



New Mexico Charter School News

Governing Board Training

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

Wed. 8th 4 pm – 6 pm
Academic Understanding

Sat. 11th 10 am – 12 pm
Fiscal #1 @10 & Fiscal 2 @11

Tues. 14th 12 pm – 1 pm
Equity & Culturally &
Linguistically Responsive
Practices

Thur. 16th 4 pm – 5 pm
Fiscal # 3

Wed. 22nd 4 pm – 5 pm
Ethics & Responsibilities

Tues. 28th 12 pm – 1 pm
Open Governance, Legal &
Organizational Performance
Requirements

Thur. 30th 4 pm – 5 pm
Equity & Culturally &
Linguistically Responsive
Practices

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

The current list of trainings for the year can be found [here](#).

As always, if times do not seem to work out, reach out to [Missy Brown](#) or [Dylan Wilson](#). We are happy to consider additional times.

Congratulations New Charter Schools!

On August 27, the Public Education Commission approved the applications of Rio Grande Academy of Fine Arts-Albuquerque and THRIVE Community School-Santa Fe and on September 1st the Albuquerque Public School board approved United Community Academy!

Rio Grande Academy of Fine Arts' proposed mission is to educate students through an arts-integration curriculum that promotes problem solving and creativity and supports all K-12 students to achieve grade-level standards.

THRIVE Community School is a diverse and affirming K-8 learning community that embraces social and emotional learning practices and utilizes evidence-based teaching to advance educational equity. We use innovative approaches to drive academic achievement, eliminate disparities in student outcomes, and reinforce a positive self-concept so that all students are positioned to follow paths of their choice.

The mission of the United Community Academy (UCA) is to inspire a love of learning based on cross-racial solidarity, Indigenized ways of being, and place-based education so that students are academically prepared, secure in their identity, and emotionally and physically well. UCA is launching as a Pre-K-5 learning environment beginning with grades K-2 in the first year.



Congratulations!



Enhanced CSP Plans

All districts and charter schools are to submit an Enhanced COVID-Safe Practices Plan by **Oct. 1** to prepare for rising numbers of COVID-positive students and staff in schools. [Click here to download a template](#) provided by the PED for that plan. A rubric at the bottom of the template indicates how plans will be evaluated. If a school has 3% or more of its students and staff on campus while infectious in the past 14 days, it is strongly encouraged that the school implement this plan. If a school reaches 5% or more, it is required to implement this plan

EL Students

To help with the process of identifying, serving, and exiting & monitoring EL students, the Language and Culture Bureau has created a convenient [one-page handout](#) illustrating the process.

Additionally, the bureau has created an easy to follow [Language Usage Survey Process Map](#) to help schools understand when and how to use the Language Usage Survey that must be given to all students new to public education in New Mexico.

NMPED Covid-19 Response Toolkit

Did you know the Public Education Department's Covid response toolkit was updated September 2nd? Find it and other resources [here](#).

2022 Teacher of the Year

The application for the 2022 New Mexico Teacher of the Year is now open. You are invited to nominate one outstanding teacher from your district or charter school for the opportunity to represent New Mexico as the 2022 New Mexico Teacher of the Year.

The New Mexico Oil and Gas Association again will be the title sponsor, providing program support and professional development opportunities for the winner. In addition, the 2022 NMTOY will join State Teachers of the Year from around the country in education advocacy and professional development nationwide. The 2022 NMTOY will act as the spokesperson for the teaching profession for New Mexico and represent our state in the National Teacher of the Year competition.

The New Mexico Teacher of the Year is chosen by a panel of judges that includes past New Mexico Teachers of the Year, school district superintendents, school administrators and PED staff. The winner will be chosen from three named finalists, who will undergo an observation and interview.

District authorized charter schools qualify as an independent entity and are allowed to submit their applications directly outside of the larger district nomination.

To nominate your district or school candidate to be the 2022 New Mexico Teacher of the Year, have your candidate complete this [application packet](#) and email it by Oct.1 to Zach Chavez at MartinZ.Chavez@state.nm.us.



Literacy Plan Submissions

The submission window for literacy plans for the 2021-2022 school year is open through **Sept. 17**. Each district and state-chartered school must revisit its literacy plan annually.

Near-Peer Tutoring Program

The New Mexico Public Education Department is making \$2 million available from federal ESSER funds to support districts and state-chartered schools interested in launching a Near-Peer Tutoring Program for the 2021-2022 school year. Recipients will provide high school students with the opportunity to be paid as reading and mathematics tutors for middle and/or elementary school students, building the teacher pipeline and providing high school students with a valuable work-based learning experience. Funding covers tutor compensation and other program costs, including training tutors in the basics of teaching as a career. To participate in this program, applications must be submitted electronically by 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 30. Learn more at the [Request for Application \(RfA\) here](#). Questions? Marc Duske at marc.duske@state.nm.us.

Research Links

[The Science of Catching Up: Daily tutoring for those who are most behind rises to the top in research evaluations](#)

[Which teacher recruitment, retention strategies pay off amid COVID-19?](#)

[SEL, extra interaction time crucial for EL success in return to classrooms](#)

Happy Fall Y'all