23 **limited** 12:16 **lady** 166:19 124:7 161:9 164:9 183:6,8 limits 236:10 Laine 74:1,18 75:16,19 77:9,12 198:3 203:3 204:20 207:12 **Linda** 211:14 78:2.8 211:18 231:25 232:15 242:6 line 15:9 24:11 101:11,13 103:19 **Lakota** 167:10 **Learns** 197:1 109:2 185:12 228:8 land 16:19 26:22 220:6,12 221:9 **LEAs** 88:1 100:17 link 80:3 226:16 221:18,22 239:9,13 lease 156:5 173:23 181:20 218:7 lips 20:16 landlord 38:5 219:15 220:6 221:18,21 223:21 Lissa 34:24 35:2,5,5,13,20 36:1,6 landlords 38:6 36:22 37:8,11,16,24 38:5,14,19 leased 221:18 language 3:8 9:6,16 11:11 19:16 leases 220:6,12 221:9 239:9,13 39:5,9,18,25 40:11,21 41:1,12 20:14,16,19 25:18 70:23,23 leasing 220:19,25 41:20,23 74:2 76:4,9 77:25 129:5 150:25 leave 66:21 110:15 148:6 163:24 list 47:20 119:11 152:5 168:5 169:1 185:23 186:5 202:3 244:13 listed 64:22 80:8 189:14 218:13,24 **leaves** 228:7 listen 13:5 languages 152:7,9 164:10,18 lecture 235:2 **listening** 104:22 235:2,3 leeway 117:14 lapse 110:17 literacy 10:4 43:9 44:2,5,20 large 109:21 227:19 238:21 **left** 9:23 140:21 154:3 228:5 literally 38:10 193:11 200:11 legal 170:25 189:18,20,25 190:1 largest 220:22 233:16 Las 112:17 132:20 147:23 158:4 218:13 litigious 96:13 208:7,8,8 217:1,2 Legislative 181:19 little 11:9 13:3 20:17 33:10 40:6 lens 10:4 16:18 **Lastly 223:23** 40:7 43:23 46:24 57:17 66:25 late 133:19 217:6,10,14 228:7 **LESC** 215:20 216:1 229:9,13 70:18 75:18,25 82:13 85:24 lately 67:4 Leslie 29:9 30:8 90:24 95:19 97:1 101:21 104:13 latency 88:5 lessons-learned 33:8 117:14 136:24 139:2.9 140:18 **laughing** 158:25 let's 50:13 55:5 61:11 97:5.11 153:18 154:2 162:16 164:23 **launch** 11:20 105:5 121:22 129:9 130:5 176:18 185:15 188:14.20 189:8 189:20 199:19 212:24 228:9 law 97:22,23 101:13 115:12 192:19 194:12 196:3 209:21 216:10 236:22 **letter** 3:14 6:23 58:22 60:5 71:12 217:17,23 224:11 228:9 231:20 232:18 233:15 241:1,21 lawsuits 140:1 71:23,24 72:2,10,21,22,25 73:3 lay 25:18,22 73:24 77:20 116:20,23 126:2,16 live 11:14,16 129:6 238:9 layer 191:24 128:25 lived 19:9 193:7 LC 229:9 letters 73:22 74:6 **loaded** 116:7 LCPS 145:19 158:20 level 21:4 43:4 58:3 81:21 83:7 loads 98:5 167:19 232:9,10 241:22 243:24 **LD** 86:16 local 92:5 211:21,25 **LEA** 82:10 93:11 94:20 95:3 levels 98:3 **located** 176:17 **lead** 6:14 162:22 174:14 leverage 17:9,11 101:5 **location** 34:8,14 36:3 38:2,12 leader 32:20 138:19 203:13,18 **liaison** 2:13 106:13 193:23 39:3 41:11,14 45:15,19 51:11 51:19,21,24 54:17 56:13 61:3 212:7,14 213:3 liaisons 18:7 leaders 25:5 32:8,22 200:20 **liberty** 198:1 61:20,22 65:21 74:16 173:25 locations 39:1 202:19 211:15,19 212:15,21 **library** 101:18 licensed 97:24 102:10,14 156:15 log 80:5,7 88:11 89:3 94:3,7 leadership 10:10,12 11:22,23 32:16 127:12 173:13 156:19.20 174:5 123:13 leads 91:7 146:9 158:13 **lifting** 193:11 logged 81:17 125:4,5 **light** 9:9,10 35:1 75:18 79:4 learn 21:7 113:11 139:9 148:3 **logo** 31:23 160:13 181:25 198:2 199:2 104:13 **logs** 80:1,2,13 81:13,17,24 82:23 222:5 235:8 **lighter** 73:4,25 74:8 83:5,24 84:5 89:4,5 92:25 93:8 95:4,13 96:6,15 98:6 109:24 learned 96:10 114:13 128:8 lightning 38:11

83:23 84:9,12 93:10 94:6,11,20 111:6 112:8,9,11,11,13 122:18 M 122:24 124:3 127:15 98:18 99:1 102:18 103:4 M-I-R-A-N-D-A 132:9 long 58:9 63:15,15,15 82:8 191:5 MARJORIE 85:10 95:1 ma'am 159:1 226:14 237:13 **MARK** 2:15 **Mabry** 1:12 long-term 12:2 25:8 223:20 Marshal's 48:3 Madam 14:10,17 15:1,4,12 16:5 longer 186:4 204:18 225:12 Martinez 9:9,11,14,16 10:3,18 17:24 18:9 20:9 22:14 24:24 look 11:7 19:19.24 20:6 51:24 12:21 14:18 15:1.5.12 16:4 26:16 27:1,13 29:7 30:13 31:13 52:6 55:2,6,7 57:16 77:17 94:17 17:23 18:9,14,19 20:9,20 22:14 34:9 40:17 42:1 45:8,14 47:2 95:10 97:15 107:21 128:21 24:4,24 25:4,24 26:16 27:1,4 48:13 49:8 50:25 51:8 54:7 131:21 135:16 136:5,11,11 master's 211:18 56:1,16 58:6 60:20 66:24 67:16 151:18 197:5 198:9 208:3 masters 242:6 70:10 71:8 75:4,16,20 78:18 213:12.15 221:8 233:6 239:16 mastery 80:8,10 82:20 138:12 82:5 96:25 100:1 104:15 110:4 Masthead 56:12 241:14 115:20 116:14 119:14 123:2 looked 40:8 75:21 82:8 205:7 materials 30:23 126:1 127:11,24 131:16 133:10 226:15 238:18 math 79:21 80:4,11 81:15 82:18 134:21 136:16 137:23 138:18 86:22 93:19.21 139:7 **looking** 21:11 51:11 54:18 57:3 140:5 144:20,24 149:21 151:21 61:19 72:21 74:24 75:5 81:4 **Mathematics** 183:4 154:11 155:9 160:22 163:10 82:16 89:21 94:14 95:6.9 matriculated 12:24 169:19 170:17 172:25 173:3 103:10 109:23 122:5 126:24 Matt 41:15,16 216:14,16,20,21 174:16 182:12 186:8 190:12 128:6 138:10 139:21 195:13 217:13 221:12 224:10 238:15 198:4 202:11 204:16 212:2 216:18,19 220:17 222:1 236:4,9 243:10 216:22 221:13 228:22 241:19 243:13 matter 54:3 84:23 115:13,22 Maestas 28:19 looks 71:13 136:23 206:6 238:8 189:6 199:16 209:17 245:14 mail 229:16 **Lopez** 32:21 **Matthews** 46:17,17,21 48:13 mailed 224:13 Lorenz 174:18,18 50:10.16 51:2.8 52:22 53:6.14 main 226:9 losing 25:2 53:16,21 54:6 55:21 56:1,6,8,15 maintain 233:7 loss 18:3 20:4 60:19 119:14,18,20,25 123:2 majority 224:8 **lost** 154:23 209:22,23 124:11,20 125:15,23 126:1,4 making 52:20,22 54:4 101:16 **lot** 12:12 15:24 18:15.21 19:22 127:20,22,25 129:4,8 131:15 107:18 143:17 152:10 219:10 20:6 23:8 25:2 26:21 33:15 maximize 17:13 226:9 mean 41:4 54:19 60:12 86:20 41:17 67:3 80:8,12 101:8,8 man 23:7 110:14 114:25 115:5,18,19 93:8 94:8 100:5 107:5 109:14 manage 97:24 98:4 134:6 166:10 175:18 188:6 122:22 123:6 135:19 143:9 managed 63:17 190:11 193:16 196:21 197:8 151:17 152:12 164:24 194:16 management 97:22 199:22,25 208:7 209:25 210:3 211:5 227:24 241:2 243:17 manager 29:10 30:9 157:18 210:12.12 211:7 213:8 217:15 **meaning** 192:10 managers 157:18 158:12 221:13 222:17 230:17 236:15 meaningful 204:13 **mandated** 166:16 238:8 239:22 means 20:17 136:23 138:12,14 mandates 96:9 **Louis** 224:15 235:23 mandatory 92:11 love 14:18 139:15 204:5 223:13 measure 218:11 219:2 manner 58:5 147:16 229:20 223:17 Measured 109:7 manual 101:19 103:11 **loves** 22:2 measurements 44:2,5 manuals 99:6 101:18,19 **lower** 161:20 227:6 Medicaid 95:15 manufactured 176:21,22 Lucía 157:20,20 159:19 medicine 230:24 map 35:24 lunch 32:14 153:22 204:22 meet 28:15 88:1 90:11 103:7,14 **MAPs** 44:6 **Luncheon** 196:25 123:21 127:1 135:16 139:1 March 38:6 133:8 **Lybrook** 230:4,6 161:17 163:5 189:22 Marcotte 78:21,22 80:17 82:15 meeting 1:10 5:2 17:16 60:8

MICHAEL 2:5 money 14:16,23 17:5 24:1,3 25:2 70:13 103:15,15 107:3,12,19 micro-managing 197:16 25:6 206:1 219:14 225:2 227:1 109:11 118:17,22,24 122:22 123:18 128:17,18 137:10 micromanage 194:7 195:14 227:2 232:16 233:21 139:10 148:19 149:4,20 155:19 micromanaging 207:20 **monies** 30:18 156:1 173:19 190:4,6,7,25 mid-August 110:11 monitor 150:15.17 239:21 246:3,4 mid-July 128:6 monitoring 150:13,20 152:7,14 meetings 38:3,12,17 58:10 117:9 **mid-June** 156:20 152:15 middle 118:7 121:17 182:25 235:17 monolingual 160:9 Meets 161:17,18 163:3 midvear 213:5 Montañas 147:23 **Megan** 28:19 mileage 226:4,5 month 27:19 28:6 42:9 109:3,4 Melissa 33:14 132:8,12,16 miles 35:19 148:10 159:5 mind 23:14 164:3 207:11 140:15,19,25 141:24 142:19 monthly 99:4 116:9 173:14 mine 20:12 101:4 191:3 months 83:11 105:8 108:2 112:4 143:8 145:8,13,16 146:3,6,16 146:19 147:3,9,19 148:13,17 mini-superintendent 191:14 113:12 161:16 163:5 222:15 149:1,5,25 150:11,14,21 151:3 minimally 192:20 monumental 45:4 minimize 199:3 151:10,13 153:17 morning 9:12,13,14 21:21 22:1 member 2:4,5,5,6,6,7,7 27:18 minimum 238:16,19 239:4,6 27:14 31:20 32:23 37:24,25 32:16 240:6 Minnesota 13:25 46:9.10 78:18.21.24 104:15.20 members 14:17 16:5 18:9 22:15 minutes 93:19 110:24,25 153:25 110:10,11 173:1 185:12 227:13 26:17 27:13 32:8 33:19 42:1 154:1 **Mosaic** 221:16 48:13 60:20 70:10 104:15 Miranda 132:8,12,16 136:17 motion 7:6,9,16,22 8:1 9:3 58:11 112:25 133:10 138:19 154:11 58:15 60:2 65:14 66:5,8,10,21 140:15,19,25 141:20,22,24 169:19 173:3 174:16 202:11 142:19 143:8 145:8,13,16 146:3 67:20 68:5,15 70:1 122:11 204:24 222:10 223:24 236:11 146:6,16,19 147:3,9,19 148:13 129:16,16 131:13 170:9,16,24 148:17 149:1.5.25 150:11.14.21 memorandum 3:24 189:10.12 171:6 172:17 178:22.23 179:9 memorize 6:19 151:3,10,13 153:17 180:19,20 181:4,10,13 182:11 mention 82:11 190:20 221:16 **mirrors** 20:12 182:14 183:17 185:1,2 186:15 224:12 225:8 228:23 miscounted 162:5 187:25 213:11,17 214:2 215:12 mentioned 71:18.20 76:15 85:5 mismatch 81:10 244:18 90:14 128:1 145:3 149:16 missed 210:11 215:23 **motions** 216:19 212:11 217:3 239:9 missing 79:17 162:24 **MOU** 3:24 189:15 190:3.13 mentor 120:1 193:23 202:24 mission 11:8,24 30:3 Mountain 16:13 21:23 38:23 209:1 212:7,13 213:3,23 mission-specific 182:19 230:5 mentoring 117:17,24 125:11 missions 15:9 mouth 125:1 162:13 mistakes 110:8,18 199:2,3,3 126:21 move 7:7,24 26:19 28:22 29:3,20 34:22 35:10,16 37:6 39:11 41:3 mentors 212:14 misunderstanding 73:23 mentorship 212:6 misunderstandings 74:3 45:22 52:3,20 57:13,25 62:14 message 135:10 Mobley 157:17,17 159:1 170:3 67:16 100:16 126:7 141:2,3,6 met 38:6 44:7,8 93:11 98:15,17 modalities 230:8 164:21 170:2,19 174:1 179:1 123:15 156:21 159:1 174:6 model 160:6,24,24 197:4 212:10 182:16 186:8 188:9 190:10 method 134:24 164:8 234:18 231:5 213:13,20 215:18 **models** 242:12 moved 19:18 77:7 237:17 238:14 Mexico 1:2.12.22 3:4 6:16.18 modifications 87:6 moving 30:4 36:11 38:22,22 12:10 16:20,21,23 21:13 22:6 modified 7:23 39:23 97:19 114:7 123:11 29:10,21 36:2,8 37:1 43:19 77:8 modify 56:11 129:23 220:10 137:24 138:5 163:25 164:1 moment 34:12 50:24 52:19 168:3 177:11 189:1 191:1 103:11 167:10 183:1 196:15,20 196:23 197:8 213:25 231:21 165:12,14 **multiple** 19:10 21:25 236:1 245:2,9,12,13,21 **Monday** 227:13 228:2,12,20,20 mute 132:13

#### mutual 26:12 57:21 61:4 65:7 81:25 85:1 no-judgment 192:23,25 no-question 192:24 98:14,16 102:5 103:17 122:22 N 123:18 144:22 164:20 170:24 no-questions 192:23 N 2:1 3:1,1 4:1,1 191:6 193:5 197:24 198:8,8 non-compliance 90:5 91:16,16 NACSA 224:12 227:5 202:18 208:10 224:14 non-licensed 174:5 **Nahuatl** 164:24 negotiate 132:20 non-program 13:17 name 46:13 71:17 72:10,11 73:6 **negotiations** 132:19 133:20 non-service 13:17 78:19.22 104:17 132:6 134:21 181:23 182:7 noon 228:2 140:6 157:10 170:22,25 174:13 neighborhood 17:16 177:17 **norm** 108:6 126:13 174:20 202:25 221:16 **network** 100:9 normal 82:9 87:19,20 88:6,9,15 named 21:16 never 84:13 101:22 146:5 151:24 88:16,18 89:13 108:15 **nation** 12:11 167:10 168:24 169:14 175:3,6 204:3 normally 46:1 national 14:1 21:1,5,13 216:25 206:17,22 208:12 231:22 232:2 **Northern** 22:9,10 nationally 19:2 234:9,23 note 43:10 165:21 222:18 223:1 Native 168:4 230:9.18 **new** 1:2,12,22 3:4 4:4,4 6:16,18 244:17 natural 46:21 167:21 12:10 15:24 16:16.20.21.23 notes 72:24 73:17,25 154:8 **Nature 16:13** 18:23 21:13 22:5 27:20 29:10 notice 79:22 117:1,2 126:10,11 Navajo 231:20 238:6 29:21 31:2.23 36:2.8 37:1 38:1 126:23 127:9 navigate 125:25 38:6,12 41:10,14 42:12 43:19 notices 217:4 navigating 56:19 48:10 54:16 56:18 57:22 58:13 **notification** 34:3 42:5 45:22 46:7 near 149:18 60:16 64:1,10,10,11,12 67:8,13 51:12,25 52:11 53:8 61:21,25 nearly 43:8 77:7,8,8 79:4 84:10 96:11 notifications 46:2 necessarily 121:19 146:23 103:11 110:7 111:24 112:18 **notify** 61:21 62:1 194:13 205:22 209:2,3 221:10 122:4,4 127:5,6 128:2 143:11 notifying 45:22 74:4,5 243:24 **November** 145:18.25 156:25 160:6 161:9 164:8 166:1 necessary 20:6 90:2 117:22 168:2 177:21,21 183:1,11 186:5 nuance 202:25 203:1 necessitated 35:10 186:6 188:12.16 191:6.24 **number** 21:14 48:1 57:20 71:22 need 11:17 13:21 20:8 35:16 42:3 192:20 193:14 194:3,7,10 71:23,24 73:2 83:13 90:18,20 47:22 54:23 57:11 62:25,25 195:10 196:15,20,23 197:8 92:16 115:6 177:19 188:12 65:8 67:5 80:18 81:4,5 83:9,24 198:6,15,19 200:19,19 201:6,6 193:10 195:2 210:24,25 219:10 84:10 86:11 88:25 92:8 94:3,6 235:15 238:22,24 246:2 202:6,15,15 206:21,25 207:3 94:17 96:5.11 103:8.9.15 210:5,5,10 211:23 212:7,21 numbers 48:12 91:12 120:12 111:24 112:22.22 114:10 157:1 159:21 213:23,24,25 218:7 231:21 115:12 116:7 119:8 120:15,17 235:13 236:1 245:2,9,12,13,21 numerous 140:1 120:24 121:10,19 123:12 newbies 205:2 NW 1:21 245:20 124:16 129:15,23,25 132:14 newest 27:18.22 **NWEA** 44:6 138:13 139:1,9 143:17 151:6 news 29:18 153:20 163:17,22,23 164:21 $\mathbf{O}$ nice 78:20 190:3 216:2 175:16 188:8 189:6 191:13,15 **O** 3:1,1 4:1,1 nicely 25:8 191:15,20 192:18 198:20 **O-T** 192:11 **night** 30:24 161:23 200:20 206:3 209:5 210:15.21 objecting 53:17 nine 69:23,24,25 **observe** 231:19 212:4 213:13 224:11 227:17 nine-one 60:2,3 observed 231:7 229:11.19 238:25 **ninth** 13:2 needed 30:10 36:12 38:9 39:11 obtain 15:7 NM 1:20 103:10 245:19 65:15 75:1 83:7 85:18 86:4 **obtaining** 39:1 126:20 NMAC 97:23 106:6,25 121:8 201:21 obvious 74:2 **NMPED** 30:8 31:23 32:17 needs 6:25 10:16 11:16 12:7 **obviously** 47:10,11,19 62:10 NMPSIA 236:1.3

13:15 21:25 22:12 37:19 38:8

216:12 219:22

no-brainer 66:13

Occupancy 170:4 116:8 121:23 135:17 170:5 240:15 occur 85:5,8 **organic** 199:15 175:23 182:4 185:3 188:4 October 145:17,24 146:2,11 195:24 199:1,14 208:15 213:16 organizing 234:14 188:10,18 225:22 216:2 235:7 original 39:3 66:10 159:18 168:1 **off-site** 15:18 One-and-a-half 120:19 originally 34:18 36:6 40:19 offer 51:4 75:13 82:19 106:11 one-pager 154:18 173:6 71:12 190:7 **OT** 93:15 152:12 157:23 193:4 210:16 one-sentence 50:16 offered 222:19 **one-third** 166:18 outcomes 15:10 office 16:14 35:24 36:24 158:12 ones 12:9,11 95:13,16,18 outdoor 41:18 ongoing 63:14 114:5 153:4 outside 57:15 89:13 97:3,3 218:16 offices 36:5,7,19 **online** 18:16 outsiders 209:10,10 official 176:12 210:24 onus 105:18 211:1 overall 81:8 82:6 147:14 open 1:10 3:6 7:17 29:19 32:15 officially 24:13 103:16 overburdening 66:19 oftentimes 85:16 32:17 56:20 65:9 117:9 120:23 overhead 222:23 **oh** 5:15 35:2 43:21 49:10 72:16 120:24 122:8,8 124:4 160:4 overview 32:2 75:5 118:21 121:22.24 122:14 175:10 176:2 193:24 196:14 overwhelm 127:7 127:19 132:3 147:9 152:21 198:21 199:12,14,15 203:15 overwhelmed 116:13 176:14 182:15 189:5 191:3 222:14 238:5 246:3 **overwhelming** 106:4 108:24 198:11 206:16 216:18 228:9 open-phone-call 193:25 115:7 229:2,6 233:19,22 **opened** 38:17 204:9 owe 83:8 84:14 116:11 okay 10:2 11:25 18:13 29:15 31:9 opening 31:6 191:23 192:20 owed 83:13,20 90:18 31:15 34:5,13 36:4 37:4,20 198:17,18 200:24 201:6 owners 36:9 38:15 41:21 42:6 43:21 45:9 **openings** 196:11 owning 210:1,2 46:8,25 49:15 51:7 52:23 53:23 operate 48:9 156:8 174:1 owns 157:19 54:10 56:17 58:24 60:5.12 operating 47:13 202:8 P 61:14 66:22 67:14 68:7 70:6 Operation 156:2 **P** 2:1,1 3:1 4:1 75:5,6,6,10 76:22 80:16 84:18 operational 117:6 126:22 129:24 **p.m** 154:4,4 244:22 105:7 109:9 111:14,25 116:17 129:25 130:1 210:18 pacing 143:11 146:22 119:3,13,18 121:2 122:10 123:1 **Operations** 3:18 31:3 42:13 packaged 55:1 130:9 131:20,25 132:11,14,16 46:16 154:7 157:22 170:21 packet 70:15,15 72:19 190:25 133:16 135:4 136:1 140:24 173:20 179:2 packets 173:7 145:11,13 146:1,4,17 148:8 **opinion** 106:1 113:13 115:10 page 3:2 4:2 70:16,22 72:20 73:1 149:1,13 150:18 151:12 152:20 116:23 125:21 155:3,4 153:9,12,13 154:5 157:2,25 **opportune** 193:20 pages 72:21 80:15 156:2 173:21 opportunities 213:9 159:8 160:21 161:5 171:1,1 245:10 175:10 177:6 178:24 190:25 **opportunity** 42:11 92:5 117:24 **Pahl** 41:16 216:16,21 217:13 195:15 197:3 199:7,13 200:25 127:9 132:18 137:8 158:4 221:12 224:10 238:16 243:10 202:22 213:17 224:9 225:5 204:21 212:8,12 224:7 paid 224:24 225:11 229:19 227:9 229:14,18,23 231:15 **opposed** 7:13 244:21 Palacios 134:21,22 135:2 137:23 233:22 244:14.16 opposition 7:15 141:20 144:20 153:16 **old** 23:8 167:4,4 172:24 176:9 option 14:21 19:8 151:24 **Palma** 140:5,6,13 189:13 238:23 **Options** 2:9,11 3:10 27:11 panel 32:17 oral 10:9 omen 175:6 panicked 40:11 on-call 193:22 orange 142:21 145:9,14,25 146:9 paper 76:8,20 81:9 87:13 113:19 146:21,21 on-site 118:5 121:15 oranges 142:2 on-the-ground 13:23 parallel 173:4 once 36:17 39:21 48:10 52:1 order 3:3 5:1 57:12 80:21 85:4 parameters 206:6 224:23 72:16 75:11 78:6,15 79:2 104:7 90:6 103:5 133:8 134:10 143:12

<b>DAD</b> CC 149-16 150-2	DCCNW 110.21	102-2-105-21-202-12-206-25
PARCC 148:16 150:2	PCSNM 119:21	193:3 195:21 203:12 206:25
parent 11:3 18:1 21:9	PE 22:13,20,20,24 23:14 175:15	207:16,20 224:20 232:8 240:9
parent-teacher 232:3	PEC 2:13,14,15,15 3:14 4:6 7:21	personally 115:4
parents 2:10,11 3:10 27:11 71:22	30:3 31:19 33:1 163:1 173:11	personnel 98:24 174:6
71:23 73:2 74:5 114:23,24	186:10 219:17 221:15 223:18	perspective 14:4 76:19
115:14,23 159:16,20 160:1,8,8	230:1	perusal 190:25
160:13,16 234:14 242:17	PEC's 126:10	Peter 174:18,18
parking 238:11 239:14	PEC/PED 3:24	phenomenal 161:8,9
part 13:21 20:3 22:13 23:14	PED 2:8,12 30:3 32:25 33:18	phone 210:24 215:15
27:22 30:8 41:16 46:3 57:3	105:4 133:15 136:4 190:13,19	phonetic 21:8
86:25 97:25 105:14 124:22	195:6 241:17 246:7	physical 20:2 61:22
132:25 133:1 141:21 167:5,6	PED's 189:25	pick 164:24 227:18
174:21 177:16 182:6 190:17	pediatrician's 36:24	picking 228:25 229:3,6
194:2 210:13,14 230:16	peer 154:18,19 173:6 203:12	picture 32:3 116:5,6 241:16
part-time 158:15 175:14	peer-to-peer 204:23	piece 16:15 17:6,7 54:11 73:18
participated 144:6	<b>PEI</b> 11:23	125:6 136:6 168:10 193:25
particular 36:22 67:25 86:13	<b>pending</b> 170:10 171:3,4	223:2
87:4 92:14 98:3 115:7 136:10	<b>Penn</b> 13:24	pieces 222:17
146:20 161:19 177:22 181:8	<b>people</b> 14:6 19:22,24 20:6 65:8	pink 47:8 142:21 155:2,3,4
191:5 208:11	101:7 110:10 118:12 119:5	Pinto's 215:21
particularly 88:23 126:5 215:21	129:16 155:6 160:5 162:2	pipeline 10:15 11:24
particulars 213:14	192:12,15 195:2 201:12 205:14	place 29:25 39:24 41:6 52:13
partly 18:11	206:4 207:22 208:7 210:20	98:7 118:11 119:5 128:4,10
partner 13:8	211:7,9 213:6 223:11 224:23	132:23 137:16 143:16 162:16
partners 13:23 14:3 16:10	227:6 228:4,5,6,6,11,12,14	186:5 188:4 190:3 193:14
partnership 10:9 11:22 12:17	230:13 235:16 239:22 240:14	199:13,22 203:8 204:3,4 206:6
15:14,23 16:9 17:7 23:1,4 35:17	percent 21:11 31:21 42:24 43:3,8	230:22 239:13
partnerships 21:15 26:7	43:25 44:1,3,4,4 138:25 139:10	placed 110:15
parts 207:1	156:22 161:13,15 174:6 175:17	placing 185:23
pass 131:17 207:15,16	196:16 219:8,12 221:4 222:7	plan 3:16 16:3,9 17:3 18:5 19:21
passed 38:5 187:25 197:3 223:7	237:3,6	38:13 105:2,4 106:18,20,21,25
passes 7:16 9:3 60:2 70:1 131:13	percentage 79:16 115:6 139:1	125:21 132:2,23 133:4,23 134:1
172:16,17 180:19,20 185:1,2	219:1	138:23 156:19 175:21 177:3
187:24 215:12	perception 164:5	planned 38:3 61:22
path 30:4 122:9	perfect 129:7 161:2 240:15,17,17	planning 33:13 40:2 51:19,20
pathway 9:22 26:11 116:20	240:20	169:21
138:7	perfectly 146:9	plans 102:19 156:8 169:17
<b>Patricia</b> 2:3 46:17	perform 20:5	plant 165:13
pattern 72:2	performance 47:4,5 169:5	platform 14:1
Pattie 207:10,19	182:18 242:2,13	plays 25:18,22
Paul 211:14	performing 43:4 147:7	PLC 205:9
pause 34:15	period 20:23 28:10 112:23 117:4	please 19:19 27:3 56:4,4 113:8
paved 197:8	204:19	132:7 137:19 160:16,16 171:11
pay 206:2 219:14 225:15,18	periodically 212:20	179:14 183:21 214:6
227:4 236:17	periodically 212.20 permanent 174:2	pleases 139:15
paying 229:2,4	permit 159:6,6	pleasure 104:9
payrilg 223.2,4 payroll 15:21	per lift 139.0,0 perplexed 50:23	pledge 3:3 6:15,17 239:21 240:5
PCard 225:10,15 226:1	person 28:16 71:14 136:17 163:4	240:7
1 Curu 223.10,13 220.1	Person 20.10 / 1.14 150.17 105.4	210.7

pledging 240:9,10,10 practice 97:4 196:25 204:23 100:19 116:9 118:16 119:12 **plenary** 32:15 practices 28:18,20 33:8 199:23 125:18 plus 13:5 21:25 201:5 211:24 problematic 118:10 point 15:22 17:2,15 33:23 34:16 Pre-K 160:18 problems 163:12,13,15,17 34:18 42:2 52:10,25 53:5 65:1 **preamble** 240:12 204:23 223:20 67:5 72:18 89:25 96:21 101:17 preconceived 164:6 **procedural** 97:8,9,18 102:2 107:8.9 111:22 115:6 prefer 197:18 procedure 163:12,19 168:4 116:3 133:25 137:17 138:11 preferably 239:7 **proceed** 149:15 144:3,15,22,23 148:9 149:14,17 preference 54:20 proceedings 1:10 244:22 245:11 159:19 163:16 164:14 188:21 preliminary 35:9 148:24 189:17 246:3 209:6 223:13,14 238:14 process 28:5,14,17 29:3,11,12 points 146:15 **Preparatory** 34:8 35:6 44:13 30:23 57:19 60:24 61:12,16,17 **policies** 101:19 183:6 74:3 75:23 76:11 77:12 91:6,7 policy 48:21 49:3 51:10 61:19 prepared 66:20 116:19 152:24 154:19 155:13 63:1,5,9,11,13,20 **Presbyterian** 10:6 processes 17:21 24:12 186:3 political 234:19 235:9 preschool 10:7 **Procurement** 213:25 **professional** 1:21 100:10 158:7 politically 192:8 present 6:8,12 9:18 23:16 25:19 **pool** 28:21 159:20 236:18 181:16.17 221:14 223:3 204:20 **proficiency** 43:1,3 76:4 77:24 **pop** 217:25 presentation 3:8 9:6 236:22 population 12:24 96:13 134:10 presentations 242:3 141:18,19 167:6 175:14 **proficient** 142:17 143:7,21 144:2 presented 137:3 portable 222:10,12 239:12 presenters 32:25 33:20 167:14 144:2 portables 176:21,21 221:19,22 presenting 33:7,18 243:25 profoundly 18:2 221:24 **president** 104:18 157:13 program 3:8 9:19,21 10:1,9,13 portal 87:22 89:22 pressure 203:14 219:22 10:14 11:12,15,20 12:5,23 portfolios 242:3 pretty 87:25 88:2 100:21 194:1 14:15 16:18,23 21:22 22:21,25 position 28:7,9,23,24,25 61:8 196:15 222:19 29:10.21 31:22 33:15 76:17 105:15 120:24,25 previous 58:10 111:11 140:22 77:21,23 78:1 124:8 153:2 positions 28:5 29:19 196:17 221:20 169:8 236:3,14,17,24 239:7 positive 33:6 previously 64:9 **programming** 18:15 31:24 price 118:13 programs 13:19 23:5 26:11 **possibilities** 165:14,16 possibility 14:13,20 19:7 205:20 primarily 164:17 progress 102:7 possible 3:11,12,13,15,17,19,21 primary 20:17 62:3 **progressing** 147:8 159:7 3:23 4:3 29:4 30:20 45:10 70:8 principal 157:10 162:14 193:10 prohibited 222:11 102:11 132:1 135:23 154:6 193:15 194:11 200:2,12 prohibitive 220:22 168:20 185:7 189:9 191:2 principals 200:19 202:6 211:8,16 **project** 10:19 13:7 165:7 166:21 229:15 212:1.10 projected 156:11,21,22 174:7 possibly 14:19 40:23 90:14 **prior** 79:22 198:17 200:24 projects 166:9 prioritize 100:17 promise 6:20 236:24 103:21 202:16 208:9 post 30:6 49:8 priority-wise 223:7 **promote** 20:7 92:9 113:25 posted 99:6 159:9 **private** 210:25 promoting 189:1 posthaste 224:16 **proactive** 199:24 202:8 **prongs** 103:7 probably 13:21 19:17 22:22 proof 97:14,15 potential 177:10 potentially 31:6 48:10 133:13 25:15 47:24 64:11 86:5 121:14 **proper** 97:20 128:6,7,9 138:6 143:25 147:4 **property** 16:15 157:18 217:22 205:4 212:8 224:6 power 17:12 63:9 139:6 154:23 178:16 185:12 192:8 203:5 proposal 49:13 powerful 14:4 206:7 207:2 217:5 227:20 propose 48:1 49:3 51:14 181:5 practicality 61:1 **problem** 49:20 89:8 91:6 97:18 **proposing** 51:15 192:6

prospective 163:18 purposeful 12:8 quite 12:7 14:5 24:2 72:6 102:6 purposes 57:23 239:8 102:15 103:20 143:9 207:2 prospectively 123:5 **protocol** 212:24 **Pursuing** 211:8 212:10 222:4 231:6 **prove** 96:16 236:18 237:7 push 19:5 43:2 118:14 quote 9:24 **provide** 19:14 30:10 31:2 47:21 **push-in** 112:10 R 83:5 100:14 115:13 123:14 **pushed** 17:18 115:15 **R** 2:1,4 3:1 4:1 135:17 137:8 141:5 144:8 **put** 14:11 20:22 49:16 50:11 race 92:14 193:24 198:14 213:23 61:11 66:6,7 71:11 72:4 79:16 Rachael 174:13,13 175:11 **provided** 31:19 43:23 47:5 73:9 80:5 105:17 110:24 111:18 176:12,15,23 177:12 178:3,7,9 79:25 80:11,14 81:25 82:23 128:10 129:2.5 132:13 147:20 180:24 93:20 96:16 97:7 98:12,14,16 162:25 191:23 197:13 201:10 Rafe 9:9,11,14,16 10:3,18 12:21 98:19 108:19,22 117:23 122:24 203:13.14 205:10 216:15 14:19 15:1,12 16:4 17:23 18:9 223:12 229:16 239:13 240:11 126:11 136:4 137:12 155:20,25 18:14,19 20:9,20 22:14 24:4,24 156:5,10,18 166:13 173:14,23 putting 61:2 102:23 203:3 25:4.24 26:16 27:1.4 **provider** 83:18 100:9 **putzing** 243:7 **Raftery** 2:6 6:1,2 8:11,12 59:6,7 **PWN** 80:14 **providers** 100:10,11 69:21,22 131:7,8 172:6,7 180:3 **provides** 145:2 218:25 Q 180:4 183:14,18,23,24 187:12 **providing** 15:10 30:12 37:14 qualifier 129:2 139:24 187:13 214:17,18 230:2,3 80:4 82:23 86:10.11.13 93:13 qualifiers 126:16 Raíces 132:21 154:9 155:10,15 93:15 158:15 160:2 qualify 80:21 81:6 90:18 102:21 155:19,23 156:5,8,13,15,18 **PSCOC** 218:8 219:18 221:10,21 103:6 118:13 157:11 158:3 168:16 169:20 221:24 222:10,22 239:4 quality 162:1 169:11 170:21,22 171:1 174:8 183:11 **PSFA** 17:11 222:3,9 **quarter** 100:24 146:25 205:3 230:4 **psychological** 102:21 103:1 **question** 16:5,6 22:16 38:1 40:18 rain 236:7 psychologist 102:9,10,14 103:2 52:18 54:8 55:11.13 71:15.15 raised 126:10 **PT** 93:15 73:16 76:16,25 83:19 87:24 raises 84:10 **public** 1:1,10 3:23 5:2 11:1 17:10 89:17 90:14 93:9 98:11,21 99:9 ramifications 96:14 26:20,20,22 32:7 35:12 58:11 99:15 100:20 106:14 107:4,24 ramping 128:1 67:16 74:13 76:5 126:8 133:14 107:25 108:1,10,17 113:7,16,21 ran 234:13 155:16 158:21 168:3,18 170:20 113:24 120:3 125:4 131:17 Rancho 236:15 237:10 175:24 179:1 182:16 186:9 133:6.12 135:4.18 141:23.25 range 47:23 48:8 191:11 196:18,22 200:9 208:8 149:22 150:19 153:3 164:22 rarely 141:8 213:20 216:25 219:5 238:19 165:3 167:22 rat 193:1 242:10 245:1,12 246:3,4,4 question-and-answer 235:3 rate 21:12 219:7 222:20 227:6 **publicly** 14:12 192:7 questionable 233:4 236:7 **Pueblo** 167:9 questions 12:14 34:20,25 36:17 rationale 47:3 pull 16:10 24:15 151:14 47:16 71:6,7,11,21 72:4,12 **Re-Engagement** 3:22 **pull-out** 110:25 74:14 75:22 76:12.23 78:4 re-inspiring 242:1 pulled 34:19 48:20 203:21 103:13 104:5 121:25 133:5 reach 111:23 153:5 **pulling** 16:22 137:1.14 138:15 139:14 159:12 reached 42:21 99:12 135:20 **pullout** 112:10 159:13 170:14 175:10 176:4 reaching 15:6 18:5 30:9 **pulpit** 235:11 223:25 224:3 react 203:23 204:3 punitive 114:7 199:6 quick 9:8 27:8 28:8 35:18 42:2 read 20:16 21:7 62:25 63:1.6 purchase 150:7 55:11 57:19 120:3 138:22 129:15,19,21 160:23 169:13 purchasing 151:18 140:16 152:22 153:20 216:23 181:7 218:13 **purged** 185:10 216:24 217:2 Reader 11:18 purpose 64:22,22 144:13,14,17 quickly 29:3 144:19 205:14 Readers 10:5 147:2 168:1

**readily** 165:11 received 10:5 34:3 42:13 71:14 regional 205:21 reading 21:4 43:5,7 79:21 80:4 register 217:2 226:23 227:5 71:22,25 72:22,25 79:5 84:6,8 80:11 81:20 82:18 86:3.17 84:13 89:23 90:21 110:23 111:7 registered 32:24 226:17,19 88:22 111:7 139:7 112:12 115:3 135:10 140:20 registration 32:14 225:18 readjusted 239:3 148:9.18.21 155:7 199:25 regret 164:14 **reads** 64:9 234:18 235:13 regular 7:1 22:21 46:12 85:1 ready 36:20 68:19 122:10 170:1 87:25 89:10 230:21 receiving 20:18 79:24 81:2,10,11 81:15 88:11 89:9 97:12 109:5 regulated 92:17 213:18 ready-for-approval 31:21 151:23 152:1 156:13 160:5 **regulation** 96:8 113:14 real 140:16 205:13 208:11 receptive 19:6 regulations 102:19 Recess 27:9 70:5 154:4 regurgitating 235:10 219:11 223:22 realize 20:11 25:15 110:3,4 recharter 63:4 rehashing 163:17 reimbursed 229:1 realized 165:6 recoded 177:14 really 9:25 13:5 14:3 15:23 17:12 recognized 240:2 reimbursement 94:13 181:20 19:8 20:24 26:14 29:17 30:19 recognizing 168:7 217:8 229:7 recommend 48:5 95:12 119:20 32:18.22 33:11.13.14 35:16.23 reinforced 104:24 41:4 43:2,12 44:20 52:23 54:3 123:6 reinvigorating 242:11 **recommendation** 48:3 116:16 57:5,11,22 68:2,2 75:22 76:9,10 reiterate 189:14 76:15,17,20 77:14,16 87:4 124:22 **related** 126:15 99:11 101:10 103:18 121:6 recommendations 80:6 122:16 relates 88:23 122:1,5 123:18 124:8 135:4,18 recommended 123:13 relational 202:20 212:13 137:20 138:12,20 139:7,19,22 record 2:12 14:12 26:3 35:4 relationship 189:16 158:21 159:23 160:5,9 162:1,3 78:17 111:1 129:21 157:8 relationships 18:8 190:24 165:8,21 167:25 168:11 169:9 172:22 174:12 175:1 198:12 released 148:24,24 177:9 181:17.20 188:2.5.22 recorded 81:13 relevance 241:15 189:13,15 190:3,8,10 191:19 records 105:23 religious 167:16 193:16 194:4,8,9,10 196:5,20 Recruiting 232:21 relocating 40:23 198:3 200:14,14 204:12 205:6 red 70:19 72:24 relocation 38:4 209:19 212:24 219:3 222:6 **redid** 177:13 relv 105:16 227:23 228:9 230:16 231:6,7,10 redo 162:8 remain 48:6 143:25 234:10 231:12 233:4,6,23 234:9 235:19 reduced 91:15 remaining 48:6 238:9 239:5,18 241:14,17,24 reengagement 188:4 189:2 remark 26:1 242:1,1,7,16 243:15 reevaluating 239:10 remarks 42:8 **reapply** 243:10 refer 88:13 101:20 remediated 161:16 reason 10:19 11:18 96:20 98:1 reference 185:9 remember 129:16 132:22 135:11 114:24 135:14 140:19 references 3:20 185:25 163:3 206:15 reasonable 128:7 220:16 221:8 referencing 186:11 remodel 54:16 221:15 239:15.17 referrals 175:19 remote 233:10 reasonably 128:20 referred 166:4 192:7 remotely 90:3 109:25 reasoning 150:6 referring 71:1 remove 140:23 reasons 18:21 38:21 40:3 96:11 refers 136:15 removed 6:25 7:2 45:15,18 **REC'D** 246:10,15,20,25 **reflect** 163:23 170:10,25 194:20 114:10 recall 74:15 93:1 107:2,22 regard 30:14 48:25 49:2 65:25 removing 120:10 185:25 **RECEIPT 246:1** 153:1 155:10 renew 133:9 receipts 225:19 regarding 3:8 34:21 155:12 renewal 3:19 57:4 185:8 186:1 receive 24:14 31:8 44:15 73:2 222:10 186:10,20 233:18 84:17 90:21 111:19 113:17,18 regards 48:1 193:18 rep 135:7 160:13 **Region** 166:13 **repeat** 149:8

repercussions 54:13 restrain 100:4 242:17,20 replicate 51:20 restrictive 88:13 89:11 rigorous 138:13 139:11,20 replication 53:18 resubmissions 173:17 **Rio** 236:15 237:10 **reply** 72:11 result 219:23 risk 236:2 results 42:23 43:24 44:20 141:14 river 227:20 238:8,8 report 3:10 4:5 27:11 43:20 74:11,12,15 79:15 82:7,12 148:24 159:18 Rivera 42:17 43:16 88:22 89:2.7 90:10 108:5 retain 122:19 **RMR** 245:8 110:23 112:4,5 136:9 retaining 232:22 **RMR-CRR** 1:20 245:19 reported 1:20 121:13 retired 22:9 211:9 road 31:12 128:17 132:19 Reporter 245:9 **retraining** 99:18,20 **Robbins** 2:7 5:6,7 7:7,10 8:24,25 **REPORTER'S** 4:8 245:7 retroactive 123:10 17:24,25 18:1,10,13 19:4 20:10 Reporting 1:21 retroactively 123:5 20:13 25:11,12 46:19 50:1,4 59:9,10 65:11,12 67:15,21 69:5 reports 127:3,10 **return** 110:16 represent 18:23 returned 71:23 72:1 73:2 69:6 71:8,9,10 73:11 118:2,25 representatives 74:22 returning 144:1 234:3 119:3,8 127:25 130:19,20 review 82:7 90:3 105:23 138:22 request 34:7 47:3,6,9,21 48:17 153:24 171:13.14 180:7.8 184:1 49:13,18 50:17,19 55:21 56:10 154:18.19 173:6 184:2 186:8,16,22,23 215:1,2 reviewed 74:17 79:10 109:13 58:12 60:14.21 61:16 62:8.9.12 219:17 220:10.21 221:13 62:20 64:7,8,10,13 66:6,11 reviewers 154:20 224:18 225:21 226:7 227:25 revisions 3:19 185:7 186:10 94:12 99:12 185:8 186:11 238:12,13 241:1,4 244:19 requested 34:14,19 51:16 129:21 **revisit** 220:15 **Robert** 134:21,22 135:2 137:23 revocation 57:6,7,9 116:22 requests 3:12,20 45:11 74:25 141:20 144:20 153:16 require 60:8 96:7 revoke 57:9 **robust** 50:20 57:1 188:3 required 73:14 88:12 112:18 revolves 132:25,25 Rocky 16:12 21:23 113:22 115:12 173:18 **RFAs** 30:8 role 27:21 28:16 29:2.4 requirement 177:23 **RFIs** 30:8 roll 3:3 5:4 8:3 58:19 171:11 **RFP** 17:3 requirements 57:4 72:9,14 73:13 179:14 183:21 214:6 88:2,3 100:6 176:24 177:13,16 **RFPs** 30:7 rolled 145:18 177:25 210:12 rid 121:22 Romero 78:24.25 79:9 85:11 requires 97:23 102:20 right 10:17 12:21 13:16 15:14 86:8 87:3,14 103:5,24 104:3 research 189:1 16:21 17:17 18:20 23:3,12 24:1 **room** 32:21 42:17 175:5 230:20 reservation 226:10 29:1 31:11 32:12,21 34:2 36:16 root 22:3 37:11,15,17,20 39:6 41:4,10 roots 16:20 168:15 resistance 20:7 resources 30:13 91:19.20.23 99:5 42:3 45:9 49:11 51:7,17 52:1,23 round 48:1 99:17,23 100:3,15,17 101:21 53:2,5,15 54:11,17 55:3,5,15 rounding 29:18 112:21 115:5,9,22 208:10 56:14 61:4 67:12 68:7,24 70:3 rounds 218:10 **respect** 60:19 74:24 75:6,9 84:11,18,18 87:2 route 57:16 respond 73:6 74:14 87:13 90:22 96:23 104:2 108:16 routine 46:11 108:21 111:23 118:6,8,25 119:7 row 192:1 202:10 response 3:13 5:21 7:4,14 58:18 120:8.21 121:13 129:18.19 70:8.17.21 73:17 76:16 78:5 **Ruiz** 2:3 6:7,8 7:10,24 8:2,5,6 104:6 107:22 126:9 130:8 132:11 137:11 141:18 149:5 58:6,8,16 59:22,23 67:19,21 69:14,15 129:17,22 130:3,25 160:20 166:15 170:15 171:10 151:16 155:3,10 159:7 160:15 179:13 182:9 183:20 214:5 161:25 162:3 169:24 176:19 131:1 151:20,21 171:22,23 responses 71:13 177:3 181:4 191:1 192:11 180:16,17 184:10,11 186:13 responsibilities 97:25 206:24 195:18 197:12.12 198:25 187:18,19 200:4,7 214:11,12 responsibility 207:10 201:10 208:2 209:9 210:22 226:15 235:24,25 237:5 244:10 **responsible** 77:5 94:21 220:8,20 222:2,11 226:13 244:18 rest 115:10,11 164:13 167:23 228:21 235:15 240:21 241:19 rule 221:20

rule-making 57:17,17 rules 67:2 run 115:1 124:15 161:10 162:10 168:8,17 198:2 202:6 220:2 running 199:16 202:4 233:5 runs 161:10 228:2

# $\mathbf{S}$

S 2:1 3:1 4:1 **S-W-O-T** 192:10 **S.T.A.R.S** 44:14 77:15,16 94:15 **Saber** 154:10 155:11,15 158:3 171:2 183:12 sacred 167:15,16,17 sad 233:24 Safe 244:21 safety 236:20 237:8 **SAHQ** 30:22,22 176:9 **sailing** 193:16 sale 226:2 **Salute** 3:3 6:16.17 Sandy 30:24 236:12,24 Santa 1:12 18:7 19:9 136:20 216:1 245:13 sat 91:6 194:22.22 satisfied 159:17 **satisfy** 126:9 **Saturday** 31:7 32:9 110:11 204:17 save 225:19 saw 50:19 79:14,17 89:23 232:6,8 saving 20:11,21 31:4 52:19 76:13 77:20 121:21 123:5 138:4 161:25 197:23 199:6 200:10 209:12,13,14 says 60:16,17 61:20 108:23 116:1 198:15 234:22 240:14,17 scared 230:12 231:9 scary 231:8 scenario 218:18 scenarios 204:11 schedule 95:24 181:18 188:14 scheduled 158:6 174:2 189:22 228:9 scholars 43:8 scholarship 22:11,11

19:8 21:3,22 23:10 28:3,18 29:10,21 30:22 33:4,17 34:8,14 35:7 36:2,8,10,11 37:1,1,17 38:9,17 40:25 42:9,10,20,22 43:1,11 44:13,18,18,19,25 45:4 45:12,19 46:18,23 47:9,11,22 48:5 51:4.11.13.18.24 52:5 54:14 56:18 57:21 58:13,13 60:13,17,21,23 61:11,15,20,24 62:1,10,15,17,18,18,19 63:3,10 64:1,4,10,12 67:8,13 68:3 70:9 71:2 73:5,19 74:9 75:1,21 77:2 77:4,13 84:14 90:8 94:24 95:12 96:14 98:24 99:24 104:11,12 105:18,18,19 106:2,3,5 108:11 111:3 115:5,7,25 116:10,19 117:1,7,17,23 118:5 121:7,17 121:22 123:6.22 124:4.5.15 125:1 126:14,20,21 127:8,13,14 129:11 133:7,18,22,25 134:4,12 134:24 135:2,6,11,17 136:2,7 137:3,7,18 139:6 143:24 144:10 144:13 148:3,7 150:9 152:4,24 153:4 154:9 155:11,12,16,18,21 156:9.21 157:2 158:21 160:23 161:8,11 162:11 163:18,18,25 164:16,22 168:8,14,16,18 170:25 171:2 173:9,10,12,15,25 174:4,14 176:2,7,9 177:21 179:3 181:9 182:2,25 183:1,3 183:12,13 186:11 188:25 191:7 191:11,17,24 192:1,14,14,19 193:5,9,12,15,19 194:9,23,24 195:1,3,5 196:1,21 197:4,6,7,13 197:19 198:2,19,21 199:4,17 200:2,10,24,25 201:7 202:6 203:7,10,14,17 204:12 206:16 206:21,23,25 208:10,17 211:16 211:19 212:1,7,7,14,15,21 213:22 216:9 219:9,24 220:17 221:16 222:7,12 228:24 230:4 230:19 231:20,21 232:12,15,19 232:20 233:8 235:22 236:23 237:1 238:25 243:10,13,22 school's 61:18,22 74:22 82:17 126:14 156:3 173:21 203:4 schools 3:22 4:4 13:9,23 30:10,17 30:20 31:2,8 33:7 41:9,13 42:12

44:25 89:24 96:5.9 98:24 99:16 99:24 109:22 114:9 115:1,1,3 115:18,23 116:1 154:16,16,19 154:21 162:8 164:17 168:1 177:11 178:11,15 181:11,12,14 181:16,16,24 182:19 183:11 188:12.15 189:2.5 192:20 194:4 195:4,7 196:15,18,20,22 197:9 200:20 202:15 204:9 205:25 206:3 208:8,18 209:20 210:5 213:2,23 216:25 218:3,9,17 219:3,5,13 220:23 222:4,23 224:8 228:25 230:6 233:7 234:17 238:19,20,21 239:5 243:12,18,21 244:1,3 schtick 46:24.25 197:20 **Schullo** 104:20,21 110:3 111:5 111:16 112:7 113:8 120:8,20,23 121:5 127:17 131:24 science 183:5 234:19 235:9 scope 89:13 score 150:4 scores 150:15,19 230:13 screen 76:4 screening 76:3 seamless 56:21 season 28:3 seasoned 112:15 seat 28:16 29:4 **SEC** 172:25 second 7:8,10,25 8:2 44:7 48:17 48:18,21 49:2,8,18 51:9 52:12 52:12 53:12,17 55:8,9 56:3,9,10 57:8 58:14,16 60:13,14 64:3,5 64:15,16,17 65:20 66:3 67:19 67:21 95:8 108:17 129:17.22 130:3 170:23 171:5,7 179:4,10 183:14,15,17 186:13,14,16 214:1,3 227:5 239:25 244:19 Secondary 183:8 secondly 172:21 secretary 2:4 61:8 140:7 174:21 175:5 189:18 **Secretary's 133:1,7** section 47:1,3 74:14 154:14,22 155:1 156:2 173:20 secure 15:24 74:16 79:11 160:17 see 14:19 18:11 23:9 26:10 31:22

**school** 3:10,14,20 9:24 10:10,22

11:9 15:8 16:16 17:10 18:6

**shift** 33:10 34:23 43:13 46:13 51:4 66:1 81:17,24 82:22 83:5,24 84:5 70:18 73:20,25 79:20,22 80:2 86:5 89:3,4,5 92:25 93:8,11,17 **ship** 193:15 81:9 82:10,17 83:24 85:16 94:3,7 95:13 96:6,15 98:6 **shit** 198:11 87:21,25 88:4,7 89:24 93:5 102:20 109:24 110:17 122:18 **shocked** 161:13 94:14,15 95:8 102:9 109:11 122:21,21,24 123:13 124:2 **short** 28:10 36:15 45:4 70:4 110:22 117:11 120:9 122:9 127:15 166:13 119:6 134:4 138:2 141:15,16 services 11:7 16:16 25:3 26:13 124:13 128:12 134:8 135:20 188:11 215:14 138:14 142:12,13 146:9,12,18 70:18 71:2 73:3.8 76:14 80:10 **short-** 223:19 147:6.11.14.21 155:2 161:24 80:22 83:8 84:10 86:13 88:12 shortchanged 238:21 88:25 89:1,9,10 93:13 94:5 165:18,18 169:23 181:24 **shortly** 133:24 186:19 197:9 199:19 200:11 95:14,17 96:6,17 97:6,12 102:5 **shot** 21:18 244:12 203:2 207:7 211:4 216:20 102:13,21 103:2,15 109:6 **shots** 14:6 **show** 26:3 95:25 105:23 132:19 217:19 219:11,16,24 233:13 116:11 123:15 124:14,14 125:6 237:12 242:2,11 126:15,18 151:24 152:1 215:22 138:8 139:22 142:16 143:17 seed 165:12,13 servicing 91:21 162:10 serving 16:23 41:7 42:19 43:20 seeing 80:7,9,13 81:5,24 82:16 **showed** 134:8 84:1 89:13 186:18 76:20,21 showing 51:3 81:1 83:24 seen 50:15,18,20 81:9 85:11 session 48:19 118:6 181:19 shows 88:11 162:9 175:16 188:11 218:1 223:4,7,9 side 36:25 73:24 139:18 164:5 115:25 **SEG** 25:7 sessions 31:25 32:4 196:25 166:11 167:13 176:18 self-determine 205:14 228:16 sides 162:13 sign 3:8 9:6,16 11:11 19:16 20:14 **semester** 234:22 set 9:20 32:10 111:2,4 125:10,18 **Senate 223:5** 128:14 139:1 149:17 161:20 20:16,18 25:18 45:25 **Senator** 215:21 176:7 192:6,8 194:8 204:21 **Sign-In** 4:10 send 22:25 70:12.14 75:1 116:19 205:9.24 208:2 210:15 211:4 signed 7:18 156:5 173:23 208:15 229:14,21,21 230:20 245:15 **significant** 37:6 83:16 91:10 **sending** 208:16 sets 19:25 92:12 128:19 139:23 219:22 **senior** 81:22 setting 29:1,12 87:8 165:9 similar 30:13 32:5 44:21 154:17 sense 24:18 56:2 85:9 129:12 seven 12:22 15:19 44:7 105:8 173:4 174:8 231:18,23 236:25 138:11 142:10 188:7 207:25 160:15 237:12 Simone 136:17 139:14 143:15 sent 11:15 67:1 74:7 111:6 severity 98:3 112:17 117:1 133:24 170:10 Sewards 174:13,14 175:11 147:20 176:12,15,23 177:12 178:3,7,9 210:20 simple 72:10,12 213:10 simply 51:15 112:1 135:23 166:4 180:24 sentence 86:19 sentences 51:2 52:15,17 86:19 shadowing 201:14 186:3 separate 46:5 55:2,4 169:10 **shame** 39:21.24 single 32:16 71:24 115:25 177:4 203:12 **share** 33:20,24 145:19 154:13,16 sir 90:1,23 92:22 separately 48:16 156:16 164:25 196:24 204:13 sit 51:17 133:21 166:8 167:11,12 **September** 43:7 118:7,15,17,22 204:22 205:12 208:10 224:1 167:15 203:17 205:11 118:24 155:21 173:15 243:9 site 15:20 35:24 39:3 48:7,18,21 series 177:18 shared 27:19 30:13 138:23 49:2 50:6 52:1,7,12,13 53:8,12 serious 73:12 74:10 91:16 96:13 211:19 238:15 243:11 244:8 53:17 54:17 57:8 62:11 64:3,5 196:11 **SharePoint** 56:19 64:10,12,18,23 65:16,20 66:3 serve 26:12 40:2 41:8 60:14 **sharing** 148:11 205:9 66:17,19 67:9,13 73:9 79:11 she'll 175:16 90:2,3,8,11,16 95:8,11 96:10,22 64:18 96:15 144:13.16 sheet 47:8 75:4 **served** 109:1 109:11,23 111:19 113:15,22,25 service 1:21 15:25 16:12 21:16 **Sheets** 4:10 114:3 116:4 117:21,21 199:17 79:23,24 80:1,2,5,7,13,14 81:13 **shell** 36:8 **site-built** 177:1,3

119:21 132:3 138:19 140:17 specialty 10:11 sites 40:22 44:19 specific 71:21 85:19 86:10,11 sitting 104:22 108:1 112:3 167:1 145:12 150:21,22 152:21 167:13 175:5 203:18 221:22 154:24 158:9 170:25 178:19 88:12 122:23 139:7 143:18 **situation** 85:13 95:2 113:25 198:14 209:21,22 215:22 177:20 191:22 216:18 217:13 specifically 11:23 60:16 71:6,16 six 108:1 112:4 113:12 161:15 sort 18:7 24:7,23 86:22 94:19 86:25 166:19 163:5 231:24 97:14 100:19 120:16 190:23 **specifics** 82:6 88:8 size 48:6 222:7 232:19 238:25 spectacular 88:3 232:5 212:17 sound 203:2 spectrum 23:21,21 103:19 243:22 skill 19:25 210:15 sounds 53:2 125:23 **SpEd** 125:7 175:15 skin 54:20 south 176:11 194:4 speech 93:15 **slight** 208:1 **Southwest** 136:14 183:4,6,8 **speed** 86:17 **slot** 32:6 226:7 spend 98:23 192:16 201:3 217:17 small 6:23 85:12 121:10 205:9 **space** 15:16 32:7 39:11 40:24 **spent** 80:3 222:7 233:7 238:20 243:22 41:19 61:23 62:2 218:14,15,16 **spirit** 30:11,14 202:14 smaller 65:6 212:19 238:11,16,17,19 239:4,14 spiritual 167:16 smart 205:4 span 39:2 spoke 193:8 194:21 snapshot 36:18 111:5 **Spanish** 149:24 150:13,14,20,25 spoken 168:5 192:17 195:11 151:2,8,15,18 152:2,14,19 so-far-so-good 13:10 sponsored 242:9 societies 167:9 160:10,13 164:13 **sports** 221:1 society 20:8 165:15 speak 29:1 48:14 82:12 119:6 spot 47:25 203:6 141:21 143:22 181:8 197:6 **Socratic** 234:18 238:14 spots 159:24 software 145:2 speakers 104:23 spreading 91:23 **Solare** 172:21 173:8,10,23 speaking 31:16 66:2 67:12 **spring** 146:5 174:14.17 179:2 183:12 205:3 162:12 231:4.5 square 218:11 219:1,9 222:24 **Solare's** 173:13 special 10:16 12:7 23:25 32:25 squaring 169:24 sole 102:22 70:17,20 71:1,3,5 74:11,12,17 St 224:15 **solely** 67:12 78:10,20 79:1 80:19,21 81:6,7 staff 2:8 18:3 23:1 32:25 33:18 **solid** 48:1 81:11 82:17,18,18,21,24,25 43:14 90:10 100:7 101:6,6 solidify 124:8 190:23 83:17 84:3,16,24,25 85:15,16 156:16,18 158:6,8,10 213:21 **solution** 115:21 85:23,25 86:9,24 87:10,20 staffed 100:8 174:5 175:12 solutions 222:14 90:15,25 91:4,5,17 93:2,19,21 staffing 27:15 solve 223:19 93:25 94:5 95:21 96:6 98:11,14 stages 128:1 136:22 somebody 29:4 110:20 201:10 101:3 102:3,8,13,22,23 103:6 stagnated 168:4 203:9 221:18 234:25 103:17 104:23 105:1,12,21 stakeholders 242:16 **someone's** 210:25 106:5,8 107:1,15 108:3,4,10,23 stalled 17:1 someplace 94:19 109:8 110:9,12,23 112:15,23 stamp 122:17 223:17 something-or-other 211:15 113:1,3,13 114:14,16,21,25 stand 27:22 47:16 117:25 somewhat 50:23 53:24 118:10 117:17,18 118:4 120:5,11,18 stand-alone 24:17 son 11:3 20:15 21:21.24 121:12.17 122:18 123:13 124:3 standard 138:1 165:9 **SONIA** 2:6 124:13 125:11,12,20 126:15,21 standards 109:12 139:1,3,6,7 soon 31:6 57:14 225:20 226:21 126:22 158:13,16,18 162:17 146:20,21 147:7 148:2,4 151:7 175:13,14 208:1 210:4,16 219:4 239:4 227:2 229:15.20.22 sooner 141:7,8 225:6 Specialist 28:25 standpoint 239:16 sorry 9:14 14:11 30:22 34:23 specialized 79:20 81:3,12,18,21 stands 231:22 235:1 35:2 44:3 45:7,17 46:18,22 83:1,7,25 84:2,7,13,17 85:4 stapled 32:1 52:14 56:18 70:4,7 72:16 75:10 86:2,7 89:9 start 21:5 27:15 42:17 46:22 80:2,7 92:1 103:1 111:4 118:21 specializes 12:6 128:14 129:11 189:21 201:12

245:20 **subcommittee** 133:23 134:7 202:16 227:3 228:6 235:12 strengthens 15:8 239:20 243:4 153:5 220:13,14 221:8 **start-up** 178:11 stress 96:9.12 **subject** 131:22 started 10:21 25:21 41:8 42:12 stressful 191:22 submission 75:21 83:11 134:23 141:25 166:1,2,3 stressing 200:1 submissions 155:24 195:9 198:24 199:1 234:8 stretch 23:3 232:25 **submitted** 64:9 74:9 155:16,23 235:17 239:20 **Striving** 10:5 11:18 25:5 173:10.17 starting 32:13 118:9 133:25 **strong** 28:21 44:20 158:13 **Subramanian** 174:23,23 134:20 157:21 162:14 191:12 196:16,20 substantial 34:22 starts 176:2 193:6 203:7,17 substantially 185:21 strongly 95:12 structure 173:4 success 139:8 203:4 231:10,12 227:23 228:1 state 1:2 13:24 21:14 30:17 33:5 struggle 18:17 241:10 38:22 57:6 77:7,15 102:20 successful 60:23 148:3,6 152:5 struggles 110:22 118:14 136:21 148:15 166:17 **struggling** 100:18 207:3 233:16 164:12 231:6 167:5,6 197:7 204:9 207:1 stuck 99:9 successfully 155:23 173:16 211:25 224:8 225:14 245:2,9,13 **student** 22:12 32:22 42:22 48:2 suffice 124:5 **State-authorized** 173:12 194:25 53:7 75:24 76:5 77:13,18,19 sufficient 62:4 118:4 123:25 State-chartered 195:4 79:23 80:24 81:16.20 83:25 **suggest** 118:14 stated 61:7 87:18 140:21 245:14 90:25 91:7,17 92:7 93:17 suggesting 50:12 116:25 121:21 statement 66:15 107:22 102:20,23 134:10 135:25 139:8 suggestion 118:1,3 states 165:25,25 166:4 239:25 140:14 145:21 146:13 151:23 **suite** 1:21 36:5,7,23 245:20 152:5 232:3 236:20 237:8 240:3,15 suits 223:12 stating 73:3 241:10 summary 75:4 163:11 statistic 21:5 student's 86:12 87:4 summative 148:9,14,15 149:10 **statistics** 20:23 22:5 student-led 232:1 241:18.22 students 9:21 11:10 12:19 13:1 **statute** 26:19 57:6 58:2,4 61:6 summer 21:21 28:6 223:24 96:8 101:20 189:14 21:2 22:12 25:17.21 26:12 summertime 17:2 **statutory** 57:4,12,15 60:11 61:4 **Sunday** 227:25 228:19 42:19,19,25 43:2,4,6,13,20 44:1 72:9.13 44:4,7,14 47:7,14 48:5 60:24 superintendent 191:21 stay 22:4 40:4 99:17,23 163:19 64:16,18,19 68:3 72:14 74:5 supervisor 78:25 **support** 11:21 18:4 19:13 28:25 168:4 197:21 209:6 233:16 80:18,24 81:5,10 82:1 83:6,8 **staying** 61:24 84:6,25 85:1,18 88:9,11,22 89:8 29:13 33:15 77:15 81:13,17 step 11:17 12:3 43:6 65:18 113:1 90:15,18,21 91:22 93:14 97:12 99:10,12 160:13 191:3 193:4 98:2.4 100:18 102:4 103:17 195:7 197:4.24 198:5 199:8 160:1 212:19 202:15 203:10,14 211:10 **step-in** 115:8 108:25 109:4 120:5,7,14 121:9 steps 13:8 217:22 121:11 124:16 138:25 139:12 213:23 242:2 stick 124:17 139:21,23,25 140:3,8,11 141:17 Support/Mentors 4:3 **Stock** 157:9,10,25 158:8 159:10 143:6,20,22,24 144:1,14 146:10 **supporting** 47:10 86:19 241:17 148:2,5,10 150:2,17 158:4 161:1 168:6 242:13 **stomping** 172:24 164:11 166:7 175:17 220:24 **supportive** 30:19 33:13 **stop** 24:2 37:16 163:23 221:25 232:5,23 235:4 238:22 **supposed** 26:19 81:12 85:3 93:3 **STOPit** 236:14 238:24,25 242:4,14 93:4 109:6 students' 86:9 98:14,16 123:18 Surcharge 237:4 **stopped** 63:11 240:7 **stored** 94:19 242:19 sure 10:23 12:10 13:3,13 14:21 story 13:14 25:24,25 studies 33:8 17:1 28:3 29:19 30:1,18 41:3,14 straight 215:17 study 177:8,17 178:6 41:15 48:18,22 55:12 56:5,7,14 strand 217:10 **stuff** 23:6 163:20,21 164:19 62:23 63:24 68:17 76:14 80:9 street 1:21 14:5 36:25 176:18 198:20 205:15 93:7 98:6,7,8,22 116:10 122:14

188:20 194:16 207:5 220:11 tell 10:19 13:13 24:8 63:8 76:8 123:4 124:6 125:8,13 132:15 133:2 134:18 137:6 138:18 takes 115:4 76:19 99:8 110:1 141:18 143:1 149:2 152:7,10 153:10 159:14 talented 32:22 146:23 163:17 200:8 201:8 160:18 176:1 182:13,15 191:19 talk 132:14 133:22 145:21 165:9 telling 22:1 201:11 193:5.22 198:7 201:24 202:13 165:16 202:23 208:2 227:18 template 133:25 202:18 204:1 208:14 213:19 237:9 temporarily 176:8 217:3,14 219:19,20 233:18 talked 30:23 91:10 114:23 temporary 173:25 ten 26:2 33:7 93:1 155:19 165:24 236:20 175:23 218:2 236:4,12 **surely** 28:15 talking 23:7 67:6 86:21 87:2 167:4 173:14 surprised 198:11 105:9,9 114:24 121:24 158:5 **Ten-to-zero** 180:18 184:25 survey 77:4,25 223:24 224:3,7 178:10 191:4 199:9 207:19,23 187:23 215:10 **suspect** 121:11 208:12,21,23,25 209:8,8 218:24 ten-zero 131:12,14 180:20 185:2 sustainable 25:8 236:13 188:1 215:12 **SWAT** 192:9 202:22,22 talks 16:25 17:14 tend 200:8 201:8 sweet 47:25 203:6 **Tani** 188:23 tenets 16:22 21:6 **SWOT** 192:10 **Taos** 183:10 tentative 128:15 symposium 242:9 tap 21:3 tentatively 174:2 system 11:1 18:22 24:16.18 tare 218:20,25 219:4,7 222:18 tenth-grade 81:20 113:19 114:8,8 145:19,21 168:3 tenured 101:6 238:17 185:24 186:4,7 215:23 target 135:13,14 138:6 143:18 Teresa 216:1 systematic 97:18 100:19 148:5 159:18,18 174:7 243:18 term 21:19 106:12 108:6 192:8 systematically 92:14 targeting 190:7 223:21 systematize 217:21 Task 241:10 terminology 76:10 systematized 217:23 taught 85:20 114:17,21 230:8,8 terms 22:12 33:24 86:18 125:10 systemic 89:8 91:13 100:19 133:3 153:6 160:3 162:20 systems 13:1 14:1 203:8,20 204:3 teacher 15:20 84:3,16,24 85:15 169:24 175:22 182:20 215:16 204:4 211:4 221:9 224:23 238:16 85:17 86:10,24 93:2,25 97:24 110:15 112:12,16 114:15 125:7 terrific 206:11 T 150:17 158:12,16,17,19,22 territory 219:13 T 3:1 4:1 162:17 166:8 175:15 test 141:18 142:14,15 143:6 t's 122:2 teacher-made 151:4 151:22,25 230:13 **TA** 101:11,14,15 teachers 85:14 93:3 95:19 112:23 tested 143:20 tab 155:2,2 120:18 151:7 156:19 158:13,14 testimony 245:15 table 24:5 50:11 58:12,22 60:1 testing 148:20 162:16 166:1.7 175:13 204:25 153:19 205:11 230:18 232:11,22 242:14,17 tests 87:12 152:13 tabled 60:10 67:11,11,13 68:1 teaching 85:15 156:15 230:7 **Texas** 166:2,14,17 tables 204:22 205:10 234:16.20 text 72:24 73:4,25 74:9 tabling 60:7 team 27:18,23 28:9 29:18 33:11 thank 5:19 6:13 9:4,15 15:1,4,13 tag 207:11 33:12,18 42:10 44:18 71:6,7 20:10,21 22:8 23:17,19 26:17 tag-on 208:1 27:1,4,4,6,25 31:14 34:5 37:23 91:2 103:10,11,11,14 136:18 take 10:13 13:6 14:6 25:7 39:24 156:16 169:20 173:14 192:9 39:22 41:23 42:6 43:16 45:5 48:15 54:21 55:9 66:12 70:4 234:12,14 55:22 56:25 60:4 68:7 70:1,2 87:5 90:4 97:16 107:16 113:1 teams 205:21 210:14 72:15 74:19.20 75:11 76:22.25 136:24 140:2,8,10 146:6 150:2 technical 62:6 100:10 78:6,7,8,15 79:2,7 80:16 82:3 150:4 153:25 157:4 167:19 technically 103:16 162:18 84:19 87:15,17 89:15,16 92:21 168:1 198:13 200:21 217:23 techniques 92:6 92:21 98:10,20 101:23,24 104:7 218:12 223:15 teeter-totter 241:20 104:9,10,21 124:9,11 131:14,15 taken 13:8 22:3 27:9 70:5 149:14 teeth 54:21 131:20,24 132:10,11,12,16

140:25 141:5 144:3 152:20 153:14,15,16,17,18 157:6 165:5 167:23 168:5,7,20 172:19 175:8 175:20 180:21 181:15 182:4 185:3 187:25 192:24 205:18 206:17 209:12 215:13 216:13 224:9.10 229:24.25 231:15 237:18 240:23,25 241:8 thank-you 216:9 217:18 thanks 29:15 35:8 37:20 41:21 41:25 141:1 149:13 181:3 196:21 227:9 238:10 242:24 theirs 104:2 thematic 230:22 thematically 230:23 therapists 93:16 They'd 55:16 thing 15:21 20:3 80:10 86:4,22 87:13 88:17 92:16 109:23 121:20 124:13 136:1 152:23 163:11 175:3 181:23 201:10 202:8 207:8,15 209:14,16 212:17 213:9 217:16,20 218:2 221:23 222:1,18 223:1 226:9 227:5 228:11 230:7 235:5 238:18 239:18 240:21 things 22:18 24:21 25:20 26:13 35:11 56:20 58:1,1 65:13,24 76:18 77:4 84:22 86:11.21 88:19 95:16,21 100:25 121:7,18 159:6 160:19 162:21 165:20,23 166:24 168:2,13 169:3,10 175:21 182:1,2 185:21 190:11 199:22 201:5 202:10 203:24 204:13 207:15 208:11,12,22 209:11 217:25 220:13 221:1.2 227:4 233:15 238:15 239:2 243:25 think 9:7 13:6 14:22 17:21 19:21 19:22 22:3 27:19 28:10 30:14 30:16 31:11 33:9 34:11 36:6 37:4 41:12,13 45:2 48:8 49:3,13 50:25 51:14 53:19 54:25 61:3,5 62:25 63:18,22 64:24 65:1,7,8 65:12 66:16 67:25 82:6 83:14 85:25 90:23 96:18 97:21 104:14 107:3 110:21 114:11,15 115:14 116:7 118:2 119:1,12,13 120:6

120:12 121:3,14,18,19 122:16 122:24 123:23 124:12,20 125:7 125:18 126:15 127:2 129:4,11 133:11 134:15 136:16,17 137:4 137:16 138:20 144:4 161:6,8,9 162:1,13,14 163:16,22 164:21 165:2 169:16.16.25 170:24 175:21 178:14 188:6,8 189:19 190:10 191:25 192:18 193:8.8 193:12,19,21,25 194:6,11,13,17 196:5,7,13 197:2,21 198:5 199:10,12,16,23,25 200:19 201:9,10 202:1,3,7,13,14,17,18 202:19 203:5 205:19,19 206:10 206:15,18,20 207:16,22 208:7 208:19,21 209:5 210:8,13 211:13,23 212:5,9,18,21 213:8 213:11 216:4,6 217:5 218:10 219:6 221:14,23 222:2 223:4,6 223:19 226:18 231:13 233:21 234:5 236:15 237:10 240:4,20 241:16 243:25 thinking 53:21 65:4,5 118:6 120:13 127:4 147:10 216:22 235:4.6 third 1:21 57:2 156:14 169:22 245:20 third-21:4 thoroughly 131:17 **thought** 56:19,21 71:11 134:19 142:15 145:7 195:11 206:16,18 209:12 217:11 226:17 229:2,4 230:12 **thoughts** 139:19 thousands 167:4 threat 18:11 160:3 194:13 three 42:12 44:25 51:2 52:14,16 88:5 107:5 146:15 156:19 177:4 200:10 201:3,4 212:20 230:15 231:7 three-and-a-half 225:24 228:3 three-year 10:1 threshold 161:14,19 throes 10:25 throw 206:13 thrown 10:25 178:11

**tidbits** 241:1 tight 181:18 till 236:23 243:4 **Tim** 2:5 78:18,19 79:7 82:5 87:23 90:1,9,23 91:25 92:3 93:9 96:25 100:1 101:24 104:9 time 19:17 28:11.15 29:16 30:6 32:6,11 34:1,2 36:15 44:15 45:4 50:24 52:10.19.25 53:5 55:25 55:25 57:10 60:20 61:13 63:15 63:15 66:4,8,10 68:4 78:16 80:3 83:13,17 84:14,15 85:20 86:14 88:23,24,24 93:17 94:2,13,16 98:24 99:9 111:10,22 113:20 117:2,4,12,16,18,20 118:5 123:16 124:4 127:16 128:20.21 128:21 133:15,21,23 134:3,3 136:25 137:17 138:11 141:13 142:13 148:22 149:14 153:14 162:21 165:12 170:1 175:6 181:21 182:1,5 188:21 191:5 193:9,12,20 194:10,17 199:21 202:9 204:8,9,19 205:9,24 206:7 207:5 212:15 217:1,17 225:11,16 234:4 246:10,15,20 246:25 timeline 31:5 38:11 156:10,18 170:2 177:2 timely 229:20 times 80:8 89:9 115:19,19 175:7 212:20 217:3 232:25 timing 119:4 162:21 **Tingley** 16:11 today 27:15 34:10 50:23 113:10 137:22 156:17,25 157:1 217:25 238:11 239:19.22 today's 127:20,21 told 55:25 148:20 199:20 233:17 tomorrow 201:23 ton 215:15 tool 152:13,16,17 top 21:3 86:16 99:17,24 163:19 165:10 219:1,12 222:24 238:9 top-of-the-heap 223:6 topic 57:13 86:19 205:10 total 90:20 totally 39:12 163:4,20 169:10 221:10

**Thursday** 228:2,5

tickets 226:2

tough 99:22 114:14,14,17 trying 11:9 13:17 24:20 57:16 217:19 town 35:20 58:21 81:23 83:1 115:24 119:14 understood 151:24 track 96:4 121:24 152:10 129:6 144:11 145:18 150:3 unemployment 21:11 tracking 152:9,19 164:25 181:19 194:8,9 200:2 unforeseen 129:3 unfortunate 35:11 39:17 217:9 **traction** 223:10 215:16 216:4 230:13 234:5 traditional 26:9 191:11 196:18 **Tuesday** 181:1 242:8 243:4 **unfortunately** 19:16 35:15 136:5 turn 41:23 101:22 160:19 141:24 176:10 216:11 217:6 200:9 traditionally 167:11 turned 169:6 225:19 unh-unh 209:14 237:16 **trained** 166:19 tutor 71:17 73:6,7,16 uniform 22:2 training 28:25 33:9 98:24 99:18 **tutoring** 76:14 82:24,25 union 240:16,17,18 99:19 101:8 141:4 166:1,2,5,6,7 tweak 137:4 unique 19:2 166:13,18,25 207:12 213:4 twice 17:18 uniqueness 168:14 **United** 165:25 239:25 240:3,15 trainings 155:20 173:14 201:1 two 6:23 20:24 31:2,18 48:11 **trajectory** 22:4 152:8 55:4 56:23 64:4 85:14 88:5 units 230:22 transcript 1:10 245:11 246:8,13 99:2 100:11 103:7,8 107:6 university 13:24,24 25:17 234:17 246:18,23 110:10 112:22 113:2 120:18.20 UNM 13:25 transcription 107:4 120:24 124:2 127:19 133:9 UNM's 22:24 transfer 23:10 154:15 156:20 166:2 169:10 unmute 132:14 transfers 77:13 175:13 177:5 191:8,9 205:3 unorthodox 97:13 transition 3:8 9:21 11:4,5,7,12 208:17,21 218:10 229:10,11 untried 119:4 11:15 12:23 13:19 18:5 19:20 237:23 up-in-the-air 222:19 **upcoming** 30:7 124:5 198:16 24:6,17 176:25 177:5 two-page 32:1 transport 222:11,13 two-pronged 103:13 **update** 28:8 30:21 40:6 188:20 **transportation** 37:14 160:2 two-way 160:24 189:8 216:23 type 70:19 81:16 86:3.5 87:13 trauma 166:16 **updated** 30:24 34:3 44:15 travel 182:6 217:7 225:15,16 152:14 203:6 209:16 244:3 **updates** 27:12,14,16 29:20 31:17 228:25 229:1.4.7 types 177:24 155:7 156:17.24 157:24 158:5 traveled 225:9 174:9 236:1 IJ traveling 153:15 157:7 **upload** 74:16 136:2 **U.S** 16:12.12 21:15 **Travelocity 226:8 uploaded** 79:11 111:8,11 112:9 **Uh-huh** 91:23 178:7 196:13 **travels** 244:21 124:3 198:22 treasurer 134:22 174:24 **Uptown** 37:18 ultimate 105:12 107:7,9,12 tremendous 72:8 100:6,9,23 **USDE** 29:23 ultimately 108:25 101:2 use 16:15 20:16 21:19 25:17 **unable** 38:8 216:12 triage 215:24 26:22 35:16 39:23 92:6 101:21 unanimously 223:5 trial-and-error 202:2 134:16 138:1 142:7 145:1 unbelievable 101:2 tried 225:12 228:15 236:14 244:9 146:22 147:12 150:3 151:3.6 unclear 63:7.22 tries 26:22 162:7 166:9 167:2 212:11 233:2 **uncomfortable** 50:14 65:2 68:4 triggers 17:11 233:3 under-employment 21:12 useful 21:19 144:10 178:17 224:4 **trip** 46:12 128:18 understand 11:8 19:23 20:21 **Trish** 2:3 209:14 useless 241:6 21:8 38:25 39:12 48:20 53:10 **troubles** 111:17 usually 46:23 145:14 228:8,18 53:14.14 68:17 72:6.9 141:23 utilize 211:24 true 103:3 116:5 218:8 245:10 165:19,19 207:24 240:4,6 truly 26:6 43:14 104:8 138:13 V understanding 3:24 21:6 30:25 176:3 188:25 203:3 235:23 50:9,21 55:14 73:13 75:23 76:3 vacuum 212:16 try 6:19 15:24 96:18 101:5,7 76:8,11 123:7 139:4 145:5 valid 96:20 125:24 129:10 137:19 138:7 146:20 151:22,25 189:10,12 validate 242:20 141:6 216:23 225:19

Valley 176:11 valuable 188:7,22 value 195:12 242:14 values 231:24 Varela 46:15.15 variety 85:12 various 38:21 48:16 107:17 Vasquez 174:20,21 Vegas 217:1,2 **vehicles** 177:19 vendors 119:11 venture 158:2 verbatim 23:16 93:21 verbiage 140:20,23 verify 122:20 versa 152:17 versed 235:22 **vertical** 147:24 vestiges 185:10 vice 2:3 152:17 174:18 view 82:9 violations 117:9 126:5 virtually 20:5 25:13 **vision** 30:3 visit 90:8,12,16 95:9,12 96:22 109:11,23 113:15,23,25 114:3 116:5 117:21.22 Visitors' 4:10 visits 73:9 89:23 90:2,4 96:10 vital 22:21,23 voices 153:18 242:18 **voicing** 165:5 Voigt 2:7 5:9,10 8:21,22 14:10 15:3,4,13 37:22,23,25 38:13,15 38:25 39:8,12,15,17,20 40:17 40:22 41:9 49:21 50:3,13,25 51:3 52:16 53:2 54:7,10,13,25 55:5 58:25 59:1 69:8,9 87:16,17 89:15 98:9,10 108:13,14,22 122:12,15 123:10,24 124:6 130:16,17 133:17 155:1 170:17 170:18,19 171:1,4,7,19,20 178:23,24,25 179:10,19,20 182:12,14,16 183:17 184:7,8 187:3,4 192:10 193:7 194:6 195:3,15,18 196:5,13 197:12,15 197:20,25 199:12 200:5 201:21 202:3 204:1,5 205:6 207:19

211:13 212:5 213:17,20 214:2,8 214:9 224:17 240:24,25 241:8 241:13 242:25 243:6 **volume** 100:6 voluntarily 92:10 volunteering 206:11 **vote** 9:2 42:3 45:23 46:1 48:15.25 49:23,24 50:5,7,8 53:10 58:22 60:7 65:5 130:5 131:12 180:19 181:6 185:1 187:24 188:20 215:11 220:11 voted 132:22 **votes** 8:20 59:15 69:17,24 118:20 131:6 172:15 180:6 184:13 186:21 215:4 **voting** 68:10,11,18 127:5 149:15

## $\mathbf{W}$

wait 48:24 116:4

waiting 17:20 47:20 **waive** 61:9 waiver 97:22 waivers 97:23 wakes 21:25 Walgreens 176:17 walked 24:11 48:4 110:6 234:25 walkways 177:4 want 12:2,4 14:6 15:5 19:5 30:1 30:17 32:5 43:10 47:17 48:6,24 49:6 50:7,24 53:25 54:5,23 62:10 64:17 66:12 68:9 72:17 72:18 73:15 75:11 78:9 79:3.7 82:4.12 88:17 95:7 96:19 102:1 106:12 109:15 112:19,20 113:5 115:2 116:1,2 120:4 127:7,8 128:7 129:1,19 133:2 138:16,21 144:16 145:17,23 158:1 160:9 160:18 162:7 163:22 165:17,17 165:17,18 167:23 168:23 169:9 169:15 175:2,9,20 181:15 182:1 182:2.4 189:5 194:6 195:13 201:22,23,23 205:14 207:16 211:11 212:3.18.22 216:8 217:16 220:2 222:18 223:25 224:1,20 225:23 227:12,14 229:1 230:3 238:14 243:8 wanted 25:12,23 26:1 27:15,17 27:21 28:7 30:21 31:17,18

32:20 33:2.12.20.24 34:6 42:8 42:15,22 43:18 44:10,12,22,24 54:22 65:19 68:17 73:18 74:8 84:21 92:24 96:23 104:24 105:20 134:8 142:12 147:21 152:24 153:9 154:13 156:16 169:15.17.23 170:2 218:5 219:20 234:14 237:15 239:18 wanting 13:6 207:17 237:7 240:7 wants 49:25 60:22 65:10 75:15 104:12 159:22 205:11 wasn't 64:6 83:14 124:22 134:5 145:10 169:1 178:12 223:6 230:20 235:2 240:13 watched 92:17 water 14:1 238:8 way 10:16 14:16 19:19 22:20 31:4 32:19 40:9 52:16 64:13 83:11 97:7,13,20 100:14 104:25 114:9 121:13 124:15 161:9,18 161:20 162:3,22 167:17 195:25 197:8 199:24 200:13,23 205:1 213:6 217:21 230:20,23 241:19 ways 85:12 145:1 167:2 191:21 206:23 223:15 we'll 16:22 22:4 28:16 29:2 32:14 32:15 37:16 49:24,24 50:5 113:4 117:4 120:10 127:14 128:18,21,24 137:7,7 140:10 149:16 170:6 175:10 181:9 185:12 205:23 206:5 223:25 224:1 225:19 227:7 229:21 we're 6:22 10:3 11:9,22 12:9,11 13:13.17.22.23 14:8 15:16 17:2 17:15,16,20 19:2 24:15 26:19 28:25 29:12.23 45:9 47:19 49:23 52:21 53:4 54:4,17 56:17 60:5 61:13 62:13 64:24 67:11 68:10 70:3 72:7 80:9,9 81:24 82:15,22 83:4 93:4 100:7,7,8,13 101:17 107:9 108:1 110:5 112:3 116:20 117:24 118:8 119:12 120:10 121:3,24 122:5 125:21 127:5 128:6,16,17,25 129:12 133:2,3,16 136:21,21 137:16,24 138:1,4,10 140:24 141:6,9 142:1,3 143:14,15 144:11 147:19,23 149:15 151:16

158:11,23 160:1,17 163:16 164:4 165:10 167:12,18,18 175:17,18,25 176:1,16,19 177:2 177:11 180:22 181:1 183:16 188:2,4,9 191:1 194:7 195:13 196:3 197:11 201:1,2,4,17 202:1 204:17 206:2 208:1.16.21 209:7,8 213:18 216:4,19 218:24 219:12 222:1,15 223:9,9,22 236:9,23 237:7,12 241:13 242:19 we've 13:8 16:7 17:3,5,18 18:16 23:20 48:7 55:25 67:3,10,11 81:9 108:24 109:5 114:2 116:6 136:1,3,20 148:18 159:5 191:4 192:15 207:23 220:1,1,8 222:9 236:13 244:9 wealth 211:10 webinars 99:4 website 30:8 99:4,7 227:17,22 Wednesday 134:14 135:8 week 31:9 93:19 121:1 127:6 136:25 156:14 158:6 159:3 169:22 175:19 192:19,22 193:9 193:19 194:1.17 197:22 198:17 198:18 199:17,23 200:1 201:24 203:17 204:17 205:4 216:5 227:16 228:24 229:8,10,10 241:9 242:21,22 243:12 244:11 weeks 28:23 29:13 39:19 88:5,5 118:11 124:2 127:19 128:3 148:25 200:10 229:10,11 welcome 17:22 27:24 144:7 157:3.4.23 173:2 175:8 181:2 well-received 218:23 well-rounded 23:15 went 9:24 19:15 94:2 132:3 161:23 164:16 166:12 185:9 224:19 230:25 232:4 234:16 weren't 76:13 137:20 169:17 190:6 233:18 239:1 **whammy** 191:18 **whatnot** 176:25 wheel 230:24,24 **whereof** 245:15 whew 201:12 **whispers** 124:23 **WIDA** 150:15,18,24

wife 20:16 Wildlife 16:12 willing 65:9 205:16 224:19 willingness 13:4 winter 99:3 wisdom 211:21,25 wish 75:13 169:3 181:8 wishful 216:21 withdraw 55:21 **WITNESS** 132:8 Woerner 2:11 45:14,18,24 46:3,8 46:25 64:8 72:18 74:21 75:3 76:13 78:9,13 83:16 95:11 108:18 153:22 216:17 229:5 wonder 205:1 212:19 wondered 67:4 141:17 wonderful 158:4 wondering 243:5,17,19,20 244:2 Wong 207:15 209:16 Wong's 206:16 wonky 57:17 word 18:17 162:7 164:23 218:9 231:22 worded 64:11 138:6 wording 75:24 140:11 words 46:22 92:13 work 11:24 12:12 13:19 14:19 15:11 17:6,9 18:6,24,25 22:1,25 38:8 44:10 46:16 48:19 81:23 100:25 110:21,21 111:11 117:5 119:11 126:19 127:2 128:4 139:17 141:9 142:2 145:20 149:11 169:11 185:4,14 188:6 188:11.17.24 189:7 200:9 204:6 204:7 206:8 211:12,19 213:2,14 215:15 217:20 218:1 241:10 243:1 workable 125:23 worked 43:2 83:6 85:7 150:16 168:18 194:23 195:6 workforce 10:11 12:5 23:6

125:8 164:17 world 14:7 17:22 25:14 129:7 141:9 165:1.21 worth 43:9 242:23 worthwhile 199:10 wouldn't 50:12 79:22 136:2 143:2.6 206:18 207:20.24 217:7 221:21 Wow 191:1 233:22 write 86:19 93:6 writing 79:21 80:4,11 82:19 86:3 86:18 93:2 143:20 written 41:6 63:25 64:13 79:22 122:22 123:12.19 207:8 wrong 163:20 199:7 226:18 wrote 93:24 X

**X** 3:1 4:1 Xinachtli 154:10 155:11,15 158:3 165:12 166:21 171:2 183:12

#### Y

vank 61:16 **yeah** 17:22,23,23 20:20 23:14 26:16 34:12 36:22 37:8 38:14 39:15,20 41:16,20,25 47:18 49:10,10,12,21 50:13 54:9,19 55:5,20 60:11 63:25 75:10 82:14 84:18 87:3 91:23 92:24 96:24 97:2 108:14 119:17,19 120:2 124:6 125:16,17,22 127:14 131:19 149:11 150:10 153:11 177:12 178:10,13,25 190:22 195:15 204:1 206:10 216:17 217:12,13,14 220:9 221:12 232:21,24 233:2,9,17,20 238:3,7 243:16 year 10:6,20,22 11:2,2,2,21 16:8 17:15 28:11 29:8 30:7 42:12,18 42:23.24 43:2.15.24 44:9.11.17 44:23 47:19 77:21 84:14 94:19 94:19.25 99:2 100:12 110:7 111:12 112:22 113:4 118:9,9 120:7 124:5 128:2 129:11 134:24,25 135:3 136:8 142:1,4 142:6 143:2,4,21,23 144:2

working 12:6 13:24 14:8 15:23

159:4 189:15 219:6 240:13

works 10:7 21:22 28:24 74:3

241:14

16:7 24:21 40:23 83:2 85:2.17

94:7 100:7 111:13 113:3 137:25

143:11,15 147:19,22,23 158:16

**10:31** 70:5 **200** 15:16 32:24 146:13 147:12.15 154:21 155:4 155:8,13,20,25 156:3 160:2,17 **10:48** 70:5 **2000** 230:5,5 160:18,19,19 161:22 166:12 **100** 15:17 43:8 142:16 **2007** 204:8 169:21 173:5,18,21 192:14 **1001** 241:6 **2009** 211:13 193:12 196:11 200:25 201:7 **107** 15:18 **201** 1:21 245:20 203:7 206:7 212:20,21 218:10 **10th** 174:4 **2018** 155:21 173:13,16 218:22 222:4 224:19 225:13 11 232:16 **2019** 1:11 155:19,22 156:12 226:25 230:5 232:9 237:17 **11:00** 32:13 181:1 173:16 182:17,21,22,23,24,25 240:6 11:30-to-1:00 204:18 183:1,3,5,7,8,10 245:16 year's 43:9 123:9 227:1,2 **12** 3:19 44:8 94:1 185:6 **2020** 136:9 174:3 vear-and-a-half 137:25 138:4,5 **12:40** 154:4 **2021** 182:24 year-and-a-half's 134:9 **12:59** 154:4 **2022** 182:21 **2024** 182:22,23,25 183:2,3,5,7,9 year-and-a-half-growth 135:25 **120-day** 44:13 **year-end** 231:20 **128th** 42:19 43:19 183:10 vears 33:4,10 43:7 93:1 99:21 **12th** 127:3 128:14 129:1 **20th** 33:3 225:23 227:23,25 133:9 165:25 166:3,3,22,23 **13** 3:21 188:2 **21** 9:22 23:25 24:3.15 167:4.4 204:12 230:15 231:7 **131** 3:15 **21-year-old** 12:4 234:20 236:14 241:5 **14** 1:11 3:23 35:19 240:1 **215** 4:5 years-plus 168:19 **219** 1:20 245:8,19 **14.000** 178:9 vesterday 48:20 50:20 56:24 **144** 175:17 **21st** 32:13 225:22 57:5,11 58:4,10 148:19 159:2 **14th** 5:3 112:17 127:21 239:23 **22nd** 31:7 127:1 189:22 **15** 4:3 21:24 153:25 160:1 162:9 176:13 185:9,14,19 188:3,22 **23** 71:24,25,25 72:1 218:1 224:14 **150** 223:8 **230** 4:6 you-know-what 197:22 **154** 3:17 2358N 1:25 245:25 246:2 **young** 19:7 23:7 **156** 175:18 **23rd** 127:1 155:19 youngest 20:13 **16** 4:5 **24/7** 205:25 Youth 16:13 21:23 **16-B** 216:16.17 **244** 4:7 **245** 4:8 **1630** 1:21 245:20 **Z 17** 4:6 44:7.8 **24th** 173:13 225:22 zero 43:3 **176** 43:20 **25** 166:22,23 168:18 zone 35:23 177:14,14 192:24,24 **18** 4:7 9:21 **25th** 189:23 192:25 **1800s** 18:23 **26** 120:12,17 159:22 **zoning** 177:13 **185** 3:19 **26th** 229:13 **Zuni** 167:9 **188** 3:21 **27** 3:10 160:1 **189** 3:23 **28** 245:16 0 **18th** 133:8 **28th** 226:25 229:12,19 **19** 166:13 1 3 1914:3 1 3:3 4:10 7:2 43:4 236:23 237:15 **3** 3:6 7:17 1st 127:17 157:21 216:24 236:20 **1,093** 66:15 **30** 219:8 220:18 237:17 **1,100** 47:14 48:2,5 62:8,8,15 **30.000** 219:9 65:16 66:12 2 **300** 83:12,14 90:19 **1,200** 51:17 52:3,4 53:7 54:6 **2** 3:5 72:21 **30th** 36:3 226:25 55:17,18 66:12,13 **2,000** 220:23 **34** 120:10 **1.49** 43:7 **2,500** 220:24 **35** 42:19,19 **10** 3:17 154:6,14,22 155:1,2 **2:49** 244:22 **365** 93:19,21 162:8 232:8 237:3.6 238:25 **20** 33:4 42:24 142:16 159:23 **37** 159:22 **10:00** 32:10 160:8,8 219:7,12 222:7 **39** 232:22