

# SAFE AND HEALTHY SCHOOLS

## Newsletter

*The new home for the Head to Toe Conference, the School Health Education Institute and other NMDOH/NMPED trainings focused on improving student health and academic success.*

**November 8-10 | Virtual**

### New Mexico Grown Harvest

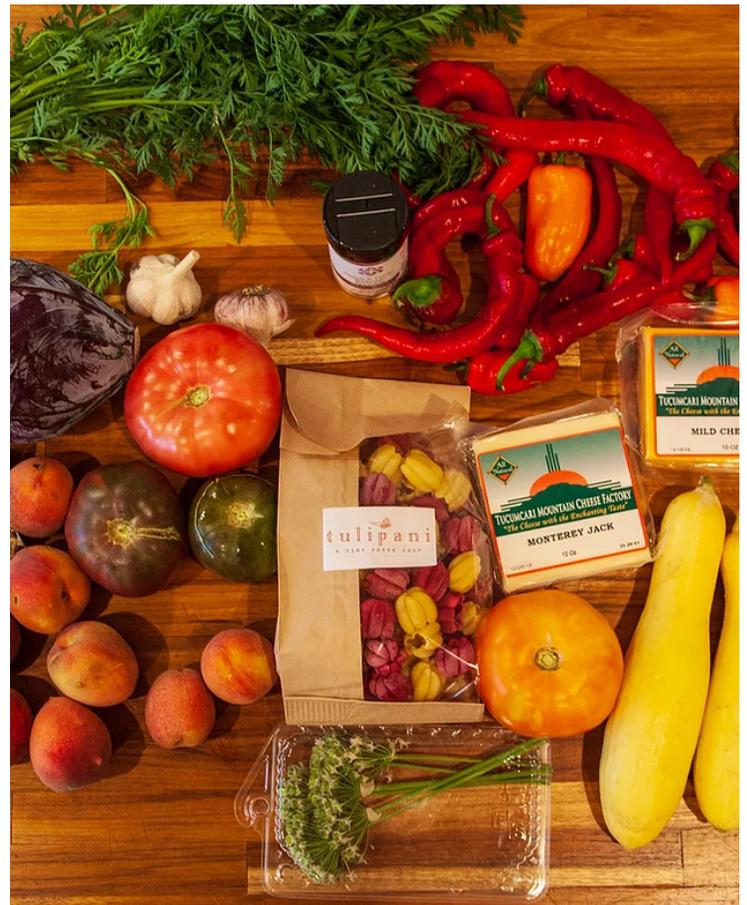
There is no better time than autumn to enjoy locally grown produce. You can taste the hot summer sunshine. Sharing this bounty with students can connect them to both delicious foods and enriched experiences with farming practices and culture, the Goals of New Mexico Grown.

State officials honored 19 schools, preschools and senior centers for connecting students and seniors to locally grown food, efforts that strengthen New Mexico’s farming economy and increase access to healthy food. The Governor’s Office and the Departments of Health, Agriculture, Public Education, Aging and Long-Term Services, and Early Childhood Education & Care recognized institutions across the state during a virtual celebration Oct. 13. Every year, the State encourages programs to apply for the awards so they can be recognized for establishing edible gardens, serving locally grown food, providing gardening lessons and nutrition education, offering culturally-appropriate lessons and engaging staff, families and/or communities in NM Grown programming. The NM Grown Program awarded almost \$622,000 in grants to school food authorities and senior centers this year.

School Health Matters is a new umbrella for two established conferences, the Head to Toe Conference (since 1994) and the School Health Education Institute (since 2005) as well as several other school health-related events supported by the New Mexico Department of Health, Office of School and Adolescent Health and the New Mexico Public Education Department, Safe and Healthy Schools buruea.

School Health Matters 2021 will bring together 500+ professionals working to improve the health and safety of New Mexico’s students. However, professionals from throughout the country are welcome to take advantage of the quality programming provided.

For more information check out [School Health Matters](#).





## NM Healthy Schools Coordinator

New to the Safe and Healthy Schools team is Emma Green. Emma is new to the position as the Healthy Schools Coordinator within the Safe and Healthy Schools Bureau at the Public Education Department. Before stepping into this role, she was the Colfax County Coordinator for a Department of Health Program called “Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities”. She found a great community in Raton, NM and is now looking forward to being a transplant in Santa Fe. Emma holds a Masters in Conflict Resolution from Portland State University and her thesis work focused on Peace Education and Restorative Justice Practices. She has a passion for advocating for students through physical, mental and emotional supports and is excited to be in a role that can have a positive impact in New Mexico Schools. When not working, Emma enjoys photography, writing, playing in nature and playing with her fur babies.

## Expanding Opportunities Project

The Safe and Healthy School team also welcomes Jimmy Gibson as the School Mental Health Coordinator and Project manager for Expanding Opportunities Project Grant. Mr. Gibson is the project manager for a grant from the USDE. This grant is called the Expanded Opportunities Project in New Mexico. The objective of the grant is to provide financial assistance, in the form of stipends and tuition reimbursement for graduate students pursuing behavioral health related degrees. Students are asked to commit to two years of employment in a rural LEA, ( anyplace outside of Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Las Cruces or Farmington). The grant also seeks to retain existing providers of behavioral health services in rural LEA’s. He encourages anyone interested in applying for this grant to go to the website: <https://www.nmeop.com/>



## New Mexico has it’s own Social and Emotional Learning Portal

7 Mindsets, the leader in online social emotional learning (SEL)solutions, and New Mexico’s Public Education Department have partnered to make frees SEL resources available through a new online state portal. The portal will give students, parents, and educators no-cost access to 7 Mindset’s SEL courses and curriculum, leadership training, and teacher professional development.

To access the portal go to;

[www.NewMexicoSELportal.com](http://www.NewMexicoSELportal.com)

To access a recording of the training, visit the portal and select the Educator Zone. Complete the registration information using your school or district email address. Once you are logged in to the portal, you may view the recording.

Want to display the 7 Mindsets poster in your classroom or building?

[Download Now](#)



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