

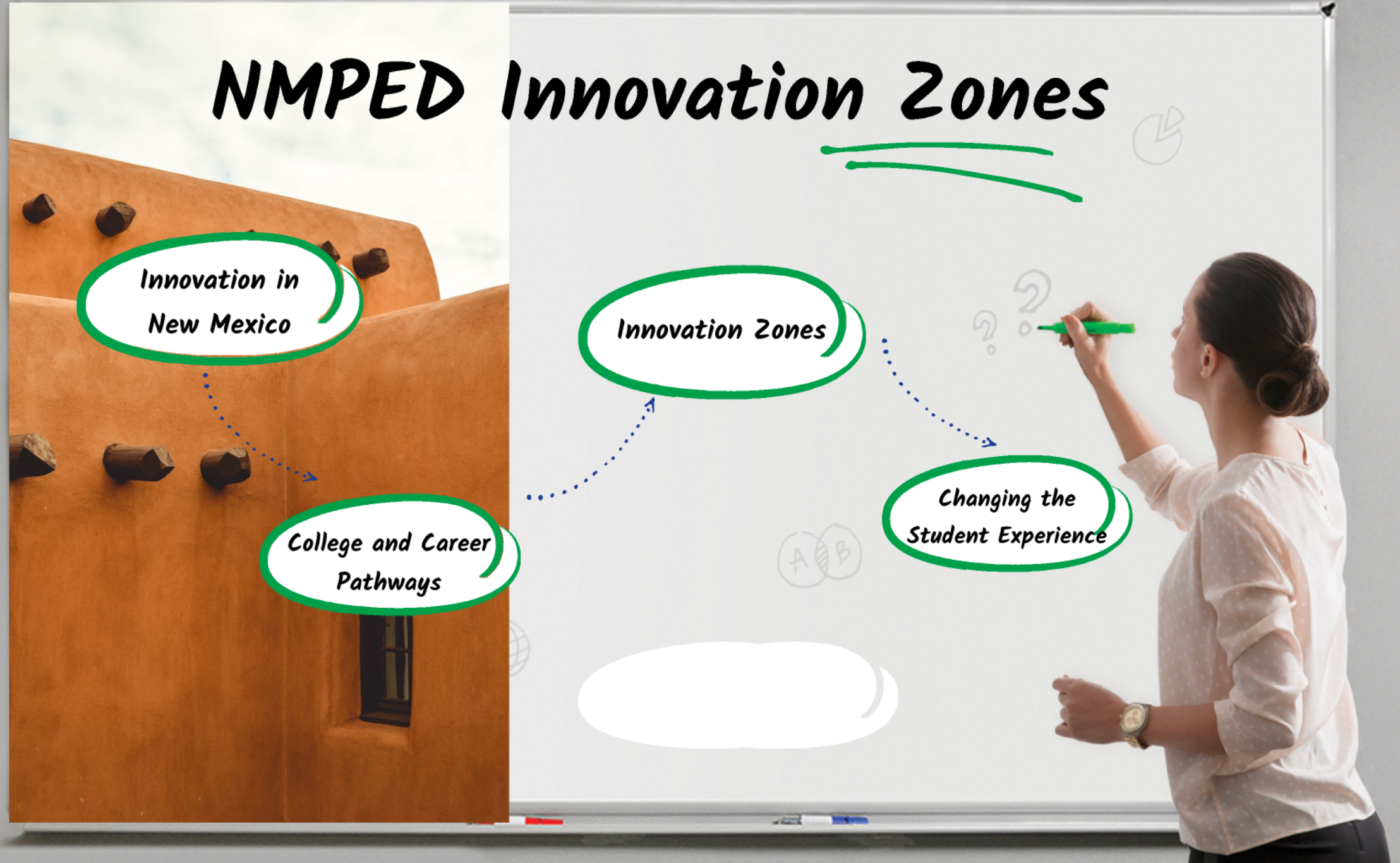
NMPED Innovation Zones

*Innovation in
New Mexico*

*College and Career
Pathways*

Innovation Zones

*Changing the
Student Experience*



NMPED Innovation Zones – Changing the High School Experience in New Mexico

Jacqueline Costales, Deputy Secretary of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment – PED

Timothy Hand, PhD - Ocotillo Strategies

Tony Monfiletto, Executive Director - Future Focused Education

Alvin Warren, Vice President of Career Pathways and Advocacy - LANL Foundation;

Spring Budget Conference-2023

Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.



Agenda

- Envisioning the Systemic Use of Graduate Profiles and Capstones
- The NM high school experience
 - Student Strengths
 - Community Strengths
- Innovation Zones – Funding opportunities
- Looking ahead for future graduates – What is next?

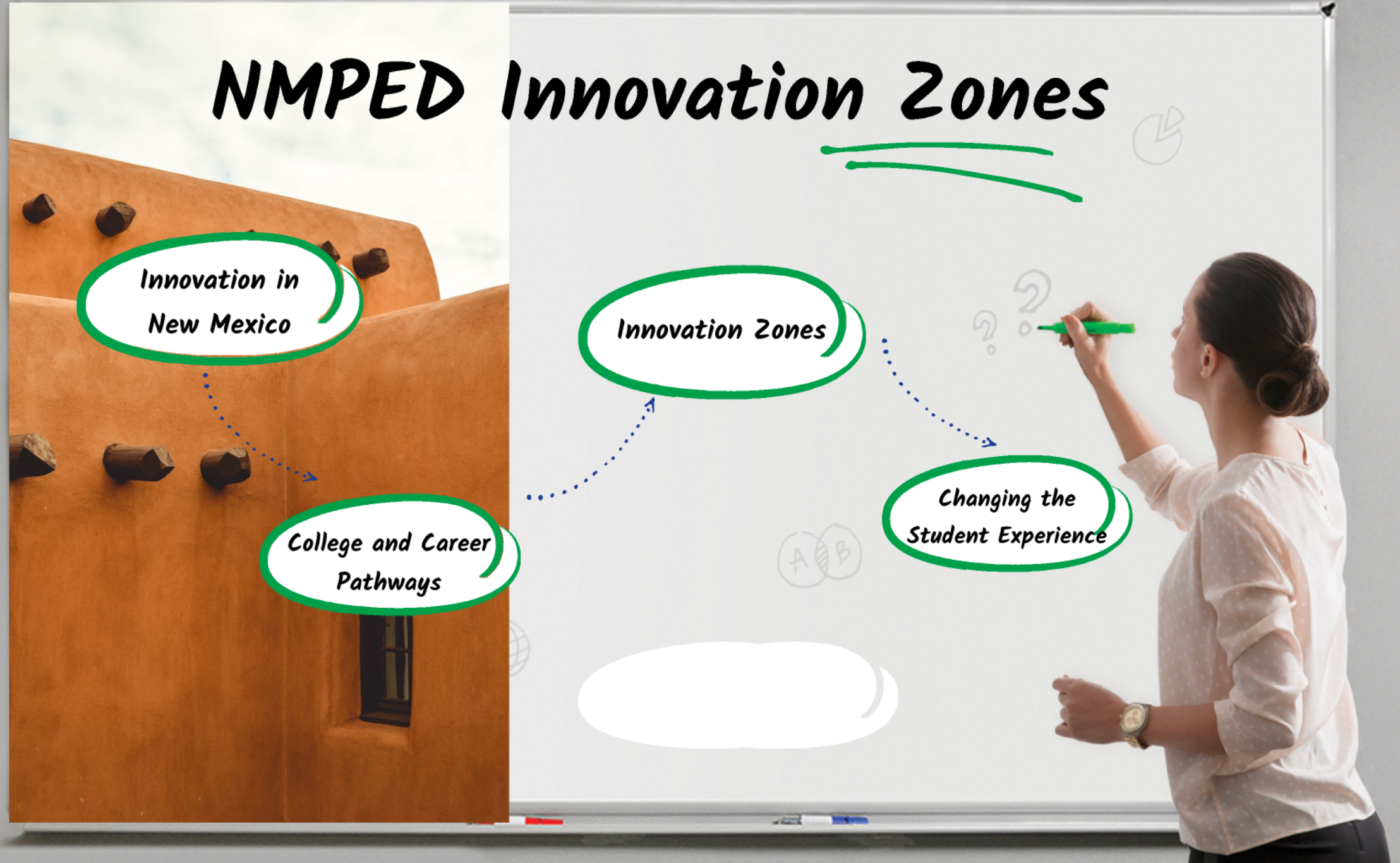
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Innovation in New Mexico

New Mexicans have long valued local wisdom and worked to integrate that wisdom into the education system. Doing so ensures that schools are more responsive to communities – a key remedy in the Yazzie / Martinez lawsuit.

This approach is rooted in an understanding that the health and prosperity of New Mexico communities depends on local leaders' capacity to orient young people to the wisdom of the places they call home.

For Innovation Zones, the vision is clear: students will be successful because of – not in spite of – who they are and where they come from.



*Community-
Connected
Innovation*



Equity



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Innovation in New Mexico

Unique: The program/practice is different in some way from what is most commonly done, or applies something old in a new context.

Hopeful: There is some evidence that the program/practice is making a positive difference for students--even if the evidence is anecdotal.

Locally Informed: Some aspect of the program/practice or its implementation has been designed based on local input, culture, and context.

Equitable: The program/practice addresses or corrects for inequity, and is accessible to communities or individuals who have limited access to resources.

**EVERY STUDENT
HAS A FUTURE
WORTH INVESTING IN.**



Yazzie / Martinez V. State of NM

After years of campaigning by community activists dissatisfied with inequalities in the state's education system, two mothers file lawsuits against the State of New Mexico. They claim that centuries of abuse and dismal educational outcomes show that the State has failed to meet its constitutional obligation to provide an adequate education for school-aged children - especially **children experiencing poverty, English learners, Native American students, and children with disabilities**. These lawsuits are eventually consolidated into the Yazzie / Martinez lawsuit.





LANL
FOUNDATION
Forward, together.

*Impetus and
Pilot Year*

Launch of NM Innovation Zones Initiative

*Weaving Together
NM High School
Transformation
Efforts*



- **Funded and Led by LANL Foundation and PED**
- **Identified Promising Practices in NM**
 - Aligning CTE with Core Academics
 - Connecting Instruction with Work-Based Learning
 - Providing Systems of Personalized Supports
 - Ensuring Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Programs
- **Recommended 4-Year Pilot Project**
 - Local Planning, Alignment and Implementation
 - State / Tribal Coordination, Policy, Resources and Support





NMPED NAMES 20 NEW MEXICO SCHOOLS AS INNOVATION ZONES TO IMPROVE SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

- **HB 2 (2022): \$10 million Appropriation for Next Gen CTE and NM Innovation Zones**
- **PED RFA: Grants to 8 Districts and 2 Charter High Schools**
- **PED RFP: Collaboration with Future Focused Education, LANL Foundation, Ocotillo Strategies, SEL4NM and MediaDesk to Support Implementation**
- **HB 2 (2023): \$40 million Appropriation for Next Gen CTE, NM Innovation Zones, Work-Based Learning**



Weaving Together High School Transformation Efforts





The Elements of Innovation Zones

Theory of Change

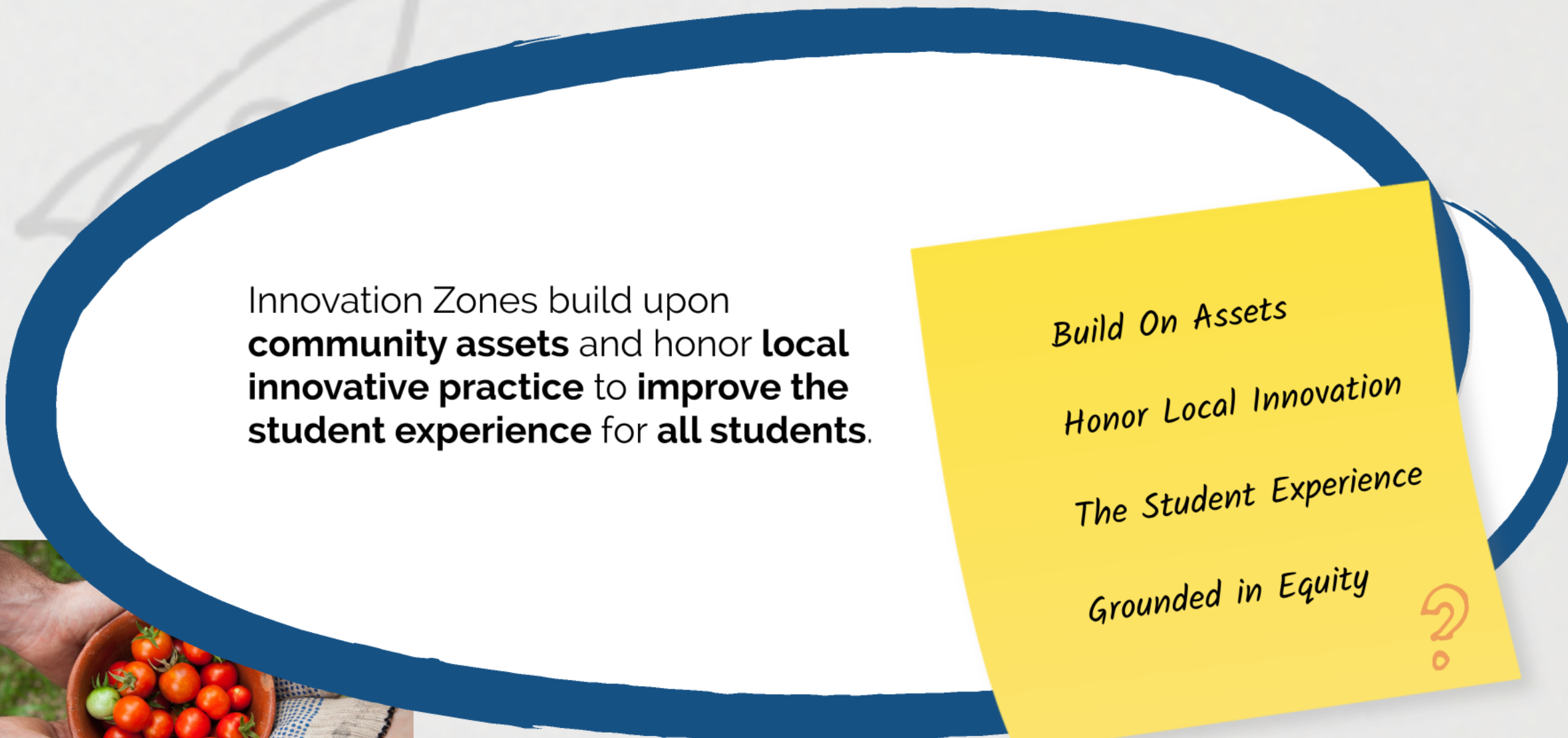
*Culture of
Belonging, Safety
and Care*

Local Wisdom

*Meaningful
Community-Connected
Instruction*

*Expanded, Enriched, and
Relevant Learning
Opportunities*

*Integrated System
of Supports*



Innovation Zones build upon
community assets and honor **local
innovative practice** to **improve the
student experience** for **all students**.

Build On Assets

Honor Local Innovation

The Student Experience

Grounded in Equity

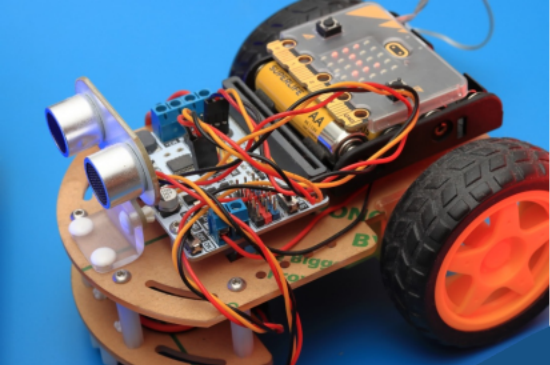


Meaningful Community-Connected Instruction



Innovation Zone schools provide **community-driven learning opportunities** connected to prior **lived-experiences, language, and culture**. Instruction and innovation are driven by **locally-developed graduate profiles** and all students have equitable access to **meaningful and relevant capstone experiences**.





Innovation Zone schools build challenging **college and career pathways** by integrating high-quality **technical education, work-based learning, and core academics** - both inside and outside of the school building.

Pathways are **accessible to all students**, connected to **graduate profiles**, and assessed by meaningful, locally-developed **capstone experiences**.

Students exhibit **agency in navigating pathways** and have meaningful opportunities to **reflect on their progress**.

Expanded, Enriched, and Relevant Learning Opportunities

Integrated System of Supports



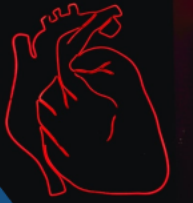
Innovation Zone schools **integrate** robust **academic, social, emotional,** and **health** supports into the student experience with clear evidence of **student voice and personalization** in design



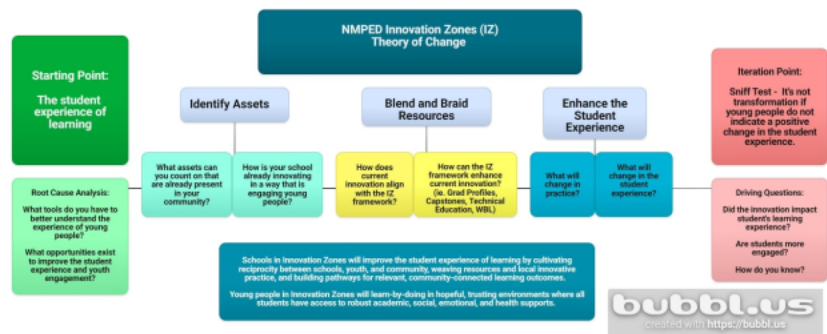
Belonging, Safety, and Care




Innovation Zones schools cultivate a culture of **belonging, safety**, and **care** for all students. **Adults are trustworthy**, demonstrate **trust in students**, and are **hopeful** about future possibilities for **all young people**.



Change is painful, but nothing is as painful as being stuck somewhere you don't belong - Mandy Hale



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NMPED Innovation Zones (IZ) Theory of Change

Starting Point:

The student
experience of
learning

Root Cause Analysis:

What tools do you have to
better understand the
experience of young
people?

What opportunities exist
to improve the student
experience and youth
engagement?

Identify Assets

What assets can
you count on that
are already present
in your
community?

How is your school
already innovating
in a way that is
engaging young
people?

Blend and Braid Resources

How does
current
innovation align
with the IZ
framework?

How can the IZ
framework enhance
current innovation?
(ie. Grad Profiles,
Capstones, Technical
Education, WBL)

Enhance the Student Experience

What will
change in
practice?

What will
change in the
student
experience?

Iteration Point:

Sniff Test - It's not
transformation if
young people do not
indicate a positive
change in the student
experience.

Driving Questions:

Did the innovation impact
student's learning
experience?

Are students more
engaged?

How do you know?

Schools in Innovation Zones will improve the student experience of learning by cultivating reciprocity between schools, youth, and community, weaving resources and local innovative practice, and building pathways for relevant, community-connected learning outcomes.

Young people in Innovation Zones will learn-by-doing in hopeful, trusting environments where all students have access to robust academic, social, emotional, and health supports.

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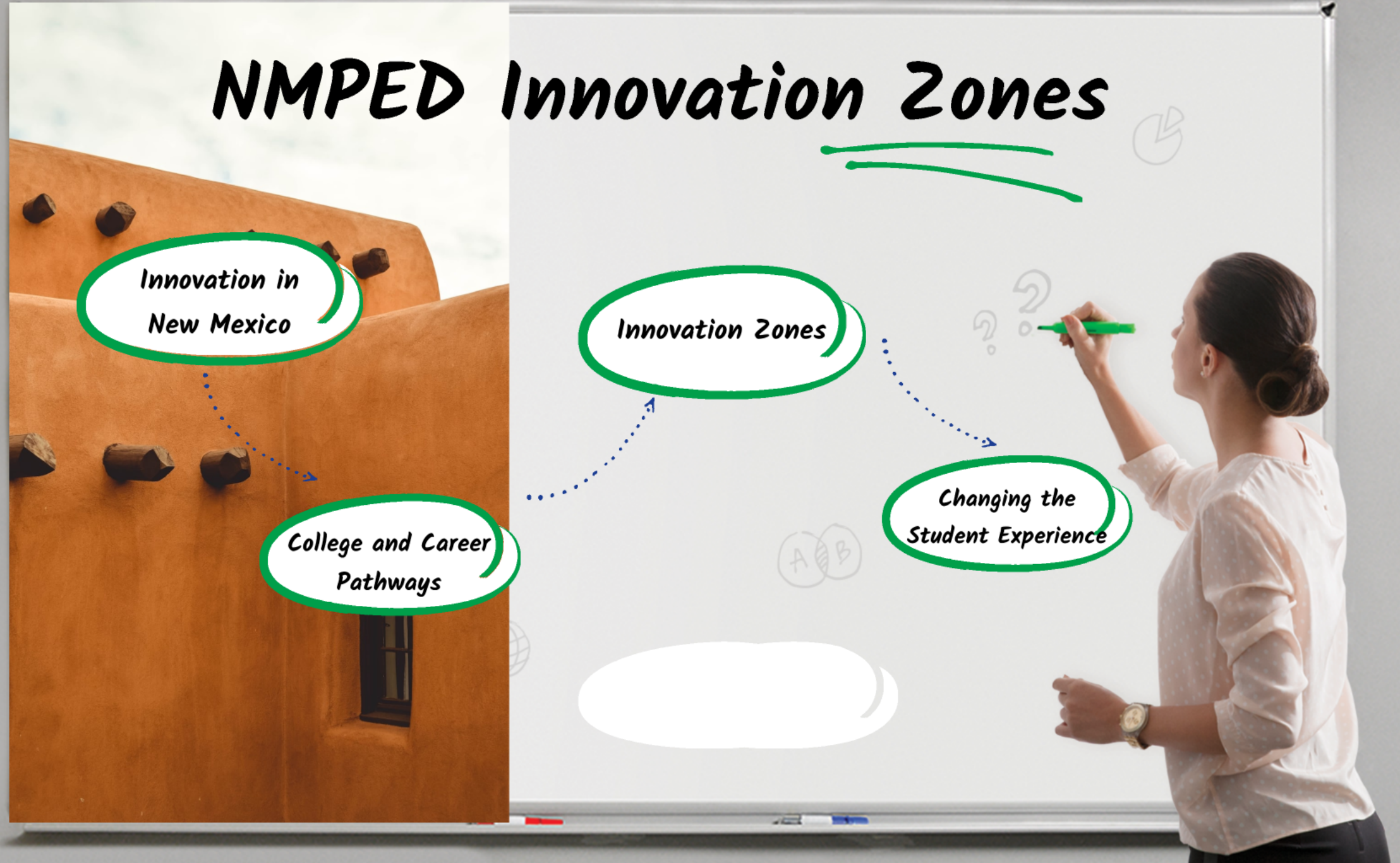
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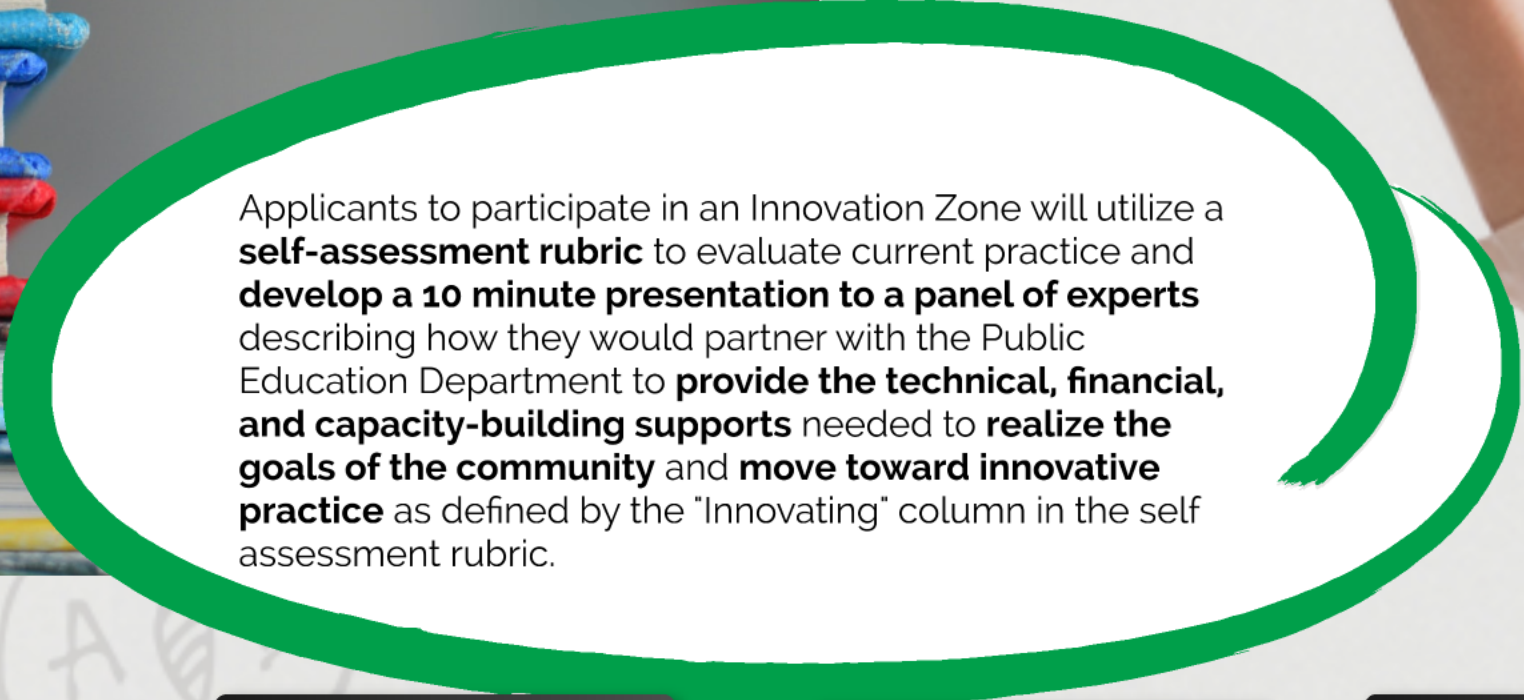
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Intent to Apply



Applicants to participate in an Innovation Zone will utilize a **self-assessment rubric** to evaluate current practice and **develop a 10 minute presentation to a panel of experts** describing how they would partner with the Public Education Department to **provide the technical, financial, and capacity-building supports** needed to **realize the goals of the community** and **move toward innovative practice** as defined by the "Innovating" column in the self assessment rubric.




*Differentiated
Support*

*Improving the
Student
Experience*

*Application
Timeline*

The Innovation Zones initiative will support schools regardless of where they are in the innovation process – progressing from planning to performing is just as important as moving from performing to innovating.

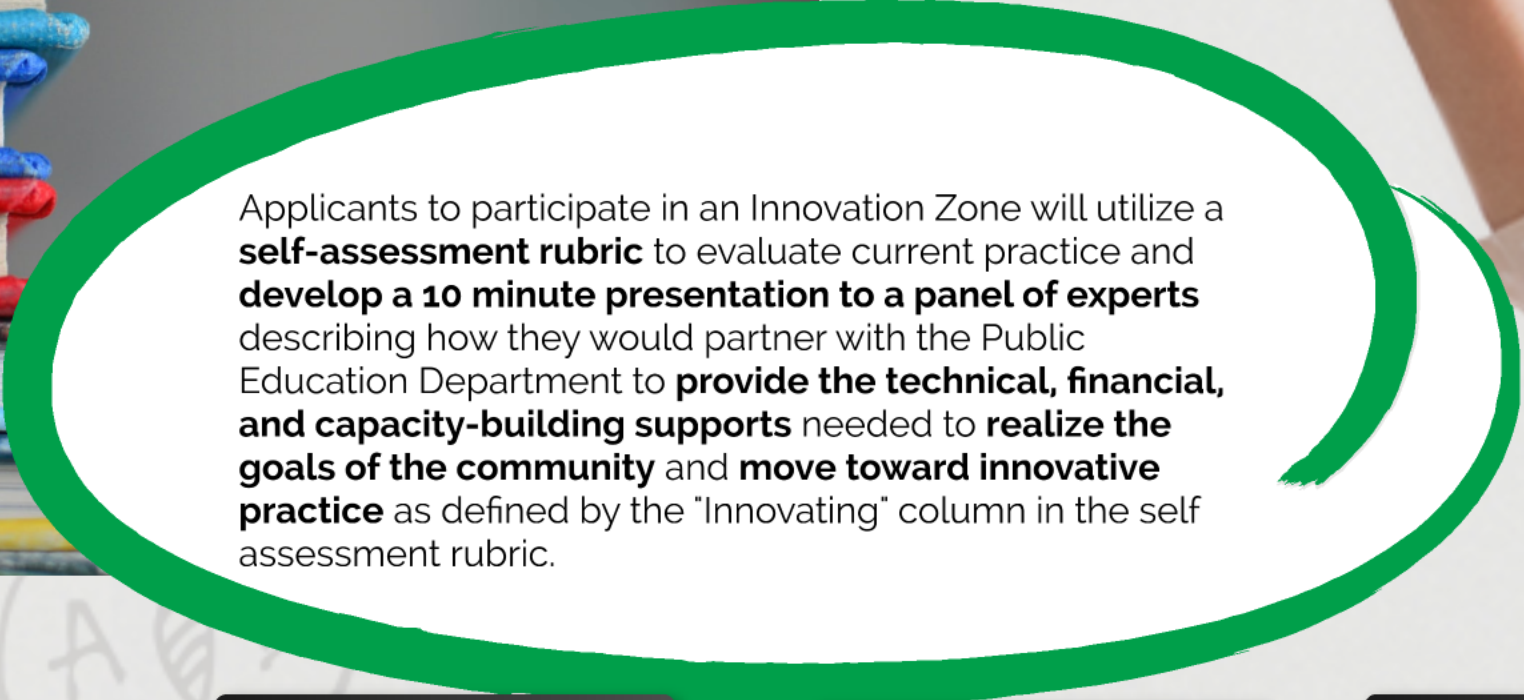
Successful presentations will exemplify shared power and voice, powerful student and family engagement, and provide clear evidence of reimagining the high school experience with critical changes to how students are engaged



Ultimately, Innovation Zone participants will need to clearly articulate how innovative change in practice leads to substantial improvements to the student experience with the overarching goal of demonstrating innovation in each criteria over time.



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*Differentiated
Support*

*Improving the
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*Application
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Application Timeline

April 17 - Intent to Apply Form Posted to PED Website

April 30 - Intent to Apply Window Closes -

PED Announces Presentation Guidelines

*May 15 - Presentations to Innovation Zones Application
Review Panels Begin*

June 1 - Review Panels Finalize Scores

June 9 - Successful Applicants Notified

July - Begin Innovation

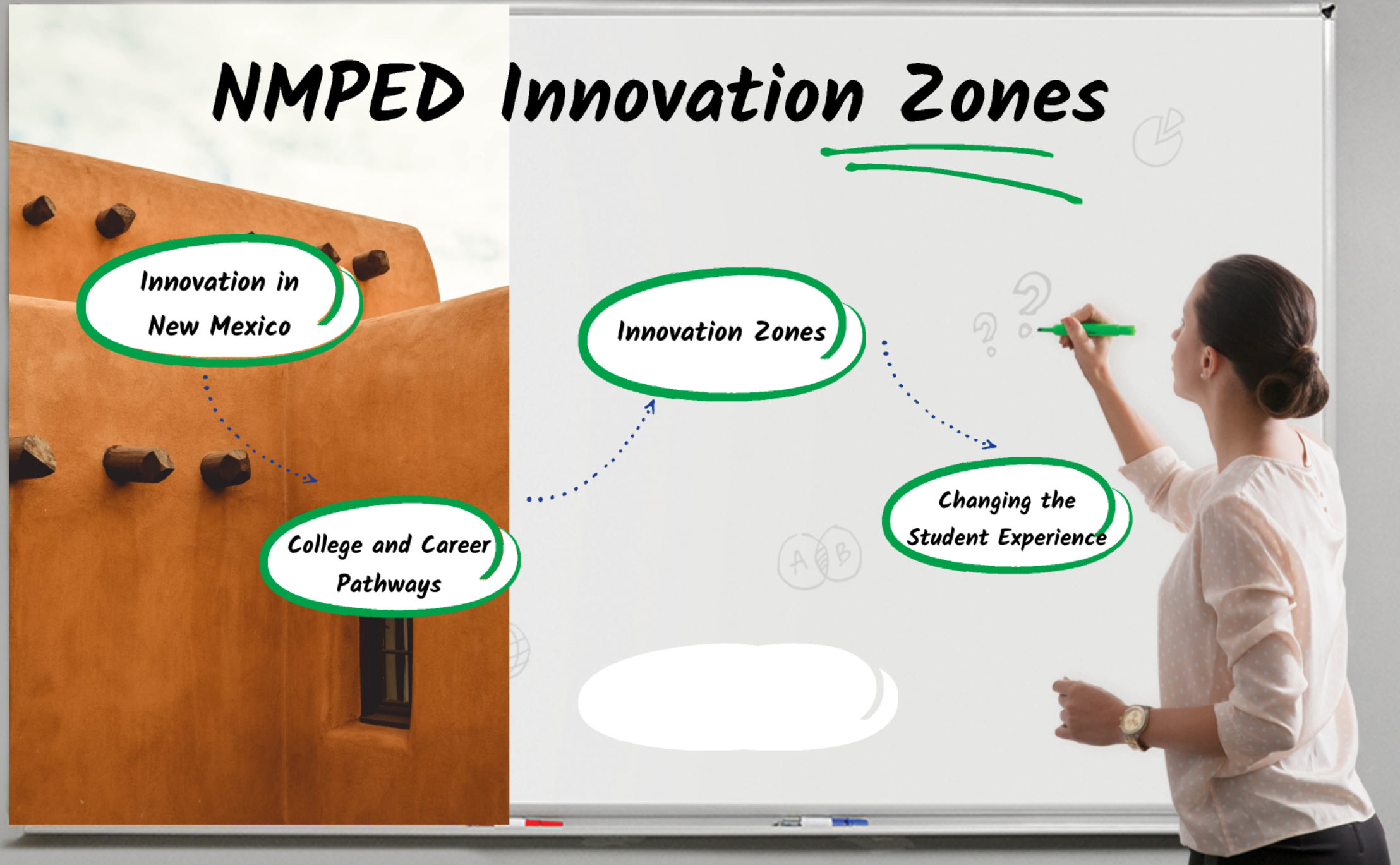
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