

**New Mexico Public Education Commission  
Work Session Minutes**

**May 16, 2024**

Open Public Meeting via Zoom Webinar and in person at  
the Jerry Apodaca Education Building, 300 Don Gaspar Ave., Santa Fe, NM 87501

[Link to Meeting Recording](#)

Chair Patricia Gipson called the work session to order at 9:06am

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

**Commissioners in attendance in person:**

Commissioner Patricia Gipson, Chair, District 7, Las Cruces  
Commissioner Steven J. Carrillo, Vice Chair, District 10, Santa Fe  
Commissioner Alan Brauer, District 2, Albuquerque  
Commissioner Timothy Beck, District 3, Albuquerque  
Commissioner Sharon Clahchischillige, District 5, Aztec  
Commissioner Stewart Ingham, District 6, Deming  
Commissioner K.T. Manis, District 9, Hobbs

**Commissioners not in attendance:**

Commissioner Michael Taylor, District 8 Roswell  
Commissioner Melissa Armijo, Secretary, District 1, Albuquerque

**Also Present:**

Julia Barnes, PEC Attorney  
Corina Chavez, Charter School Division (CSD) Director  
Dr. Brigitte Russell, CSD Deputy Director  
Melissa "Missy" Brown, CSD  
Consuelo Constantine, CSD  
Kim Faulkner, CSD  
Jorge Gonzales, PED IT  
Valery Ratcliff Parker, Deputy Director, Public Charter Schools of New Mexico (NM PCS)

**Members of the Public in person and on Zoom are listed on the attendance document.**

Martica Davis, CSD  
Cheryl Rowe, CSD  
Ted Farnath, CSD

Samantha Ramierz, CSD  
Bianca Olona-Elwell, CSD  
Janet Van Cogliijn  
Mary Bradley  
Yaling Hedrick  
JR Van Coblijn  
Meghann Murphy  
Karen Ehlert  
Stephanie Becker  
Karen Woerner  
Cindy DeLanoy  
Rachel Stofocik  
Kim Hite Pope  
Moto g Stylus  
Lisa Horne  
Shelly Richard

## **2. Discussion of Performance Framework implementation**

Chair Gipson announced Epicenter contract has been signed, sealed, and delivered. She thanked CSD and PED staff that helped get this done. She stated Epicenter will be presenting this morning.

### **a. Authorizer software data system**

i. Introduction of the new system Director Chavez introduced Mary Bradley and Megann Murphy from Epicenter, contracted through the Request for Proposals (RfP) to provide the new data system. Ms. Bradley stated that Epicenter, which supports over 100 authorizers, will focus on technology and the system so Commissioners can stay focused on what matters most: students and their families. CSD will do the work in the field with schools and the PEC will have the information at their fingertips through a streamlined system, making things clear and transparent without being bogged down with paperwork.

#### **1. Capabilities of the new system**

shared vision and values; relationships of mutual trust and respect; clear expectations and communications; best practices from work with 24 states plus DC, over 3,000 schools, over 1 million students and 6,750 users across the country; monthly learning webinars; one system that can manage every phase of workflow.

#### **2. Rollout:**

a. Week 1: Orientation and Kickoff

b. Weeks 2-4: Site Setup; Site; Schools; Manage Orgs; Boards; Contacts; User Roles

c. Weeks 5-6/June: Review of site setup; Compliance Features; Workflow management

d. Weeks 6-7/June: Approving Submissions; Managing Users; Reviewing the System; Managing School Board Data; Scorecard and Application

- e. Weeks 7-9: Training – all staff; Updates as needed
- f. Prep for Go Live: Go Live; Training – School User - Overview
- 3. Schools: can only see their school information; will always see when what is due. Documents sent for the school will be time stamped. Schools will see if items are pending or approved. They can pull the document to edit if information is missing.
- 4. Performance Framework subcommittee to oversee rollout:
  - Epicenter will keep the implementation organized, be proactive and consistent with their communication, provide support beyond implementation. The system will be ready to implement before 2024-25 school year. Optimization Review after 6 months. Available 8:00 AM ET to 7:00 PM ET. Ms. Bradley will be at the conference, after that will host formal trainings; ready to go live in the June/July.
- b. Growth data: Dr. Kim Faulkner presented on how PED has measured growth historically (see PowerPoint in work session materials). Student growth percentiles (SPGs) are possible only in grades 4 to 8. PED is exploring ways to access growth in students in other grade levels.
- c. Vistas designation changes for 2022-23
  - Chair Gipson, the federal government didn't accept the Vistas data from the state. There is going to be significant changes in the designations. PED eliminated the Excellence designation. CSD will present designation changes at the June meeting.

### **3. Second discussion of new or revised policies effective July 1, 2024**

- a. Performance Framework
- b. Mission specific template
  - i. Better incorporation of Results Based Accountability (RBA)
  - ii. Instruction to provide: rigorous but realistic; Dr. Angelo Gonzales will be presenting in a session at the Charter School Conference on RBA. Changes to mission goal template. Survey schools to see what assessment they are using so can create scoring template for them. Need baseline data if it's a new goal.
- c. Contract: no changes from last month.
- d. Renewal Application
  - i. Transition school checklist: Section required in the contract negotiations to be provided in March (items A7 – A22). The rest of the information starts with line 24 down to line 38: PEC has authority over that school July 1; require an assurance in September to say: finance committee; audit committee; is student information system aligned with STARS; procurement procedures, Can Epicenter that a school put their policies in so they're in a database and schools can update them; separate from scoring. Chair Gipson: we are not expanding the transition year checklist at this point; it would be burdensome for schools
  - ii. Memo on statutory requirements and timing options
- e. Organizational Performance Framework
  - i. List of Annual Compliance Requirements, Indicator 3.C.
  - ii. Assurance document, including possible additional information for certain schools
- f. Application Timelines: Director Chavez reviewed the 2024 Renewal Process and Timeline
- g. Amendments: no changes

h. Update on Conflict of Interest form

**4. Use of data from the 5<sup>th</sup> year of a contract**

- a. Research on information on how other states use 5<sup>th</sup> year data: Limited to the 5 years unless you do it in the agreement with the schools. No other option in statute and rule. Graduation data is a year behind. Baseline data being provided.
- b. Use of 5th year data now
  - i. Renewal process already allows conditions
  - ii. Several contracts use 5<sup>th</sup> year data for a baseline
  - iii. Special cases that bring in previous data

**5. Discussion of PED Rule, 6.12.16 NMAC, Healthy Universal School Meals and possible comment to PED**

Commissioner Beck: schools don't have the resources; it is burdensome on the schools. Public Comment from the charters and their concerns. Will need permission for the subcommittee to collaborate with PCSNM.

**6. Discussion on legislative action**

- a. Equity in transportation for state charter schools: look at legislation since this will be the first time charter schools have lost monies to transport students. They should have drop zones.
- b. Governing Boards: Currently no mechanism to remove governing board members; for district school boards, Secretary has due process hearing; need legislation to create process
- c. School Bonding
- d. Charter 2% language clarification

**7. Report from Chair on reimbursements**

- a. Commissioner reimbursements and plans for travel
- b. PED grants to schools and PED grant award letters: Community Schools, CTE, Title III, Out of School Time Grant, EA Fellowship, and Restorative Justice Program

**8. Subcommittee Updates**

- a. Performance Framework
- b. Budget
- c. Policy
- d. Food Services
- e. Review of RFP for Authorizer Software
- f. Indicators of Distress, update from A-Game Conference

**9. Reports from PEC Liaisons**

- a. Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) – Commissioner Gipson  
Chari Gipson, LESC is meeting in Grants as we are meeting.
- b. Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) – Commissioner Gipson
- c. NM Indian Education Advisory Council – Commissioner Clahchischilliage  
Commissioner Clahchischilliage came early to meet virtually no service. Missed meeting. Will be in attendance next month.
- d. NM Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) – Commissioner Ingham  
Commissioner Ingham had a hard time hearing the meeting. Will be attending the next meeting in person.
- e. NM Public School Insurance Authority (NMPSIA) – Commissioner Manis

Commissioner Manis they met when we were in Chicago and they are meeting tomorrow but we will be in our PEC Meeting.

- f. NM School Boards Association (NMSBA) – Commissioner Carrillo
- g. NM State Library Commission – Commissioner Taylor  
Commissioner Taylor not in attendance to report.
- h. NM Coalition of Educational Leaders – Commissioner Beck

Submitted by Consuelo Constantine, PEC Liaison