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
ARSENIO ROMERO, PhD
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
GOVERNOR

April 29, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Charter School Administrators, District Test Coordinators, Accountability Leads

FROM: Arsenio Romero, Ph.D., Secretary of Public Education 

RE: 2022–23 ESSA Accountability Model Revision

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, reauthorized as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), requires state education agencies to develop accountability systems that meaningfully differentiate schools on an annual basis. This memorandum announces updates and revisions to New Mexico’s 2022–23 [ESSA accountability model](#) school designations.

Why did the PED revise the 2022–23 school designations?

Upon closer review of LEA concerns and appeals regarding data quality last fall, the PED paused to scrutinize its accountability model processes and business rules. During this review, the PED discovered that its application of technical business rules was out of alignment with its [2019 ESSA Consolidated State Plan](#) (CSP) and its [2021 ESSA CSP addendum](#).

Over the last four months, the PED has:

- Reviewed and processed all (approximately 280) local education agency appeals from the initial fall 2023 embargo and release of designations.
- Developed the [2022–23 ESSA Accountability Technical Manual](#) to make the technical business rules for school designations transparent for stakeholders; this manual has been peer-reviewed by a subset of the PED’s Assessment & Accountability Advisory Committee.
- Engaged an external national partner to audit the PED’s application of the business rules to the accountability data files; the PED will continue to have its accountability model audited for the next two additional cycles (the 2023–24 cycle will be released this fall).
- Posted a public facing [accountability calendar](#) so LEAs are abreast of key activities and dates related to each accountability cycle.

- Conducted interviews and hosted feedback sessions with districts and charter school educators and education nonprofit partners to include thoughtful feedback on the state accountability model and public reporting website, NM Vistas.
- Revised the state's 2019 Consolidated State Plan to reflect corrected business rules for future accountability cycles. The amended accountability portion of the state's CSP will be posted for public comment in the weeks ahead.

What happens next?

LEAs need to plan for the following events:

LEA Accountability Model Trainings: The PED will host two training options explaining its business rules applied to the 2022–23 designation revisions and expectations for LEAs' role in data validation. These training sessions will be held on Wednesday, May 1:

- May 1, 10:00–11:30 a.m.
[Register here](#)
- May 1, 1:00–2:30 p.m. (repeat)
[Register here](#)

2022–23 Accountability Model Data Embargo and Office Hours: The PED will provide LEAs their revised school designation calculations in the Secure Online Assessment Portal (SOAP). The embargo will start at **12:00 p.m. on May 1, 2024 and close at 5:00 p.m. on May 10, 2024.**

- SOAP account logins can be requested through: daniel.barto@ped.nm.gov.
- LEAs that desire to submit appeals during the embargo window must use [this form](#).
- The PED will host two office hours during this embargo period:
 - May 3, 9:00–10:00 a.m.
[\[Register Here\]](#)
 - May 7, 2:00–3:00 p.m.
[\[Register Here\]](#)

LEA/Charter Notification of School Designations 2023–2024: The PED will provide LEAs and Charters with a memo containing all school designations by **May 20, 2024.**

Public Release of Revised Data and Designations: The PED is working with Real Time Solutions (RTS) to improve upon the NM Vistas website, and the revised 2022–23 data will be posted live on **Monday, May 20, 2024.** The PED and RTS will host a NM Vistas training to assist LEAs with navigating the new site.

- May 20, 8:00 a.m.
[Register here](#).

The PED endeavors to continue to build transparency when communicating its state accountability model and data. We invite LEAs to join us for our fall Assessment & Accountability Conference in Albuquerque, where several sessions will be held around our technical requirements and business rules. Registration is open [here](#).

For Accountability inquiries, please email lynn.vasquez@ped.nm.gov or david.winjum@ped.nm.gov.

Cc: Amanda DeBell, Deputy Secretary of Teaching, Learning and Innovation
Candice Castillo, Deputy Secretary of Identity, Equity and Transformation
Gregory Frostad, Assistant Secretary of Policy, Research and Technology
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