

44 New Mexico Charter School News

December
2021



Governing Board Training

The Charter Schools Division is offering the following dates and times for annual mandatory board training this month:

Thur. 2nd 4 pm – 5 pm
Fiscal #1

Sat. 4th 10 am – 12 pm
Fiscal #2 @10 & Fiscal 3 @11

Tues. 14th 12 pm – 1 pm
Open Governance, Legal & Organizational Performance Requirements

Wed. 15th 4 pm – 6 pm
Academic Understanding

Thur. 16th 4 pm – 6 pm
Equity & Culturally & Linguistically Responsive Practices @4
Ethics & Responsibilities @6

To register, please email
Charter.Schools@state.nm.us

As always, the full list of trainings for the year can be found [here](#).

If times are not working for you, reach out to [Missy Brown](#) or [Dylan Wilson](#). We are happy to consider additional times.

Options for Parents and Families Division Staff update

Please give a big welcome to the newest member of our team, Lucy Valenzuela! Lucy has taken on the role of Technical Assistance and Training Coordinator. Her email is Lucy.Valenzuela@state.nm.us and her cell phone number is 505-670-4951.

We are also happy to announce that **Brigette Russell**, formerly CSP Grant Manager, is now the division's Deputy Director! *Woot Woot!*

Congratulations Renewal Schools!

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|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| >Alma d'arte | >New America School-Las Cruces | >Walatowa |
| >Mission Achievement and Success | >Estancia Valley Classical Academy | >Vista Grande |
| >La Tierra Montessori | >McCurdy Charter School | >Pecos Cyber |

WIDA Winter Workshops for Supporting English Learners

NMPED Language and Culture Division will be hosting in-person two-day WIDA workshops in January and February of 2022. The workshops will provide strategies to empower English learner students to produce successful academic writing and communicate effectively through authentic writing tasks in the content areas. Please use the links below to register:

Writing with ELs in the Elementary:

- [Albuquerque: Jan. 24-25](#)
- [Gadsden: Jan. 27-28](#)

Secondary Grades and Writing with ELs:

- [Clovis: Jan. 31-Feb. 1](#)
- [Rio Rancho: Feb. 3-4](#)
- [Farmington: Feb. 17-18](#)

Enrollment is open to all Curriculum & Instruction program directors and coordinators; English Learners program directors and coordinators, and all teachers who have English learner (EL) students in their classroom. The in-person workshops are free of charge; districts and state charter schools may use Title III funding, if applicable, for related travel, lodging, and substitute costs.

Annual Assessment for Learning Conference

This year's conference will be held on Jan. 11-12. [This flier contains more information and registration details](#). This year's conference features two speakers and researchers, Dr. Jennifer Randall, University of Massachusetts, and Dr. Pōhai Kūkea Shultz, University of Hawaii. Drs. Randall and Kūkea Shultz are two of the leading voices for conceptualizing and advocating for culturally sustainable practices. Additionally, the conference will include sessions exploring the impact on student achievement as a result of the pandemic-related schooling disruptions.



In New Mexico, students experiencing homelessness in all school districts and state charter schools, rural and urban, have the right to specific educational supports under the law. Failing to do this isn't just a legal shortcoming; it undermines critical resources that LEAs could receive.

We want to make 2022 the year when we identify and help more students than ever before. Your Homeless Liaison **has a unique authority** to identify students experiencing homelessness or unstable housing and to make a difference in their lives.

But we know that for many liaisons, that authority doesn't go far unless they have the time and tools to reach their student-identification goals.

We want to help you join your fellow LEAs across New Mexico in supporting these students amidst a busy schedule. So, we are sending you a few **tips and actions** –with **links to pre-created** resources – to help you do all you can. Please take time to review **How Charter Schools Can Support Students Experiencing Homelessness** for tips and resources: [Download the Toolkit](#).

This toolkit is authored jointly by the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools and SchoolHouse Connection, and is intended as a charter school-focused resource that explains the basic legal requirements of the McKinney Vento Act, while highlighting a few examples of best practices from the charter school community. New Mexico's Monte del Sol Charter School/Casa Program for Homeless Families and Families at Risk of Homelessness is highlighted in this toolkit for their best practices!

This year offers new opportunities to have a profound impact on these students' lives. There may be many resources available to you and your students to help them succeed – don't leave anything on the table!

PED's Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program has a variety of resources on its website, which includes a comprehensive list of contact information for Homeless Liaisons, homeless education data, and much more! You can access the website [here](#) for resources.

Questions and requests for training and technical assistance needs are always welcome! For more information, contact Dana Malone, State Coordinator for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth at (505) 819-3527 or dana.malone@state.nm.us.

Research Links

[3 Cyber Security Best Practices](#)

[For English Learners to Thrive, Community and Culture are Necessary](#)

[School Leaders Take Note: Teacher Care is a Lot More Than Self-Care](#)

[5 Critical Best Practices For Concise, Engaging School Communications](#)

Happy Holidays

From the Charter Schools Division!