

## New Mexico Public Education Department



New Mexico Education Secretary, Dr. Veronica C. García and the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) have initiated an extensive program in Parent Involvement. This comprehensive approach involves the development of parent, school, and community resources, training for districts, and a public awareness campaign to emphasize the importance of parents in education.



**“Parents and guardians are our children’s most vital teachers.”**

-Education Secretary,  
Dr. Veronica C. García

**For more information on the New Mexico Family & Parent Involvement Advisory Council, contact:**

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## Partners for Families & Parents Organizations and Parents Represented on the Advisory Council

*We invite you to connect with resources and information  
on parent and family involvement in New Mexico.*

ABC Community School Partnership  
Albuquerque Public Schools <http://ww2.aps.edu/>  
APS District Counseling Unit/APS Wellness website [www.apshmh.com](http://www.apshmh.com)  
Appleseed <http://appleseednetwork.org/>  
Bernalillo Public Schools <http://www.bernalillo.bps.k12.nm.us>  
Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations (CESDP)  
<http://www.cesdp.nmhu.edu/>  
Clovis Municipal Schools <http://www.cms.k12.nm.us>  
Children Youth and Families (CYFD)/Family Services [www.NewMexicoKids.org](http://www.NewMexicoKids.org)  
Engaging Latino Communities for Education (ENLACE)  
<http://www.enlacenm.org/>  
Farmington Public Schools <http://www.fms.k12.nm.us/>  
Info CTR Family & Community Partnerships Division/Babynet  
<http://cdd.unm.edu/babynet/>  
Jemez Valley Public Schools  
<http://jemez.nm.schoolwebpages.com>  
Las Cruces Public Schools <http://www.lcps.k12.nm.us/>  
NM Supporting Partnerships to Ensure Ready Kids (SPARK)  
[http://www.nmcf.org/?page\\_id=23](http://www.nmcf.org/?page_id=23)  
New Mexico Broadcasters Association  
<http://www.newmexicobroadcasters.org/>  
New Mexico Community Foundation (NMCF) <http://www.nmcf.org/>  
New Mexico Department of Higher Education & New Mexico GEAR UP  
<http://hed.state.nm.us/>  
New Mexico Public Education Department <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/>  
New Mexico School Counselor Association <http://www.nmsca.org/>  
Parents for Behaviorally Different Children (PBDC) <http://www.pbdc.org/>  
Parents of Youth New Mexico  
Parents Reaching Out (PRO) <http://www.parentsreachingout.org/>  
NM Parent Teacher Association (PTA) <http://www.nmpta.org/>  
The New Mexico Association for the Education of Young Children (NMAEYC)  
[www.nmaeyc.org/](http://www.nmaeyc.org/)  
University of New Mexico Family Development Program



## *Mission Statement*

The New Mexico Family and Parent Involvement Advisory Council provides *advocacy, guidance, and support* for child centered policies and practices affecting family, school, business, and community engagement to local and state decision-makers.

**We help families get involved!**

## *Role of the Advisory Council*

The New Mexico Family/Parent Involvement Advisory Council serves in an advisory role to the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED). The council meets monthly to share successes and address the challenges facing families, schools and communities. Members explore the future direction in the area of parental and family involvement.

Council efforts focus on connecting resources to expand positive opportunities for children and youth and their families. Our work compliments NMPED activities for public awareness and informed policy decisions that promote the importance of family involvement.

By joining the Advisory Council, membership groups can forge powerful collaborations and better align their efforts on behalf of kids throughout New Mexico. The goal of our advisory council is to increase partnerships among all stakeholders as advocates for meaningful family involvement throughout the state of New Mexico.



## *New Mexico's Guiding Principles on Family & Parent Involvement*

### *A Shared Responsibility*

**WHEREAS**, the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) recognizes that parents and families are a young child's first teachers, are essential to school readiness, and that when children enter school the responsibility for their education is then shared with the school and the entire community; and

**WHEREAS**, the NMPED recognizes that creating positive home, school, health, and community partnerships is essential to carrying out this shared responsibility successfully; and

**WHEREAS**, the NMPED recognizes a clear connection between parent involvement and increased student achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, the NMPED recognizes that the education of children begins at birth. A birth through twenty-one continuum of services requires an alignment of practices and building relationships between families, schools, and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the NMPED recognizes that in this changing world our children's success will require schools, families, and communities to reinvent how they work together.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the NMPED adopts these principles for key stakeholders in ensuring quality education for all students. NMPED, all local school districts, schools, school personnel and policymakers are encouraged to:

- Value families as equal partners/joint decision makers in the education of our children;
- Listen carefully to the family perspective;
- Make collaborative communication (talking, thinking and planning together) a priority;
- Include social interaction and learning to be respectful of families, language and culture;
- Respect each child and family's individuality and personal circumstances;

### *A Shared Responsibility Continued*

Create high expectations for student academic and social outcomes among all staff and policymakers;

Engage families and community-based programs as valued partners in the design of efforts to promote school success for all children;

Acknowledge ALL partners' strengths, capabilities, contributions, and interests;

Provide ongoing growth and training opportunities necessary for adults responsible for the care and education of children; and

Design and practice smooth transitions aligning services around each child's needs.

The New Mexico Public Education Department will take steps to foster wider and more substantive family and community involvement by identifying and sharing information with parents and families about effective educational programs. It also will provide information on funding sources for the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs. Further, it will encourage professional development programs on family/school/community involvement for school staff and families. Efforts will be made to connect with families who did not have a positive school experience or for whom English is not their native language.

The New Mexico Public Education Department will continue to support and assist schools and local school systems in developing, implementing, and evaluating policies and programs that involve all parents and families at all grade levels. It will seek to collaborate with community agencies including faith-based organizations serving children and families to encourage parent and family involvement in the lives of children. These principles complement legislative initiatives regarding family and parent involvement.