

New Mexico Charter School News



ROUNDTABLE UPDATES

To kick off *The Year of Literacy*, the New Mexico Public Education Department recently held an Educational Leadership round table that discussed ways to increase literacy in a school setting. The roundtable discussion worked to define literacy, determine ways to motivate a student’s passion for reading both in and outside of the classroom, and discussed the connection between reading and writing, as well as other practical tips.

We’d like to give a big, “thank you,” to the school leaders who participated in the September Educational Leadership Roundtable on learning targets for the Year of Literacy. If you attended but have not yet completed an evaluation, [please do so here](#). The Roundtables are a series of facilitated virtual conversations among charter and traditional school leaders, an opportunity to network and share innovations that promote learning. [Please share with us your suggestions for future topics](#)

CANVAS TRAINING AVAILABLE!

New Mexico Public Education Department is now offering a free, self-paced training course on Child Abuse and Neglect via Canvas. The course will provide participants with information regarding signs of abuse and neglect in children and will also cover our legal obligation to report suspected instances of abuse.

To sign up for the course, click here: [Child Abuse and Neglect Training](#)

HEAD ADMINISTRATOR SURVEY, FALL 2021

The Charter Schools Division would like to know how we can better support you in your work. Please use the link below to fill out the survey so we can better understand your successes and challenges as a leader, refine our technical supports to better meet your needs, and explore what other resources we may need to offer so that you feel supported.

Please feel out the survey before October 18th. You can find the link here: [Head Administrator Survey](#)

GOVERNING BOARD TRAINING

Please see the chart below for governing board trainings offered during the month of October:

October 2021		
Start of the second quarter of the fiscal year		
Wednesday 6 th	4 pm – 5 pm	Fiscal #1
Tuesday 12 th	12 pm – 1 pm	Fiscal #2
Thursday 14 th	4 pm – 5 pm	Equity & Culturally & Linguistically Responsive Practices
Saturday 16 th	10 am – 12 pm	Academic Understanding
Wednesday 20 th	4 pm – 5 pm	Fiscal #3
Tuesday 26 th	12 pm – 1 pm	Open Governance, Legal & Organizational Performance Requirements
Thursday 28 th	4 pm – 5 pm	Ethics & Responsibilities

To sign up for training, please email charter.schools@state.nm.us. Be sure to specify the specific name of the training you’d like to attend!



SHOUT OUTS

WELCOME, BARBARA!

We are happy to introduce you all to Barbara Gradner, the new authorizing practices specialist with the Charter Schools Division team. Barbara comes with over 25 years of experience in public education, evenly split between classroom and administration (principalship).

She is endorsed with a teaching certification in Secondary Language Arts and Vocational Family & Consumer Sciences, and has taught both high school and middle school, as well as teaching at the graduate level in college.

Personally, Barbara grew up in Albuquerque, mostly in the Carnuel area, and is an alumnus of Manzano High School. In 2014, she retired from the Moriarty-Edgewood School District to be with her parents during their "golden years."

She's been married for 33 years and has 3 kids, all of whom are grown and with families of their own (she has 10 grandchildren!) In her spare time, she leads grief support classes and teaches adult classes from time to time in my church - which she loves!

COVID INFORMATION

Discipline policy regarding mask wearing were due September 7th, so please be sure to send in ASAP if you have not yet done so.

Enhanced COVID-safety plan were due on October 1st. Feel free to use the template we have provided, although it is not required. Remember that this plan should be implemented when and if any of your schools reach 5% of infected cases within a 14-day period.



Did you send PED your mask policy and enhanced COVID plans?

HELPFUL AND RESOURCEFUL LINKS

[Lessons in Leadership: How a principal balanced teaching a class while leading through a pandemic](#)

[How K-12 schools can weave alumni back into curriculum](#)