

## 2023 Charter School Conference Overview and Feedback

- About 440 people attended including school leaders, teachers, administrators, governing board members, performers, presenters, keynotes, and students.
- In promoting the conference, we personally visited 46 state and local charters in the greater ABQ area, only after reaching out and talking to the 27 charters furthest from the conference.
- We had attendees from Shiprock to Navajo Nation to Angel Fire to Red River to Roswell to Las Cruces to Silver City to Gallup and everywhere in between.
- There was so much interest that we had to halt registration and start a waiting list.
- A variety of schools attended such as Albuquerque Aviation Academy, New Mexico School for the Arts, Dream Dine, Digital Arts and Technology, Tierra Adentro, and Technology Leadership High School just to name a few.
- We held 54 sessions, 36 of which were led by New Mexico school leaders and/or teachers.
- 70 out of 101 New Mexico charters were present.
  - 39 State charters
  - 31 District charters
- Board Member attendance.
  - 20 Board members from 13 state charters
  - 12 Board members from 9 district charters
- Based on a survey collected from attendees, here are some comments:
  - This was one of the best conferences I have attended in some time. Not only were the keynotes and workshops high quality, but the conference ran smoothly, and the networking opportunities were incredibly worthwhile.
  - All pithy and truly well done (and I have been to more than my share of conferences!).
  - Dr. Brizard challenged me so much. I am still in awe about what I learned. Now I want to put it to practice.
  - Our GC members loved this conference because they heard from a variety of leaders and were able to ask questions. They gained a broader understanding of their role and the impact they can have on our campus. I hope CSD, PED, PEC will continue to fund this for GC members and administrators. It's the best training for them I've seen so far.
  - Great session topics, uplifting, inspiring, and a wonderful way to start off the school year! The venue was beautiful, and I thank you for your hard work!!
  - This was an exceptionally well organized and informative conference at an absolutely wonderful venue. One of the best I have ever attended. Thank you!
  - The kids from Cottonwood performing an extemporaneous debate just resonated with me.
  - I really appreciate how there were so few vendors hawking goods, this was the first conference I've been to in the state where it didn't feel like I was walking down in an outdoor market.

- This was a great conference to bring Charter schools together. Looking forward to the next conference. I specifically enjoyed that all the information was geared towards Charters. So invigorating!!
- I appreciated the focus of the conference, so well done! And the Tamaya was amazing to recharge before starting the new year! Thank you for this gift for our professional work!
- The student performances were amazing.
- Great way to start the new year. It was evident that a lot of time and thought was put in to all the details.