

Commissioners

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District 3



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District 4



Karyl Ann Armbruster
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District 7



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Biographies

Glenna Voigt-District 3

Glenna Voigt was born in South Korea and raised in Albuquerque, NM. She obtained her B.S. in Education from the University of New Mexico and her M.A. in Educational Leadership from New Mexico Highlands University. Her Master's Thesis researched why traditional public school teachers leave large schools to teach at charter schools. Prior to studying Education, Glenna served in the US Air National Guard as a Photographer, studied Mechanical Engineering at the University of New Mexico, and taught English in Tokyo, Japan.

More recently, Glenna was a Physical Education Teacher, Athletic Coach, and Principal with Albuquerque Public Schools and the Founding Principal of the first NM PEC-authorized charter school, Media Arts Collaborative Charter School (MACCS). As a Teacher, Glenna also served as her APS middle school's Bilingual Coordinator, Literacy Coach, ESL Instructor, Volleyball and Basketball Coach, and Legislative Liaison. While Principal at MACCS, the school received Albuquerque's prestigious Creative Bravos Award in 2012, "honoring the City's most creative minds and work that support a creative economy while making a significant impact on the lives of students, neighborhoods, and communities". Her nine years of extensive depth and breadth towards developing and growing a successful NM Charter School brings meaningful experience to the PEC.

During her educational profession, Glenna published numerous articles addressing technology and access in education, and the creative arts and civic engagement. "When youth overcome the vulnerability to present their creativity and defend their knowledge, they find their voice, become masters of their learning, and are empowered to speak up." Glenna has presented at over eight State and National conferences about the importance of rigorous course options, presentations of learning, challenges educators face with technology growth, career education, community outreach, and the importance of art and PE in schools.

In 2014 Glenna received an inaugural three-year WK Kellogg Foundation Fellowship which broadened her lens and her work to promote healthy development, academic success and economic security for children and their families. Her WKKF Fellowship sparked collective national action and culminated with a collaborative New Mexico/Mississippi youth project, "My World Our World", in which students creatively expressed ideas about social justice and racial equity.

Glenna is an avid reader and international traveller, enjoys the outdoors and the challenges of golf. She also serves on three non-profit Boards.

Karyl Ann Armbruster-District 4

Karyl Ann Armbruster is an educator with forty-five years of experience in elementary and middle school environments. In the Golden State from 1970–1992, she taught special education in K–8 classrooms. From 1992–2009, Karyl Ann was ensconced in teaching in the Land of Enchantment at Los Alamos Middle School.

Ms. Armbruster has taught all subjects areas, and she has enjoyed teaching in a wide range of settings. She has educated students in living skills programs and in self-contained and inclusion classrooms. To stay abreast of the continuous changes in education, Karyl Ann remains involved. Since 2009, she has continued to mentor and tutor students and teachers. She kept her classroom management skills and immune system honed by substitute teaching for a few years after retirement.

Karyl Ann has served the larger community in a variety of ways. She was elected president of Los Alamos Federation of School Employees from 2002 through 2008. During those years she did mediations and negotiations for all LA employees. Since her retirement, she has found interesting avocations to keep challenged and involved. From 2011–2014, she has been on the boards of the League of Women Voters and the Los Alamos Public Schools Foundation, and active in the Democratic Party in Los Alamos..

She grew up in Indianapolis and graduated from the award winning Shortridge High School where Kurt Vonnegut, Senator Richard Lugar, Congressman Andrew Jacobs, and Eli Lilly also attended. She earned her BA from Miami University in government and history and earned her MA in education psychology and learning disabilities from Long Beach State University

Michael M. Chávez-District 6

Michael Chavez is completing twenty-five years in public education. Born and raised in Deming, Michael has been a life-long resident with deep roots in southern New Mexico. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Education and a Master of Arts Education both from New Mexico State University. Michael holds a NM Level Three-B Pre K-12 Administrative License, a Level Three-A Instructional Leader 7-12 Secondary License with endorsements in Social Studies and TESOL and a Level Two Athletic Coach License. His experience includes teaching at the middle and high school levels, middle school assistant and principal, and director of federal programs and bilingual education.

In his current role as federal programs director, Michael oversees programs focused on poverty, bilingual education, English language development migrant education, homeless and foster care students, neglected and delinquent student services, homebound education services, immigrant education, truancy, career technical education, well-rounded education, safe and healthy schools, the district's clothing bank, and the seal of bi-literacy award. In addition to his district responsibilities, Mr. Chávez serves as a member of the New Mexico Hispanic Education Committee and is the past president of the New Mexico Association of Bilingual Education. He has also served as an adjunct instructor for ENMU's TESOL Endorsement Program. Task-force committee participation includes PED's adoption of the WIDA Standards, ESSA school grade workgroup focused on Opportunity to Learn and English learner indicators, New Mexico Achievement Gap Alliance member, Co-chair of the State Bilingual Advisory Committee, Title III AMAO Adoption Committee, ELL Test Accommodation Committee, and has mentored principals through PED's Principals Pursuing Excellence the last six years.

Michael and his wife, Vicki, of 32 years, reside in Deming and are proud of their two grown children and their spouses, Joslynn and her husband Adrian and Evan and his wife Marie.

Patricia Gipson-District 7

Commissioner Patricia Gipson spent 29 years in the Garden State of New Jersey (NJ) as an educator, teaching primarily AP United States history, sociology and economics. During her tenure she also served as a staff development trainer for her school district, a peer education coordinator and served on numerous curriculum development committees.

She was the recipient of a Ford Foundation Grant which was a multi-year project to develop curriculum with other educators in NJ to incorporate cooperative learning techniques into the classroom. Incorporating civic responsibility was always a priority. She says, "I was fortunate enough to help write and implement an elective course for high school seniors which culminated in their researching community problems and completing a community service project related to a solution for one of the issues identified."

Ms. Gipson was the Student Council advisor, and she had the privilege of coaching an outstanding group of scholar athletes during her 10 years as a varsity soccer coach.

In addition to her teaching duties, she served as vice president and grievance chair for an all-inclusive National Education Association (NEA) local. During that time she also co-chaired numerous contract negotiations which afforded her the opportunity to gain extensive training in negotiations and mediation.

Since retiring, she has been involved in many charitable organizations and events in southern New Mexico such as The New Mexico Mission of Mercy, Empty Bowls and Cowboys for Cancer to name a few.

She is actively involved in the Democratic Party Of Doña Ana County, currently serving as the District 52 Director, the VP of the Doña Ana County Federation of Democratic Women and Secretary of the State Federation.