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**Charter Schools Division
Analysis and Recommendation
New School Application
Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico
July 2023**

Dr. Kayleigh Carabajal and Freda Daugherty have applied¹ to open a new charter school, Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico, within the boundaries of Portales Municipal Schools to serve grades K-12.

Based on the analysis set forth below, which includes the peer review team's evaluation of the new charter application and capacity interview, as well as a brief summary of the community input hearing and written community input received, the Charter Schools Division (CSD) recommends that the application be:

Approved – The application is complete and adequate; and during their Capacity Interview, the applicant(s) demonstrated a clear capacity to implement the academic, organizational and financial management plans as described in the application. Nothing was identified that would indicate the applicant(s) do not have the experience, knowledge, and competence to successfully open and operate a charter school.

Approved with conditions – The application is complete and adequate; and during their Capacity Interview, the applicant(s) demonstrated a general capacity to implement the academic, organizational, and financial management plans as described in the application. However, the CSD has identified some specific concerns that would need to be addressed during the planning year. The CSD has listed the noted concerns and conditions to address the concerns below. If the PEC determines that there are any additional conditions that need to be

¹ Elisa Bohannon submitted the Notice of Intent, with the applicant team including Hilary Noskin, Abenecio Baldonado, Helen Garcia, and Debbie Vigil.

addressed, those should be noted during the public hearing and all approved conditions negotiated in the final contract.

Denied – The application is either incomplete or inadequate; or during their capacity interview, the applicant(s) did not sufficiently demonstrate the experience, knowledge, and competence to successfully open and operate a charter school in New Mexico.

The Charter Schools Act, in NMSA 22-8B-6 M states that a chartering authority may deny an application if:

- (1) the application is incomplete or inadequate;
- (2) the application does not propose to offer an educational program consistent with the requirements and purposes of the Charter Schools Act;
- (3) the proposed head administrator or other administrative or fiscal staff was involved with another charter school whose charter was denied or revoked for fiscal management or the proposed head administrator or other administrative or fiscal staff was discharged from a public school for fiscal mismanagement;
- (4) for a proposed state-chartered charter school, it does not request to have the governing body of the charter school designated as a board of finance or the governing body does not qualify as a board of finance; or
- (5) the application is otherwise contrary to the best interests of the charter school's projected students, the local community or the school district in whose geographic boundaries the charter school applies to operate.

CSD Analysis and Recommendation

The Charter Schools Division acknowledges that the Virtual Preparation Academy New Mexico application has many strengths, and the founders bring a wealth of experience. However, this application is inadequate. During both the application review process and the capacity interview, the application team failed to demonstrate the capacity to implement the academic, organizational and financial plans to make this a viable school. The team is not yet prepared to open a high-quality charter school.

The academic section peer ratings are split with nine (9) responses meeting criteria and nine (9) approaching. In the organizational section of the application, out of twenty-three (23) indicators, there were six (6) that scored as “does not meet criteria” and fourteen (14) indicators that were scored as “approaches criteria,” leaving only three (3) indicators that met the criteria. In the financial section, out of eight (8) indicators, four (4) did not meet the criteria, three (3) approached, and only one (1) item met the criteria. While we are not looking for perfect scores in all sections, **most** of the indicators should **meet the criteria** in order to be considered a strong applicant for a new charter school.

Schools that have been approved in previous years had application reviews and capacity interviews where the vast majority of indicators met the criteria in all major categories, and had

very few, if any, “approaches” or “does not meet” criteria ratings. In fact, in the past five (5) years, we have not approved any schools with more than three (3) indicators in total that did not meet criteria (application and capacity interview combined). This does not mean that a school with 3 or fewer indicators that did not meet criteria would be approved, as some schools have been denied with as little as one (1) indicator that did not meet criteria but were denied because the indicators and other considerations carried more weight. Below are concerns noted by CSD.

Virtual Education: In addition to scoring indicators on the application and capacity interview, we have concerns about the model and how it will be implemented. In 2015, the Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO) at Stanford conducted a nationwide study of virtual charter schools which demonstrated that virtual charter students performed far below their peers in math and reading. In their analysis, they estimated that virtual charter school students lost “72 days of learning in reading and 180 days of learning in math, based on a 180 day school year” ([CREDO 2015](#)). Further, New Mexico’s Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) report dated January 2021, cited a 2018 study of virtual charter schools in New Mexico that had similarly concerning results. LESC’s report concluded that the virtual charter schools had much lower academic outcomes in math and reading than brick-and-mortar schools serving similar demographics ([LESC 2021](#)).

We are concerned about the potential for these issues at VPA. Unfortunately, the studies (CREDO and LESC) were accurately foreshadowing what might happen during covid. Online learning did not work for most students during covid. A staggering number of students fell way behind academically ([Harvard Center for Education Policy Research](#), May 2022), and their social-emotional well being suffered greatly ([Rutgers 2023](#)). This continues to be an issue because they have still not recovered, and at-risk students (e.g.: economically disadvantaged, mental health issues, disabilities, ELs, etc.) were hit hardest ([NWEA 2023](#)). Therefore, we only see a very limited number of students who would be served best by a virtual model.

Online schools present an equity issue when schools rely on parents to provide support as part of the virtual school model. It is unclear how VPA plans to meet the needs of student who have less support at home. During the capacity interview, founders were unable to describe how students would be monitored during asynchronous time, therefore, the response was inadequate. The school schedule also raises questions about the amount of time students would have access to adults to support them.

Career Technical Education: The application is compelling in its mission and vision for supporting student career development but does not describe how the individualized internships and/or partnership and training would be actualized across the state. Founders did not present a regional plan to manage the relationship building to support for the CTE program when asked during the input hearing. Concerns arose over student safety when participating remotely in CTE courses, either alone or without a certified teacher in place. How the school would manage and ensure background checks for any adults that have contact with students, as required, is not clear.

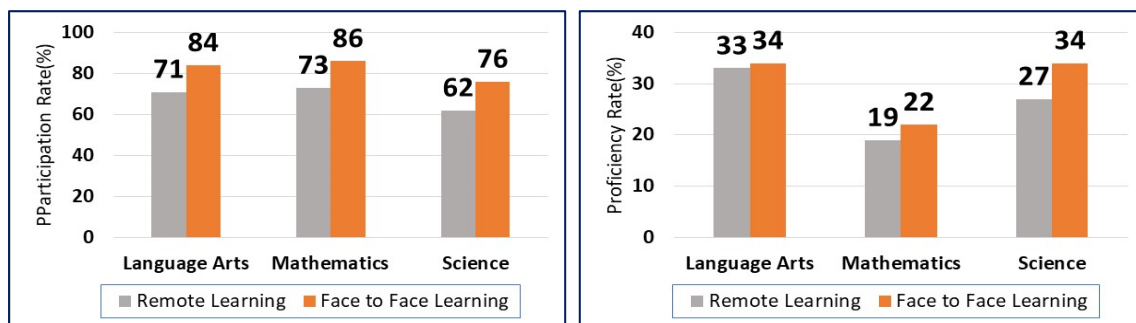
Curriculum: The application describes using Courses that are curated primarily from five curriculum providers: AMP for Education, Accelerate Education, StrongMind, eDynamic Learning, and FlexPoint. The applicant team describes them as “the best” but provides no evidence of quality, or alignment to standards, such as an Ed Report. The New Mexico Social Studies content standards were recently released, have these companies conducted an alignment study?

Special Education and English Learners: It is unclear how VPA will adequately address the needs of students identified as English Learners and those with IEPs, especially students with the most significant cognitive disabilities (MSCD). Students identified under the legal definition of MSCD would need to be assessed for support such as “extensive, direct individualized instruction” as well as “participation in alternate assessments” (Office of General Counsel, Special Education Division, June 2023). VPA has failed to create an adequate plan for these students.

MLSS: VPA presents an MLSS chart on p.35 deviates from PED initiatives and does not sufficiently address New Mexico’s statute on the response to intervention process ([NMSA 22-13-32](#)). The PED utilizes the New Mexico Multi-Layered System of Supports ([MLSS Manual, 2021](#)), which demonstrates a stronger response to intervention program that offers more specific, comprehensive interventions and supports.

Student/Teacher and Counselor Ratios: VPA’s ratios are concerning, even though during the input hearing founders suggested they would change class sizes, a 300:1 counselor ratio does not meet standard and raises the question of whether this school could deliver on its promise to individualize and support student success.

Assessment Plan: Left out of the assessment plan is a realistic picture of how the school would test students, in accordance with state-wide testing requirements. The budget does not include funds to rent facilities nor pay proctors and/or student transportation to testing sites. A 2022 report (GAO-22-104444) cites low student participation rates in state testing and problems in measuring student attendance as chronic issues in online charter schools. In a review of 2021-22 participation and proficiency data, PED discovered that across the state students in remote learning environments had lower test participation rates and lower proficiency rates overall.



Staff Roles: Staffing plans in the application also fell short in providing job descriptions for key staff members for this work. Additionally, a Student Success Team is referenced in the

application, but who sits on the team is never clarified and none of the staff job descriptions make mention of that responsibility.

Business management: It is unclear how the school plans to secure a school business manager and the expected role of the governing board treasurer. The confusion was demonstrated in the application (p. 83).

ACCEL: The application references a partnership with ACCEL Schools, a charter management organization (CMO), designed to make a profit from education. Online research suggest ACCEL is the nation’s fourth largest and fastest growing for-profit chain, with sweeps contracts (an arrangement in which a charter school turns over all or nearly all its public funding to an operator who then runs the school) that give control and decision-making power over governing boards. One such contract with an Ohio charter can be viewed [here](#).

Community Need: Although the founders appear genuinely concerned about improving the quality of education in New Mexico, they don’t provide evidence of understanding the landscape of virtual education across the state. Most of the supporters spoke in favor of online education generally and were not necessarily prospective students/families. At the time of the input hearing the two existing online charter schools were still accepting applications to reach their enrollment capacity (one with 400 seats open, the other 160), and this doesn’t account for the many other locally operated online programs run by districts and charters, nor the hybrid models that allow for more direct support to students.

Peer Review Evaluation

Peer Review Team Consensus Ratings	Meets the Criteria	Approaches the Criteria	Does Not Meet the Criteria
Application Indicators	13	28	11
Capacity Interview Questions	8	10	3

Application Indicators	Rating
Mission	Meets
Vision Statement	Not Applicable
Uniqueness and Innovation	Approaches
Mission Specific Goals	Approaches
Curriculum, Educational Program, Student Performance Standards	Approaches
Bilingual Multicultural Education, Indian Education, Hispanic Education and Black Education	Meets
Equity Plan	Meets
Graduation Requirements	Meets

Instruction Philosophy	Meets
Yearly Calendar and Daily Schedule	Approaches
Schedule Narrative	Approaches
Special Education: Students with IEPs	Meets
Special Education: Progress Monitoring	Approaches
English Learners: Curriculum & Instruction	Approaches
English Learners: Progress Monitoring	Meets
ESSA and Special Population Needs	Approaches
Assessment Plan	Approaches
Assessment Data Analysis	Meets
Achievement Communication Plan	Meets
Governance Structure	Approaches
Governing Board Qualifications	Approaches
Governing Board Recruitment	Approaches
Annual Board Training Plan	Meets
Annual Board Self-Evaluation	Does Not Meet
Board Oversight Monitoring Plan	Approaches
Hiring Head Administrator	Does Not Meet
Leadership Roles & Responsibilities	Approaches
Annual Head Evaluation	Approaches
Org Chart & Narrative	Does Not Meet
Job Descriptions	Approaches
Staffing Plan	Does Not Meet
Professional Development Plan	Approaches
Conditions of Employment	Approaches
Meaningful Community Involvement in Governance	Approaches
Complaint Process	Approaches
Student Outreach & Recruitment	Approaches
Lottery Process	Approaches
Conflict of Interest Policy	Approaches
Third Party Relationship	Does Not Meet
If Third Party Relationship, then Appendix D	Does Not Meet
Transportation	Not Applicable
Food Services	Not Applicable
Appendix E Facilities Master Plan	Meets
Evidence of Researched Facility	Meets
Projected Enrollment	Does Not Meet
Appendix F Completed 910B5	Approaches
Appendix G 5-year Budget Plan	Approaches
Budget Narrative	Meets
Budget Adjustments	Does Not Meet
Internal Control Procedures	Does Not Meet
Appropriate Financial Staff	Does Not Meet

Governing Board Fiduciary Oversight	Approaches
Outreach Activities	Does Not Meet
Community Support	Approaches
Community Relationships	Approaches

The Capacity Interview with Virtual Preparatory Academy of NM took place on June 26, 2023, with the Peer Review team members (a few CSD staff listened in). Questions included those asked of both charter school applicants, and a few tailored to this application specifically.

Below are the founders/school leaders in attendance at the four (4) CSD training sessions, the Capacity Interview, and the Hearing. A few founding members were notably absent throughout the process.

		1	2	3	4	Capacity Interview	Input Hearing
Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico	Elisa Bohannon	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
	Hilary Noskin	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE
	Abenecio Baldonado	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
	Helen Garcia	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE
	Debbie Vigil	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE
	Melissa Stokke Larson	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE
	Dr. Kayleigh Carabajal	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE
	Gowan Hays	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE
	Freda Daugherty	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	TRUE

Capacity Interview Questions	Rating
How will the mission, as described in the application, enhance, and transform the proposed community?	Meets
What is the most important contribution your proposed school will bring to the community in which you propose to operate?	Meets
What does mission success look like?	Meets
Describe how the board will provide oversight of your proposed school.	Meets
There are a lot of roles and responsibilities which a district provides to traditional schools. Who will fill those roles at your proposed school?	Approaches
How will the proposed school ensure that policies and procedures are not only compliant, but also well implemented, current, and effective?	Meets
What will be the responsibilities of the board in reporting to their authorizer?	Meets
How does a charter school board ensure the long-term sustainability of the school?	Meets
Describe the students whose needs your school will serve	Approaches

What opportunities will your school offer to the community that are not currently available?	Approaches
Describe your vision for engaging students and their families to fully participate in your proposed school	Approaches
Describe your plan for attracting and keeping high-quality teachers. What is your contingency plan if you can't find the teachers you need to fill all positions?	Approaches
How are you going to open your proposed school without federal start-up funds?	Does Not Meet
Describe how you will make enrollment projections to establish and submit your first budget to PED? How will you ensure these enrollment projections are reasonable and align closely to your actual 40-day count?	Approaches
Suppose your actual enrollment on the first day is 50% below your pre-opening projection. What are your next steps?	Approaches
Why can't your proposed students have their educational needs met with the existing virtual school options?	Approaches
How do you plan to monitor student learning during the large chunks of asynchronous time?	Does Not Meet
Explain the relationship with Accel LLC, how it's NOT a CMO and why is Accel giving the school money?	Does Not Meet
How will you support students who have internet connectivity issues?	Meets
Please explain how the multiple learning platforms and management systems will be synthesized cohesively. AMP, Accelerate Education, StrongMind, eDynamic Learning, FlexPoint, MasteryConnect, Canvas	Approaches
Please describe how the board will ensure all monies flow through the school appropriately.	Approaches

Summary of Community Input Hearing and Support/Opposition

VPA’s Community Input Hearing took place online and on the campus of Eastern New Mexico University on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. Fifty-six (56) people were in attendance, fourteen (14) person and forty-two (42) online. Thirteen (13) people signed up to speak; twelve (12) spoke in favor; one (1) spoke in opposition.

The transcripts from the hearing were not published at the time this report was due, however CSD noted those in favor spoke about the value of having an online option, school choice and firsthand experience in an online educational experience. Workforce development and flexibility were also touted as the potential benefits of the school. Those in opposition to the charter mentioned there are already two statewide virtual schools, that CTE would be difficult to do online, and that not all students thrive in an online environment. A principal from the Portales school district spoke in opposition to the charter.

Results from the Google form show sixty (60) individuals support the school and four (4) oppose.

No QR Code responses were submitted

Name	Please indicate whether you support or oppose Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's application to open a new public charter school.	Please tell the Public Education Commission why you support or oppose Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.
Jacque Hair-Garner	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I retired from teaching distance education after thirty-four years of teaching. During my tenure as an educator, I fulfilled various positions as a special education, elementary, middle school and high school teacher. I also served as an administrator for both special programs and the high school campus at large. My last two years of teaching were spent online as a special education teacher under the guidance and supervision of Freda Daugherty. I wasn't sure about the online experience at first, but soon learned how valuable this choice was to the families I served. Many of my students had a history of failure in the traditional setting; the online experience allowed them to develop a sustained relationship with educators free from many of the constraints they faced on campus. Indeed, I found working individually with families extended my services. My efficacy for addressing special needs increased as I established relationships with their learning coaches/parents. Not only was I coaching students, I was helping caretakers/learning coaches become more effective in negotiating their child's educational needs. It is my sincere belief, that the parent component is critical in addressing educational failure to thrive. The virtual setting, with proper guidance, can provide appropriate settings for students who need a non-traditional approach. In addition, Ms Daugherty's experience and expertise in addressing student needs and growth in the virtual setting is unsurpassed. She is responsive to her teachers, promotes academic rigor, and is professional with parents. I believe that under her direction, the Virtual Preparatory Academy will be an exemplary school for New Mexico.
Halley Wheelless	I am opposed to Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	We currently have enough online school opportunities for students in NM; furthermore, it looks like ACCEL is a chain trying to enter the NM charter school community and we do not need our tax dollars going to out of state for-profit entities. The very fact that the proposal cannot meet all expectations on the application is a warning enough that this proposed charter should not be granted status, especially if they cannot address all the Yazzie-Martinez requirements.
D. Gibbons	I am opposed to Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	There is already a virtual charter serving New Mexico.
Debbie Vigiil	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	This State needs more options for students to move us up from the rank of 50th in education.
Eloy Vigiil	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Please give this school a chance to help students in New Mexico.
Freda Daugherty	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Families in New Mexico need choice in their child's education. Having a virtual option with a school that offers a Career Readiness Focus built upon a Comprehensive Career Readiness Model is exactly what students need. Please seriously consider VPA of NM as a viable educational opportunity for families. Thank you.
Jeanne Kumpunen	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Having a school with a strong CTE program and CTOS that support the CTE program is a very important component of keeping high schoolers engaged and wanting to finish school. Schools need this to prepare students for jobs after high school and I believe this school will emphasize this.
Clara Raley	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I think providing choice for students is extremely important. Additionally, the aspect of preparing students for college and career is a unique aspect of this school. This is especially important for trades fields that require journeyman and job shadowing, and would allow student to enter the workforce upon graduation.
Geraldine Rivera	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I believe that students should have a choice for where they obtain their education. There are students who excel in the online setting and this school would be a great fit for them.
Riley Morris	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I support Virtual Preparatory Academy because of the opportunities it brings students in New Mexico with CTE and the flexibility for health issues
Amanda Shaner	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	VPA will provide meaningful and valuable CTE opportunities to students in underserved communities in New Mexico.
Myles Morris STEM Student	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I support the Virtual Preparatory Academy because of how it will help students grow and help give a wider spread of options to parents and students.
Cathy Cope	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	These kiddos need CTE education included in their education. Not every child fits in the same mold and they need LOTS of choices. My kids are now straight A students and LOVE online learning, they don't want to go back to brick and mortar school. I know that myself and my children feel so much safer in this learning platform. Guns, bullying, dirty looks because they are different, with online they don't have those distractions and can concentrate on learning. I know that there are 2 other online schools in the state, but I also know that they are not created equal. I feel with all my heart that VPA would be an incredible asset to this state and mostly our children. I know that when this school is approved that my kiddos will be enrolled immediately.
Norman J Mauger	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I am currently in online school and feel that the versatility of scheduling works better than that of brick and mortar schools. I also am in favor of online school because it is much harder for the act of bullying to occur.
Norman Burns	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Because they are dedicated in teaching CTE and in preparing their students to work after graduation
Justin Daugherty	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Because I know how important online schools are and will be in the future and with all due respect the current schools available in an online platform aren't great. The individualized learning plan will prove to be an asset for students and parents. Much like a small brick and mortar school where instruction is catered more towards an individual instead of a large group. Being in IT for over 15 years and always on the cutting edge of technology I don't believe the general public can understand yet how mainstream and beneficial online schooling will become and already has in many aspects. Not only does this allow parents an alternative choice (like us where we only have one option and we will not utilize it because of the quality) but it allows for individuals to remain in school while sick, national sport schedules, increased family time/exposure.
Alex	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the establishment of Virtual Preparatory Academy. As a parent, I firmly believe that online learning offers numerous invaluable benefits that can revolutionize education and greatly enhance the learning experience for our children. First and foremost, online learning provides unparalleled accessibility. By breaking down the barriers of physical location, it ensures that every child, regardless of their circumstances or geographical constraints, can access a quality education. This is particularly crucial for families living in remote areas or facing mobility challenges. Online schools enable us to overcome these limitations and ensure equal opportunities for all students to thrive academically. Additionally, online learning fosters personalized education. Each child has unique strengths, weaknesses, and learning styles. Traditional classroom settings often struggle to cater to the individual needs of every student. However, through online platforms, learning can be tailored to suit each child's pace, interests, and preferred methods of comprehension. This personalized approach empowers our children to reach their full potential and develop a genuine love for learning. Moreover, online learning promotes flexibility and self-discipline. It equips students with essential 21st-century skills, such as time management, digital literacy, and independent study habits. By allowing children to learn at their own pace, online education nurtures self-motivation and responsibility. These attributes are not only crucial for academic success but also for preparing our children for the challenges of higher education and the workforce. Another significant advantage of online learning is the broader range of educational resources available at our children's fingertips. Through virtual platforms, students can access a vast array of multimedia materials, interactive simulations, and expert resources that enhance their understanding and engagement. This diverse range of resources can cater to various learning styles, making education more engaging, interactive, and enjoyable. Furthermore, online learning promotes collaboration and global connections. By utilizing online tools, students can connect with peers from different backgrounds, cultures, and geographic locations. This promotes cultural exchange, broadens their perspectives, and fosters collaborative skills essential in today's interconnected world. Through online platforms, our children can develop a global mindset, understand diversity, and cultivate teamwork skills that are vital for their future success. In conclusion, the establishment of Virtual Preparatory Academy would be a very beneficial addition to education in New Mexico. The accessibility, personalization, flexibility, abundant resources, and global connections provided by online learning are key factors that can profoundly benefit our children's educational journey. As parents, we are excited about the potential of online education to empower our children, foster their love for learning, and equip them with the skills they need to excel in an ever-evolving world. Thank you for considering our perspective and for your dedication to providing the best educational opportunities for our children.
Stephanie Misangyi	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I fully support Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application. The more options students and families of New Mexico can have for education, the better. As a New Mexico teacher, I have seen students drop out due to pregnancy and their own illness or illness in the family, and I know that there's a multitude of other reasons why some students need an online setting across the state. VPA would offer the flexibility needed these students to continue their education. There are many other students who thrive in an online learning environment for a variety of social reasons such as anxiety, bullying, distractions, and many others. In addition, many students gravitate towards CTE courses in the brick and mortar setting. An online option doesn't typically serve this population of students very well. I believe that VPA would greatly benefit this population of students because of their ability to help the students connect with businesses and individuals that can give them hands-on experience in a field of their interest through internships and other local opportunities that are specific to the student. There are so many businesses looking for highly qualified young candidates looking for each job opportunities, and a school of VPA would feel that need as well. In addition, we are living in an increasingly online world. I obtain my masters through a university and all of my courses were online. This allowed me to continue teaching while also improving myself to better serve my students. VPA is offering a one stop shop for students as far as online platforms. The curriculum will be run on the canvas platform. The same platform that most universities use and even nmped uses it. This allows for students to enter the higher education world, if that is the path they choose, seamlessly. Online learning is becoming increasingly popular across the nation for primary, secondary, and higher education. Students and families are becoming more comfortable with it and more are wanting to go that route. If we don't fill that need, another place will. There is simply no stopping it and it would be a shame if our great state falls behind in online education as well.
Jacque Garner	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	This charter will provide supports for students seeking an alternative school setting, to include a focus on CTE opportunities. I heartily endorse the members working to create this opportunity.

		<p>A virtual Career and Technical Education (CTE) school with apprenticeships would be important to have in New Mexico for several reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enhanced Access: A virtual CTE school would provide broader access to high-quality vocational education and apprenticeship opportunities for students across the state. Many rural areas in New Mexico may lack the resources and infrastructure to offer comprehensive CTE programs locally. By providing a virtual platform, students from all regions of the state can participate and benefit from CTE education. 2. Diverse Career Pathways: CTE programs offer a wide range of career pathways, exposing students to various industries and occupations. By integrating apprenticeships into the virtual CTE school, students can gain practical, hands-on experience in their chosen field. This exposure helps students explore potential careers, make informed decisions about their future, and develop the necessary skills for success in the workforce. 3. Workforce Development: New Mexico, like many states, has specific industry needs and workforce gaps. By incorporating apprenticeships into a virtual CTE school, students can receive training tailored to meet the demands of local industries. This approach aligns education with the needs of the labor market, preparing students for in-demand careers and contributing to the state's economic development. 4. Flexibility and Customization: Virtual CTE schools offer flexibility in terms of scheduling and learning environments. Students can access coursework and apprenticeship opportunities remotely, allowing them to balance their education with other commitments, such as part-time jobs or family responsibilities. Additionally, a virtual platform enables customization of learning experiences to accommodate individual student needs and interests. 5. Collaboration and Mentorship: Apprenticeships provide valuable opportunities for students to work alongside industry professionals, fostering mentorship relationships and networking connections. Through virtual apprenticeships, students can engage with mentors and industry experts from diverse geographic locations, gaining exposure to different perspectives and expanding their professional networks. 6. Addressing the Skills Gap: The virtual CTE school with apprenticeships can play a crucial role in addressing the skills gap in New Mexico. By providing students with industry-specific training and real-world experience, it helps bridge the divide between classroom instruction and the practical skills needed in the workforce. This, in turn, increases the employability of high school graduates and strengthens the talent pool for local businesses. <p>In summary, a virtual CTE school with apprenticeships in New Mexico would enhance access to vocational education, provide diverse career pathways, align education with workforce needs and state initiatives, offer flexibility and customization, promote collaboration and mentorship, and address the skills gap. Such a program can contribute to the overall development of the state's workforce and economy while empowering high school students to make informed career choices and succeed in their chosen fields.</p>
Jannah McKinley	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	
Cheri Humphries	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I support Virtual Preparatory Academy because there is a need for virtual learning opportunities, it's a school with a positive administration, and it supports careers and technical education.
Andrea platero	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Everyone learn at different levels.
Tammy	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	The families of New Mexico deserve school choices. VPA will offer an amazing opportunity for the students and families of NM. I strongly support VPA! The internships and mentoring along with the strong career and technology education will enhance the academic offerings for the students of NM. School choice is a must for our families in NM.
bmmac0923@gmail.co	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	VPA would be an amazing addition to the state. The virtual charter will not only highlight the CTE need for students, but I can guarantee that the school will employ some of the best teachers in the state of NM. There are several students and families that will enroll in the school and the school will always put the needs of students first!
Nathan Dodge	I am opposed to Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Hard to CTE online, nearly impossible.
Mike Daugherty	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I fully support the authorization of the Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application. Parents must have choice in their child's education. NM scores very low in education and has a 77% graduation rate this is not acceptable. It is proven that students who are exposed to CTE content have a higher graduation rate. It is my understanding that VPA of NM plans to have a career readiness focus, and this is exactly what NM students need. I have been a CTE teacher for 25 years, and I know the value of students learning skills that are needed in the workforce. I also have a good understanding of how online learning works, and I can see where VPA of NM has the ability to teach students the theory behind different trades and then place students into internships where the students can learn hands-on skills. Please actively consider VPA of NM's charter application. It is needed in NM. Thank you.
Elaine Martinez	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I support virtual schools because not everyone is cut out for regular brick and mortar school, especially after covid. Schools like this help fill that niche for those students.
Erin Muffoletto	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I am in support because I believe we need more options as parents in New Mexico, especially in rural New Mexico. It is unfortunate that our children's education is dictated by the community they live in. If there are not many options, we have no other choice to send our children to the only school in the district. Growing up, I lived in Ojo Caliente, and there was only one option, I was not prepared for college, and had to do a lot to prepare myself for my future and my career. Now, as a parent, I believe there needs to be more equitable options for parents, so all students are capable of achieving the same no matter where they live and succeeding in life.
Fred Rodriguez	I am opposed to Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Not all students thrive virtually. A small percentage of students can and will do well. Socially they struggle with peers.
Sarina Paul	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Students in our state need another virtual schooling option. The opportunity to prepare students for college and career readiness while in high school is essential to the economic growth of our state. As a business owner support having a school with that focus, especially living in a rural area.
Carolyn May	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Having a school with a positive administration would be great for all concerned.
Shannon	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Some children need options other than traditional education.
Karissa Tave	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	We need to have other opportunities for my kids. I enjoy being able to have flexibility in my schedule as I have multiple children in school. This school would help to provide the flexibility back into my schedule, being as the other school we are currently enrolled in has made it hard to flexibility to fit in my boy's outside therapy.
Paul Garcia	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I enthusiastically support Virtual Preparatory Academy of NM because I feel that students and their families deserve to have a viable alternative for online education in New Mexico! VPA of NM will employ competent and ethical leaders who will provide an educational choice to families, one with rigorous academics and core values of safety, community, diversity, fun, and personal growth. High standards combined with STEAM curriculum will prepare students for success in college and career, and create contributing citizens. I support the approval of Virtual Preparatory Academy NM to serve students in our community. I value the mission and approach of VPA NM and I would be pleased to see a school of choice in the community.
Dr. Sharon Hart	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	There is great need for a charter school offering career and technical education. We also need one that will help develop gifted children in this state.
Karma Bromwell	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Virtual Preparatory Academy will provide NM students a quality education that will help us obtain viable jobs in the future. Their CTE program should be supported by the state of NM.
Jessica Davis	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	We need a charter school like this so my children have the opportunity in a rural area of NM to attend a safe school that also offers career and technical education. Please approve the school!
Edward and Grace Gar	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Our family supports this application because this form of education is desperately needed in New Mexico. We want our children to have the opportunity to attend STEAM classes that will prepare them for future jobs in this state.
Shannon Patrick	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Virtual school was vital for my own children as the local school district failed my kids in many ways including not testing them for gifted/special ed (at the time they said they didn't even have an educational diagnostician!!) There was also rampant bullying from students AND school staff. Without an option like the proposed school, we would have had to move out of state because the schools just weren't adequate. Pls provide options and opportunities for all students.
Shawna Topping	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	We need choices for our children here in New Mexico and we need an online school that is supportive and cares about the kids.
Sharon Riddiford	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Education is important and we support any additional avenues for education. New Mexico is 50th in education, we need institutions like Virtual Preparatory Academy for our children's education.
Bailey M.	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	As a senior that just graduated, I wish VPA would have been operating during my school years. I am going to study to become a veterinarian and having a good CTE program will help prepare students that will help run veterinary offices or other entities in the community. The virtual setting will allow students that need flexibility or may not be as successful in the traditional classroom.
Rebecca	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I support the virtual learning environment. I believe it creates an opportunity for students that have active lives outside of school like rodeo circuit or working to help support their family. My niece is ranked in the top 10 in the country for clay shooting and travels to tournaments all over the country. She cannot participate in a traditional brick and mortar schedule due to the school schedule conflict. Her virtual school allows her to be successful in both.
Susan Valdez	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I support this because I think it is a great way for students to learn and gain independence.
Debra S Mauer	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I believe that our children need more options in regards to their education. Not every online school is a good fit for every child. Having choices ensures a quality education for any child in need of a different approach, new environment, specialized instruction and educators who truly care. I am confident that Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico will meet those needs and provide an excellent curriculum with quality instruction by teachers who have the students' best interests at heart. As a parent I am anxious for my children to be fully prepared to go on to pursue a higher education. VPANM would be a wonderful asset for our children.
Tina Colon	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	
Kraig Ellis	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Options

Cheryl Jorgensen	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	It's important in this day and age to meet the students "where they are" as many would drop out of school without this option. I am in favor of this charter.
Jessica Garcia	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	The past 4 years my kids have been learning virtually and it has been such a great thing for our family.. There are so many kids who do it that some have to be put on a waiting list so having another option would be a grea thing for families.
Cheryl Colon	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	
Lillian Griego	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Virtual schooling is important for so many students who don't do well in an in-person setting!
Sadie Wheeler	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Students in New Mexico need a choice in education. They should have access to options no matter where they live in the state.
Cindy	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Kids in Mexico need alternatives in educationAnd a place to feel safe while they are in school.
Nancy Ball	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	It would be able to reach areas that make it difficult for students to attend school! Like Navajo Nation!!
Allyson Steffensen	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	It offers education opportunities for those who may find it difficult to be educated in person
Allyson Steffensen	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Flexibility and. Quality education for NM students
Nancy Ball	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	
Lalie Williamson	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	More virtual school options are needed in the state
Beverly Allen	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	
Lisa Todd	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	There are only 2 or 3 virtual schools and 100+ charter schools. Student need to have a wider choice in online learning environments. New Mexico is almost always last in educational rankings. The governing board is committed to creating an excellent school. The other schools in the state that are not online do not have an educational learning system in place and when the pandemic hit, they were not prepared. VPA has a unique system that allows students to never miss a beat in their education and to learn more about different careers at the same time. The other online school had over 42 teachers leave in one semester and many students too. It was not meeting the needs of students. Students unique needs must be met and they must have a choice like there is for other types of charter schools. Thank you for considering giving PCA a chance to make a positive and lasting difference in the lives of New Mexico students.
Hilary Noskin	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico will offer another choice in virtual education for New Mexico Students. But it is not just another choice. There are significant differences between VPA and the virtual schools being offered now that will enhance students and their families in accordance with the legislative intent for virtual schooling in New Mexico. The differences include but are not limited to: •College and career focused school •Curriculum in 40 different languages, both written and oral which is available to students 24/7. •The ecosystem that VPA provides includes predesigned, interactive and engaging curriculum. <input type="checkbox"/> one sign-in for curriculum, assessments, resources, supplemental curriculum <input type="checkbox"/> mock assessments embedded in the curriculum EX: SAT for Juniors <input type="checkbox"/> extensive professional development resources for teachers <input type="checkbox"/> real-time tracking of attendance <input type="checkbox"/> verifiable tracking of outside attendance (job shadowing) <input type="checkbox"/> teacher resource portal for SEL, EL, CLR strategies <input type="checkbox"/> Prologue2Go technology for non-verbal students <input type="checkbox"/> Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs) starting in Kindergarten through High School A program that focuses on student success and competency with differentiated lessons and numerous opportunities for intensified specific tutoring sessions. Individual student needs will be addressed collaboratively with administration, parents, students and teachers. Please give NM this choice.
Stephanie Cassidy	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Because children who do not function in a regular school setting deserve another option for their education.
Mark Kumpunen	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	Virtual learning and the Virtual work environment is here to stay and this is an excellent way to embrace the future and support those students and families that can benefit from and need this type of learning environment. I've seen first hand the huge benefit to kids pursuing the STEM field when these programs are led by the right people.
Melissa	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	More options for our NM kids and families
kelley martin	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I have been a parent and an educator in both traditional in-person school, and virtual. I believe that all students and their families must have options and opportunity that best fits them and their lifestyles. Virtual education is a wonderful setting for a multitude of students and their individual needs.
Joseph Vonderhaar	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I support VPA because of the student focus, along with the use of internships to help students grow
Kayleigh Carabajal	I am in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	I support the Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application because it is designed to support student learning, success, and graduation. The school's focus is career readiness in a nurturing environment based upon academic excellence. The design incorporates sound educational design principles, current research, and proven strategies that will not only raise the bar for student performance but also improve student graduation rates.
Portales Municipal Schools	I am opposed to Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico's charter application.	The Portales Municipal School District stands in opposition to providing a charter to Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico. Although virtual or online learning might be a good fit for some students, based upon our experience over the past few years, virtual learning is not in the best interest of the majority of students. Virtual or online learning requires a motivated, self-disciplined student who is prepared to do a great deal of work independently and maintain deadlines. Virtual learning also requires a great deal of parental support for students who lack the time management skills needed to work on their own. Face-to-face, on-site learning provides a structured learning environment where students not only have immediate interaction and feedback from a teacher, they also have the ability to work with peers and learn social skills necessary to survive in the working world. There are already several virtual or online schools that accept students from across the State. Many school districts who have on-line programs will accept students from other districts as well if that student transfers to the new district. New Mexico Connections Academy, Ecademy Virtual, and Ute Lake Online Learning Center are three schools that will provide services to students across the state although some do not offer all grade levels. An internet search also shows Destinations Career Academy of New Mexico and Pecos Cyber Academy as more free choices in New Mexico. Sparrk Online Academy in Rio Rancho was another choice through 2023, but was closed for the coming year. According to a newspaper article, this school was closed due to costs running more per student than a traditional school. Furthermore, according to NMVISTAS the new school report card, both New Mexico Connections Academy and Ute Lake Online Learning have a graduation rate of less than 50% and both schools have a CSI designation for graduation. Although Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico has hopes of exceeding the schools previously mentioned, we believe that through the time of COVID, not only did we as a district see the importance of face-to-face education, the New Mexico Public Education Department and Legislature also see the value of students being in a regular school setting. Through our experience of school closures and going on-line for an extended period of time, when students did return to school in-person, full time, we noticed a decline in social-emotional skills. A great deal of time has been spent over the past year and a half helping students with social-emotional issues. This district hired additional social workers to work with children who had not developed many of the skills necessary to be successful in a school setting. These skills will not be developed in an on-line setting. Special Education students and English Language Learners also require more assistance than can most likely be offered via online learning. As a matter of fact, NMPED saw the need for more in-person learning and provided guidance that allowed school districts to bring in special needs students when others weren't allowed to come to school. English Language Learners will have more difficulty practicing their second language with their peers and having that classroom time to speak and listen to their new language. One must also ask how the various assessments and testing will be conducted for specials needs students to complete their annual Individualized Education Plans (IEP) and three-year reviews, or simply to begin testing for a student who may be in need of these specialized services. How will English Language Learning students be provided the WIDA screening to determine their eligibility for ELL services? As of today, the NM-MSSA, (state required proficiency test) must be given by a certified teacher in a secure setting. How will these tests be provided to students who are scattered throughout the state? This school plans to be a CTE school with planned internships for their students. Managing this statewide will certainly be a challenge as these programs must include some supervision or case management over the locations where students will be assigned. Finally, the fiscal issues must be spoken of. An additional Charter School continues to dilute the amount of funding for the Districts and existing charter schools that are already established. Taking as few as five to ten students from an established District School or Charter, can be a huge blow to the budget of some of the smaller Districts and Charters in the state.

To Whom it may concern,

May 23, 2023

As a parent/guardian of children, two of which have special needs, I find it concerning that we have very few choices for online schooling for our children and their needs.

We definitely need a new online school/virtual charter school that can fill the needs of all children at any level, not one size fits all because it doesn't.

My children love online school, and they don't want to go back to brick and mortar, but we need a school with fresh ideas and that will work with children at all levels. I feel that this new school will fulfill the needs of many, many children at the levels they need to be at. I think that this school that has a new look on what children's needs are and not just what they want to happen is an amazing benefit to the kiddos, especially the ones who struggle in school.

I am in total support of this new online virtual charter school and I know that there are many, many parents who want and need this school. I hope that they can get it opened very, very soon so my kiddos along with many others can start benefiting from it.

Thank you for your consideration

Cathy Cope

Dear Members of the New Mexico Public Education Commission,

This letter is to give my input on the importance of opening Virtual Preparatory Academy Charter School. As a public school special education teacher, I have worked in brick-and-mortar and virtual settings. I believe both serve a purpose and meet the needs of the students attending each setting. I will speak about my experience as a teacher in the virtual setting and the importance of opening VPA.

The students I have taught in the virtual setting for the past six years are students in the alternative curriculum setting. They have exceptionalities such as intellectual disability, developmental delays as well as Autism. A large percentage of these students struggled in the brick-and-mortar setting and did not find real success until attending school virtually and working from home. They have direct support from their parents, guardians, or as we refer to them, their learning coaches. They have an opportunity to attend live lessons with their teachers daily, me included, to work directly on their IEP goals and to set them up for success after high school.

I can also attest to the parent-teacher relationship. In our virtual setting, the teacher communicates with the parent several times a week. It becomes a collaborative effort as the parent can work closely with the teacher to ensure that their student succeeds. It is not uncommon for a teacher to speak with a parent several times a week either through email, text, or phone. We have an opportunity to get to know our families personally and develop an excellent working relationship as well.

I believe every student has a unique learning style and the mission of Virtual Preparatory Academy is to reach all students with an individualized, career-focused education in an interactive learning environment rooted in rigor and innovation. VPA will reach students from across the state and provide them with an education that is tailored to their needs and learning style. We have students who have transportation issues or a parent or guardian that is unable to physically get them to school. In the virtual setting, I have seen students who can learn and succeed without missing school because they can't get there. We are fortunate that we live in a time that we can provide an education to students through the virtual setting!

In closing, I can assure you that Virtual Preparatory Academy will become one of the top virtual charter schools for the state of New Mexico. I know the governing board will work to put together the best teachers and administrators and I guarantee we will have families that have already expressed interest in becoming part of the school. It will be a school founded on morals, values, and a top educational experience for every student who chooses to enroll and will receive an excellent education that will prepare them to go out and pave their own amazing path!

Sincerely,

Marquelle McFarland, M.Ed
Special Education teacher
bmmac0923@gmail.com

New Mexico Public Education Commission

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to provide support for your approval of the application for the Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico Charter School. As a public school special education teacher, I have worked both in traditional schools as well as virtual schools and see the value of both settings. As we all know, traditional schools are not always the best placement for some students and it is important to offer other settings that may provide a more flexible learning experience. Many students thrive in the virtual school setting and attend for many reasons (health concerns, mental health concerns, proximity, travel issues, co-parenting situations, etc.) which confirms this is a viable option for families in New Mexico.

Please consider the application for this innovative, state-wide opportunity for the families of New Mexico.

Sincerely,

Ellen Roarty
Special Education Teacher
ArbleRoarty@gmail.com

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Tammy Woffinden <thw5@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 1:32 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] VPA

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

To: Charter Schools Division:

I am writing to express my support for Virtual Preparatory Academy of NM Charter School. I would like to add my voice for the approval of VPA NM Charter School to serve students in my district. I value the mission and approach of Virtual Preparatory Academy NM and I would be pleased to see a school of choice in the community.

The curriculum is rigorous, research-based, and can be custom-tailored to students' unique skills and interests. It includes world class content and college preparatory skill-building, as well as access to fine arts, world languages, and career-focused electives. The school's curriculum and instructional framework is guided by national best practices in K-12 online learning models. The curriculum design methodology uses principles of Universal Design for Learning, ensuring that both the curriculum and the instructors provide multiple opportunities for engagement, representation, as well as action and expression to ensure that students will repeat their encounters with the same topics throughout their career, each time increasing the complexity in order to reinforce previous learning, and also to reteach concepts one-on-one and in small groups to ensure mastery.

I support VPA!

Thank you!

T. Woffinden

Sent from my iPhone

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Mike Bromwell <mike.mr.photo@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 1:37 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Virtual Preparatory Academy

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Public Education Commission.
300 Don Gaspar
Santa Fe, NM 87501-2786

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of the Public Education Commission approving the charter for the Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico.

Because of social and educational needs, we have elected to send our children to online charter schools, rather than a bricks and mortar environment. We need a school that provides flexibility as one of our daughters is a competitive swimmer who travels throughout the United States throughout the standard "school year", yet still desires a quality education that will allow her to attend an Ivy League school upon her graduation from High School.

Initially, we enrolled both girls in Pecos Cyber Academy. However, in recent years the flexibility was no longer available, but the administration was placing outrageous demands on the teachers and it was causing significant stress on the students. Because of this, we transferred the high school student to New Mexico Connections Academy.

NMCA is a fine online choice. However, it doesn't cater to gifted and talented students or have a strong vocational education program. Additionally, they have no extracurricular science program. As our daughter has entered and won national, regional, and state contests for both the sciences and the humanities, it was a difficult decision to move her to NMCA. If there had been an online charter school that provided flexibility in scheduling, rigorous academics, AP courses, and a strong STEAM and National History Day program, we would have jumped at it. However, none exist in this state at the moment.

We hope that you will approve the charter for the Virtual Preparatory Academy so that families in this state will have a viable choice of schools for their children.

Thank you,
David Bromwell
1300-G El Paseo Rd Ste. 187
Las Cruces, NM 88001

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Sharon Hart <bishophart@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 1:40 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Important for NM's Future!

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To Whom it May Concern:

As a parent of three children, I am extremely concerned about the state of education in New Mexico. One need only listen to the evening news to hear about the rising violence in schools. Whereas schools formerly were a source of protection, they are now places that put our children into vulnerable situations and cause undue anxiety and stress. Because of these reasons, I support online education for all ages.

Although there are a couple of online charter schools available in New Mexico, none focus on gifted and talented youth. Additionally, none are addressing the need for a viable and enriched STEAM education that will allow our children to pursue jobs beyond minimum wage opportunities. This state desperately needs a virtual school that provides flexibility and will allow children to learn how to solve problems through a creative, meaningful and engaged learning process.

It is my belief that the Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico addresses all these concerns and should be fully supported by the New Mexico Public Charter School department of Education. I hope that you give them the opportunity to serve our children and communities throughout New Mexico.

Thank you for listening,
Sharon Hart, Ph.D.
(575) 642-728

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Karma Bromwell <karma.bromwell@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 1:43 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Charter school proposal

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Public Charter Schools
New Mexico Public Education Department

To Whom it May Concern:

I recognize your time is valuable, so I'll come straight to the point:

There is desperate need for you to approve the charter for the Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico. Every student in this country responds differently to styles of teaching. Some are introverts, who prefer to stay quiet and keep their heads in books, while others prefer to be actively involved in a communal approach to their education. Some students enjoy studying, while others simply do what needs to be done to get to the next lesson. What online education provides is the opportunity for students of any nature to not only learn, but to excel in their studies. However, teachers need to be accessible, knowledgeable, and engaged in the education process.

Our family believes that the need for the Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico is great. The state needs an online school that will foster an interest in their education, especially in the sciences. The U.S. Department of Education has stressed that a STEM education is vital for this country. Additionally, although there are some opportunities for students with disabilities, there is also great need for opportunities for highly intelligent and creative students.

At present, there are no online charter schools that are focusing on career readiness, global competitiveness, and educational experiences that inspire youth to reach their full potential. The establishment of VPA-NM would change this situation and offer opportunities for students of all abilities, races, and socio-economic status.

I encourage you to take affirmative action on the charter being considered. Thank you,

Jessica Davis
PO Box 437
Mesquite, NM 88048

Dear Public Education Commission,

As a teacher and community member, I believe that there is a need for more choices in virtual charter schools with a strong STEM and gifted program here in New Mexico. I am asking you to approve the charter request for Virtual Prep Academy.

STEM education is essential for our children's future success. The workforce of tomorrow will require skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Career and Technical education is being heavily promoted both at the state and federal level. At this time we do not have an online school with a high-quality STEM-focused program. As a STEM and CTE teacher who has worked in a virtual school setting for many years, I believe that these programs promote a sense of belonging for students that helps them to gain confidence and, in turn, helps their overall academics. These programs spark a student's imagination for what is possible and allows them to explore fields of interest that are not built in to a regular academic program.

The curriculum that is being proposed by VPA includes college preparatory skill-building and is career focused. It provides multiple opportunities for engagement and increasing complexity in topics that will allow skills to build and be reinforced over time.

Many states have multiple, strong STEM charter schools for high school students, both virtual and in a regular setting. These schools provide a rigorous and challenging education that prepares students for success in college and the workforce, while allowing them choices in their education. We want our community to also show a strong investment in our children's future by offering similar programs of choice.

Additionally, gifted students need specialized instruction to reach their full potential. A virtual school with a strong gifted program would provide a challenging and stimulating learning environment for gifted students. While working with gifted students at all grade levels for many years, it became apparent to me that supporting these students and their unique mindset is essential for them to be successful in school and post high school. Recognizing and supporting the individual talents and abilities of gifted students ensures that they are able to achieve their full potential. As a teacher of gifted students and a parent with my own gifted children, I recognize that there needs to be opportunities and choices for students and families to choose what fits the needs of the learner. I also believe that Virtual Prep Academy will offer these supports to students enrolled in their programs. Having another virtual school that offers these choices strengthens our New Mexico communities.

I urge you to consider the importance of providing a high-quality STEM and gifted program for our students by approving the charter application for Virtual Prep Academy. The investment in our children's education will pay dividends for years to come.

Having multiple choices for schooling promotes a stronger, more talented student population for New Mexico

Sincerely,
Jeanne Kumpunen
STEM, CTE and Gifted Teacher

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Nick Paul <nick@newmexicoselfstorage.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 2:44 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Letter for VPA of New Mexico

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Dear Public Education Commissioners,

We write this letter in support of the Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico (VPA). Our hope is that you will support and provide a charter for this virtual schooling option for students in our state.

We are lifelong Alamogordo residents, and have seen the influence and impact of Holloman Air Force Base in our local community. However, one of the biggest concerns for the area is the lack of quality schooling. Due to this limitation many of our Air Force families choose to keep their children/spouse in their previous duty station due to a lack of a rigorous education program. Our hope is that VPA will service the needs of not only our native New Mexican families, but also those who call New Mexico home in transient communities, such as those with military installations.

As local and statewide business owners with businesses in Alamogordo, Clovis, and Hobbs, we see the need for CTE education and opportunities for students. Our local brick and mortar schools have very limited CTE programs, but we know providing this exposure to our students will significantly change the workforce for New Mexico. As the chairperson for the local Center of Commerce one of the biggest needs in our community is a skilled workforce. We see a virtual CTE program as being a tremendous asset for our community and look forward to the growth of the next generation.

We hope that you will see the need to provide a charter for Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico. You have our full support!

Respectfully,
Nicholas and Sarina Paul



Nick Paul - Owner

Cell: 805-728-5715

Email: Nick@NewMexicoSelfStorage.com

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Mary Brown <mrsbrown2116@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 3:18 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] | Support VPA New Mexico

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Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico will be a wonderful online school for students K-12 to explore their unique gifts and talents. We live in a digital age so it is exciting that students will have the opportunity to try different curriculum to see where their passions lie. They can learn at their own pace so they can absorb the course material.

As an adult I have been participating in many online courses from teachers that live around the world. So it excites me to know that the younger generation has the opportunity to identify their gifts and talents. When they graduate they will realize it is not an ending to learning new subjects but a continuation to explore the vast landscape of continuing education. These students will become our next creators and inventors. What a beautiful world we will live in.

Sincerely,

Mary B Brown

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: freespiritom <freespiritom@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 3:28 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support VPA of New Mexico

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To whom it may concern,

Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico is necessary to align our K-12 education with the demand of our diverse changing world. Online education is so essential to develop individual skills and give our kids opportunities that are lacking in the outdated methods of the past.

After retiring, as a flight attendan for 33 years, my passion has been learning new things. Online courses offer this at my pace. I feel like a whole new chapter has opened for me. This is why I am sharing my feelings of necessity for online learning. Learning can be exciting when the restraints have been lifted.

Since every individual learns at a different pace and method, online schooling offers a perfect model to accomplish this. The world we live in today centers around the availability of information instantly. This is only one reason we need to prepare our kids to transition from K-12, to collegs or trade school and then into their working life. Online learning is our future and I hope Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico will be part of it.

Best,

Tom Brown.

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Joseph Vonderhaar <bananacheesepudding@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 3:31 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] VPA

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Hello!

I am writing to express my support for Virtual Preparatory Academy of NM Charter School. I would like to add my voice for the approval of VPA NM Charter School to serve students in my district. I value the mission and approach of Virtual Preparatory Academy NM and I would be pleased to see a school of choice in the community.

The curriculum is rigorous, research-based, and can be custom-tailored to students' unique skills and interests. It includes world class content and college preparatory skill-building, as well as access to fine arts, world languages, and career-focused electives. The school's curriculum and instructional framework is guided by national best practices in K-12 online learning models. The curriculum design methodology uses principles of Universal Design for Learning, ensuring that both the curriculum and the instructors provide multiple opportunities for engagement, representation, as well as action and expression to ensure that students will repeat their encounters with the same topics throughout their career, each time increasing the complexity in order to reinforce previous learning, and also to reteach concepts one-on-one and in small groups to ensure mastery.

Thank you

Joseph V

--

Thanks,

Daniel Vonderhaar

"There're enough unhappy things in the world. Painting should be one of those things that brightens your day."-
Bob Ross

Dear Public Education Commission,

I am writing this letter to express my sincere support for Virtual Prep Academy and its mission to provide an exceptional virtual learning experience to our community's vast diversity of students. As a parent and advocate for quality education, I firmly believe that VPA will play a vital role in supporting and shaping the future of our children's education within New Mexico. As a teacher, I have worked in both brick-and-mortar and virtual settings for the past few years. The virtual setting supports children and their needs with the proper flexibility and support they need. New Mexico needs to have more options for parents, students, and teachers to choose from. Being involved in the education system, it has expanded to the evolving landscape. Virtual schools have proven to be a remarkable solution for families seeking a flexible and personalized learning environment. Being a part of this growth has opened many new doors for families. I firmly believe that Virtual Prep Academy will play a valid role in shaping the future of our children's education and deserves all the backing it can get.

I am truly impressed by the dedication of VPA commitment to fostering academic excellence.

Virtual Prep Academy has proposed a commitment to provide a high-quality education for each individual. They plan on incorporating a Career and Technical education at a level to support the advanced technological tools and interactive platforms that will enable the students to access a diverse range of learning of material, continuing to encourage critical thinking and creativity. Being a virtual charter school is their ability to cater to each student's unique learning style and pace. By VPA offering a personalized lesson plan, they will ensure that every student can reach their full potential, no matter what their academic strengths or challenges are. Having this type of individualized learning is what students and parents are gracefully seeking in a virtual school. Being in the virtual environment will foster a safe and inclusive atmosphere where students can express themselves freely without fear of judgment or bullying. Allowing the diverse student body to be able to engage with one another and encouraging cultural understanding and empathy.

The amount of parent involvement is increasingly higher. As a teacher, I greatly appreciate the opportunity to be actively involved with my students and their families. VPA recognizes the importance of parental engagement and highly encourages parents to play an active role in their child's education and learning journey.

Even though it is a virtual setting, the number of student activities is endless. The students, parents, and educators can participate in virtual clubs, group projects, and interactive events. This is going to support and enhance social skills and a sense of belonging among all the students at every grade level.

I sincerely believe that Virtual Prep Academy has represented itself with a model for education in our technologically advanced world. With an enriching and innovative online learning environment that equips students with the skills necessary to excel in an increasingly digital and interconnected society.

I highly encourage you to consider my strong endorsement of Virtual Prep Academy as a valuable asset to our community and state. This institution's impact within New Mexico will

support the lives of its students and be evident in their growth and achievements. I am confident that VPA will continue to nurture young minds and prepare them for a successful future.

They have my full support. If there is anything I can do to support VPA further, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. Thank you for your dedication to providing exceptional education opportunities to our children in New Mexico.

Sincerely,
Johanna Van Zuiden

Mariah Tolzmann
Rio Rancho, NM
Mariahtolzmann@gmail.com
505-977-6214
07/17/2023

New Mexico Public Education Department
Public Education Commission
Santa Fe, NM

Subject: Recommendation for Approval of Virtual Prep Academy

Dear Public Education Commission ,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I am writing to express my enthusiastic support and recommendation for the approval of Virtual Prep Academy. I am confident that Virtual Prep Academy is well-suited to deliver a first-rate education to students in a virtual environment.

As a teacher of almost 10 years with a deep understanding of the importance of STEM education in today's rapidly advancing world, I believe that Virtual Prep Academy will develop an exemplary program that can empower students to excel in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Here are several compelling reasons why I endorse their application for approval:

1. **Engaging Learning Environment:** Through innovative online platforms, Virtual Prep Academy will be able to create a stimulating virtual learning environment that promotes active participation, creativity, and hands-on learning experiences. The use of interactive simulations, virtual labs, and collaborative projects fosters a deep understanding of STEM concepts. I believe a virtual option for our community with these strong skills is imperative for future leaders.
2. **Enrichment Opportunities:** Recognizing the importance of practical exposure, Virtual Prep Academy will actively seek partnerships with local businesses, research institutions, and STEM organizations. These collaborations provide students with valuable opportunities to engage in internships, competitions, and real-world projects, further enhancing their STEM education.
3. **Individualized Support:** Virtual Prep Academy is dedicated to meeting the unique needs of each student. They will offer individualized learning plans, regular assessments, and ongoing support to ensure that every student receives the attention and resources necessary for their academic success.

I wholeheartedly recommend the approval of Virtual Prep Academy. The commitment to excellence, experienced faculty, and innovative teaching methods that they are sure to possess will make them a valuable addition to our education landscape. I am confident that they will nurture future scientists, engineers, and innovators who will contribute to the advancement of our society.

Thank you for considering my recommendation. Please feel free to reach out to me if you require any additional information or further support regarding this matter. I look forward to witnessing the positive impact that Virtual Prep Academy will have on the lives of students in our community.

Sincerely,

Mariah Tolzmann

Jacque Hair-Garner

PO BOX 176, Lincoln, NM 88338.

575-644-3890

June 26, 2023

Public Education Commission
300 Don Gaspar Ave. Santa Fe, NM 87501
To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for this opportunity to demonstrate support for the Virtual Preparatory Academy.

I retired from teaching distance education after thirty-four years of teaching. During my tenure as an educator, I fulfilled various positions as a special education elementary, middle school and high school teacher. I also served as an administrator for both special programs and the high school campus at large. I am well acquainted with the needs and struggles of public education. My last two years of teaching were spent online as a special education teacher under the guidance and supervision of Freda Daugherty. I wasn't sure about the online experience at first, but soon learned how valuable this choice was to the families I served. Many of my students had a history of failure in the traditional setting; the online experience allowed them to develop a sustained relationship with educators free from many of the constraints they faced on a campus. Indeed, I found working individually with families extended my services. My efficacy for addressing special needs increased as I established relationships with their parents/guardians. Not only was I coaching students, I was helping caretakers/learning coaches become more effective in negotiating each child's educational needs. It is my sincere belief, that the parent and home component is critical in addressing educational failure to thrive. The virtual setting, with proper guidance, can provide appropriate settings for students who need a non-traditional approach. *The virtual classroom truly became my favorite setting for dealing with non-traditional students! Please don't underestimate its relevance for our state.*

In addition, Ms. Daugherty's experience and expertise in addressing student needs and growth in the virtual setting is unsurpassed. She is responsive to her teachers, promotes academic rigor, and is professional with parents. I believe that under her direction, the Virtual Preparatory Academy will be an exemplary school for New Mexico.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 575-644-3890.

Jacque Hair-Garner

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Mike Daugherty <mike_daugherty@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 7:51 AM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Authorize VPA of NM

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico. Schools have had a college focus for a long time; however, being a CTE teacher, I have always seen the value in preparing students for both college and careers. Many of my students have gone to college only to drop out in the first year because they wished to pursue a career. Exposing students to a variety of career choices early in their education is key.

I sincerely appreciate how VPA plans to educate the whole child with a robust curriculum that has data resources available to support the students and teachers. As educators, it is time that we think critically about what education will look like in the future, and I believe VPA of NM has a vision to meet the evolving educational trends.

Please consider authorization of VPA of NM. I believe this school may be the vision that will help NM to improve the education of all New Mexicans.

Respectfully,

Mike Daugherty

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Mrs. Daugherty <f_daugherty@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2023 7:49 AM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support of VPA of NM

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to show support of the Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico (VPA). I have worked with the Founding Team, and these individuals are all highly qualified educated adults who truly have a passion for student learning and teacher growth.

Currently, there is only one state chartered virtual option for students in Kindergarten through third grade. Additionally, the other two state chartered virtual schools do not have a CTE focus. Families deserve choices in their children's education, and these choices should not be limited to two virtual options. As the Founding Team said, one size does not fit all, one size fits one. I truly believe VPA of NM will offer a great educational choice to families and equally important, will hold itself accountable for student learning.

VPA of NM will prepare students for both college and career readiness using a comprehensive career readiness curriculum. The curriculum is offered in both written and oral format in more than 40 languages. With the influx of immigrants to the US, VPA of NM will be able to communicate in the child's native language. Additionally, the proposed student eco-learning system is extremely comprehensive and will provide teachers with data in real-time. There is also a plethora of resources available to the teachers to help them to grow in their profession.

VPA of NM will hold itself accountable, and I sincerely hope you will consider authorization of VPA of NM.

Sincerely,

Freda Daugherty
575-512-7242

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Stephanie Misangyi <stephanie.m108@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2023 10:41 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please Authorize VPA of NM

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

To Whom It May Concern,

Opening an online school would greatly benefit many students in New Mexico. As an educator in a brick and mortar setting who was forced to teach students online during the pandemic without proper systems in place, it really opened my eyes to how valuable having an appropriate online education available is. There are many students who would benefit from having online learning as an option due to outside responsibilities such as students that may travel a lot due to circumstances beyond their control, those students who have a compromised immune system, those students who may have a deformity where the student feels uncomfortable in a public setting, illness, parent's work demands, students that are in split custody in different towns, or other situations that do not allow for the student to regularly attend school in a brick and mortar setting. Some students may benefit from simply having less distractions from peers which better allows them to focus on their task at hand, while others that struggle with mental health issues such as anxiety may also benefit from learning in a space that they consider safe where they do not feel like everyone in the class is watching them. All of these students deserve to have an opportunity to receive a quality education in a school system that is set up to function online.

Schools across the state, and world, tried to make online learning happen overnight without appropriate support systems in place when the pandemic hit, and there was no other choice. The difference in quality of education between a brick and mortar school trying to replicate what an online school is set up to do is evident. In an increasingly online world, schools need to be able to keep up.

Opening a new online school would provide immense opportunity for a variety of students coming from different backgrounds who need the flexibility of being able to learn from anywhere. While students are the number one priority, without question, it is worth noting that many teachers are wanting to move to an online environment, as well. There is an increasing demand for online teaching jobs for adults who would also like to have the freedom to work from home for a multitude of reasons. There are students that want to, or need to, go to school online. There are teachers that want to teach online. The state is ready for more online schools. We truly need VPA of New Mexico, and I thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Stephanie Misangyi
A Concerned Educator

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Daniel Daugherty <d.daugherty352@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2023 10:39 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] | Support VPA of NM

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

To Whom It May Concern,

Hello, I am writing this letter in regards to the importance of education and the opportunity for a new school to exist within the state of New Mexico. In today's world, the value of education has become ever increasingly rare and any opportunity that we, as a society, can hand to future generations must be acted upon. I have been involved in education for the last thirty years, and I know first-hand the importance of a system that will help create productive citizens for society. It is my understanding the new school will be within the cyber realm and would provide an excellent opportunity for students who are unable to make it work with a traditional brick and mortar school system.

While education can be defined as the transmission of knowledge, skills, and character traits, it should also be an enlightening experience. Nowhere else in the world do young minds have the opportunity to flourish like they do within a school system. With the ever changing world, we have to create systems that will benefit those of us that cannot make the more traditional standard for education work. In an online setting, we have the ability to reach these unique situations and provide the education these young minds deserve. The standards of traditional education will not only be met but will have the ability to be surpassed within an online environment through all of the opportunities that are available.

It is only through the creation and proper use of education that we as a society can begin to create a better future for generations to come. I truly believe that a new online school would greatly benefit our current education system within the state of New Mexico, and I sincerely hope you will authorize the Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico school.

Sincerely,

Daniel Cade Daugherty

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Lisa Todd <lisamtodd@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2023 5:12 PM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support Virtual Preparatory School

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

There are 325,000 K-12 students in New Mexico. There are 100+ charter schools but only 3 online schools that are at or almost at capacity.

There is a great need for online education because of student:

- Anxiety
- Health and medical Issues
- Work to support the family
- Athletes or performers
- Safety is also a big issue due to
 - Gun violence
 - Bullying
 - Possible health risks

Educational choice is crucial for students in their education and especially more of a choice in virtual education. One glove does not fit every hand in this unique learning environment. The ecosystem that VPA provides includes predesigned, interactive and engaging curriculum. The platform provided by VPA allows a rigorous teaching capability that is not available through brick and mortar during times of need and crises.

Teachers will enhance student learning and develop rapport through data driven Live Lessons. Students will participate daily in Dynamic Lessons that provide insight and feedback. It's a program that focuses on student success and competency with differentiated lessons and numerous opportunities for intensified specific tutoring sessions. Individual student needs will be addressed collaboratively with administration, parents, students and teachers.

Nm is usually at or near the bottom of educational rankings. The founding leadership of VPA is committed and passionate about making a lasting and positive effect on the students throughout the state.

Please give VPA a chance to thrive and make a difference. The students and communities of NM deserve it.

--

Lisa M. Todd
505-238-5356

Valenzuela, Lucy, PED

From: Hilary Noskin <hnoskin@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 16, 2023 11:37 AM
To: Schools, Charter, PED
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter in Support of Virtual Preparatory Academy of NM

CAUTION: This email originated outside of our organization. Exercise caution prior to clicking on links or opening attachments.

Good afternoon,

Virtual Preparatory Academy of New Mexico will offer another choice in virtual education for New Mexico Students.

But it is not just another choice. There are significant differences between VPA and the virtual schools being offered now that will enhance students and their families in accordance with the legislative intent for virtual schooling in New Mexico.

The differences include but are not limited to:

- College and career focused school
- Curriculum in 40 different languages, both written and oral which is available to students 24/7.
- The ecosystem that VPA provides includes predesigned, interactive and engaging curriculum.
 - one sign-in for curriculum, assessments, resources, supplemental curriculum
 - mock assessments embedded in the curriculum EX: SAT for Juniors
 - extensive professional development resources for teachers
 - real-time tracking of attendance
 - verifiable tracking of outside attendance (job shadowing)
 - teacher resource portal for SEL, EL, CLR strategies
 - Prologue2Go technology for non-verbal students
 - Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs) starting in Kindergarten through High School

VPA is a program that focuses on student success and competency with differentiated lessons and numerous opportunities for intensified specific tutoring sessions. Individual student needs will be addressed collaboratively with administration, parents, students and teachers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Hilary Noskin, PhD, JD
PO Box 1942
Elephant Butte, NM 87935