

NEW MEXICO CHARTER SCHOOL NEWS

MEET OUR NEW CSP DIRECTOR

Welcome Louie Torrez as our new CSP Director! Louie is a proud Native New Mexican with a deep family history in the state of over 200 years. Before coming to work at the PED Louie worked at Walatowa High Charter school for 8 years from 2004-12. Louie has been married for 37 years and has two sons, one who graduated from Amy Biehl Charter School. He recently completed 10 years at PED, primarily in Title I working with all state charters during that time. His recent assignment at PED was the federal funds coordinator which assisted with all ESSER, GEER and EANS funds. Louie is excited to be working with the Charter Schools Division.

CSP GRANT PROGRAM PERIOD EXTENDED TO 2023

The US Department of Education has granted New Mexico a one year no cost extension of the Charter Schools Program grant. The grant was initially awarded from October 17, 2022 through September 30, 2022. Funding is now extended to September 20, 2023. Schools approved for a FY23 award contingent on the NCE will receive budget authority on July 1, and schools that will have unspent FY22 funds will receive access to FY22 carryover when award memos are issued in the fall.

GOVERNING BOARD TRAININGS

The Charter Schools Division offers FREE mandatory board training. May events:

- Ethics & Responsibilities: Wednesday, May 11, 4-5 p.m.
- Open Governance, Legal & Organizational Performance Requirements and Equity & Culturally Linguistically Responsive Practices: Saturday, May 14, 10 a.m.-noon
- Fiscal #3: Tuesday, May 17, noon-1 p.m.
- Academic Understanding: Thursday, May 19, 4-6 p.m.
- Fiscal #1: Wednesday, May 25, 4-5 pm

To register, email:

charter.schools@state.nm.us.

Visit [Governing Board Training Schedule](#) on the CSD website for the full list of trainings. If times are not working for you, contact [Missy Brown](#) or [Dylan Wilson](#) with suggestions/assistance.



CHARTER SCHOOL CONSORTIUM: IN-PERSON CONVENING PLANNING

NMPED's Division of Curriculum and Instruction invites you to participate in the 2022-2023 Charter School Consortium. All professional development courses, provided by our vendor partner, are FREE to Charter School Consortium members and stipends will be provided. Review the [Charter School Consortium Assurance](#) for information (link below) on stipend amounts.

By participating, the charter school agrees to develop a Charter School Consortium Leadership Team (not to exceed 4 persons) and participate in the following professional development:

- **2-Day In-Person Summer Convening, July 21-22** - Intended to provide a jump start in helping the Charter School Leadership Team understand the importance of accelerated learning strategies and how to develop a three to five year Accelerated Learning Plan to address missed learning opportunities. During this convening, Charter School Leadership Teams will have the opportunity to begin designing their Accelerated Learning Plan and meet with vendor partner to discuss additional ACCELeRATE NM professional learning opportunities that would support the implementation of their Accelerated Learning Plans. NMPED will reimburse the cost for travel and provide lodging for this summer convening (see Charter School Consortium Assurance).
- **Half-Day Virtual Winter Convening** - a continuation of professional development and collaborative conversations about implementation and monitoring of the Accelerated Learning Plan.
- **Quarterly Collaborative Conversations with Vendor Partner** (Scheduled at the convenience of the Charter School Leadership Team) - held virtually and scheduled with vendor partner, are designed to provide Charter School Leadership Teams with dedicated time to further discuss Accelerated Learning Plan implementation and monitoring.
- **Fall & Spring Learning Walk** (Scheduled at the convenience of the Charter School Leadership Team) - scheduled with the vendor partner, are designed to support the implementation and monitoring of your Accelerated Learning Plan. The vendor partner would schedule a time to conduct these in-person learning walks with Charter School Leadership Team.

Schedule an appointment [here](#) to learn more about the 2022-2023 Charter School Consortium.

[Charter School Consortium Informational Video](#) (8 minutes)

[Charter School Consortium Assurance Page](#)



AIMS STUDENTS RECOGNIZED FOR INNOVATIVE SCIENCE IDEAS



Congratulations to 15-year-old Albuquerque Institute for Mathematics and Science student Sebastian Stoker, who placed second in the junior division for life sciences and first in earth and environmental sciences in the Central New Mexico STEM Research Challenge in late March. Recently Stoker also won a first place award in the state science fair hosted by New Mexico Tech. Stoker was awarded more than \$900 from donors for his project, he said. He plans to continue with his research before possibly studying pharmaceuticals.

For Aimee Linebarger, 16, a student at AIMS, her science project took inspiration from events close to home. Linebarger, who has been in plays and sings often at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, said the building had flooded three times in the last three years. So she designed a project that can detect building floods using a series of Raspberry Pi computers. Her project won second place in senior engineering at the STEM Research Challenge and she received \$925 that she plans to save for college.



CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Principal Margarita Porter from New America School-Las Cruces for being awarded the National Alliance For Public Charter Schools 2022 Changemakers Award.

