



Making Schools Work: Foundations for Success

New Mexico's current rankings (*Quality Counts 2008, Education Week*)

- 8th nationally, earning a B- for early childhood, college and career readiness (C Ntl. Avg.)
- 16th nationally, earning an A- for standards, assessments and accountability (B Ntl. Avg.)
- 17th nationally, earning a C+ for initiatives in the teaching profession (C Ntl. Avg.)
- 30th nationally, earning a C for school finance (C+ Ntl. Avg.)
- 46th nationally, earning a D- for K-12 achievement levels/gains in the poverty gap (D+ Ntl. Avg.)
- 49th nationally, earning a D+ for chances for success for New Mexico students (C+ Ntl. Avg.)

New Mexico's rankings on Quality Counts 2007 Success Index

Building foundations for success focus areas

- Academic Rigor and Accountability
- Closing the Achievement Gap
- School Readiness
- Parent Involvement
- Quality Teachers
- 21st Century Classrooms
- College and Workforce Readiness

Academic Rigor and Accountability

- ★ **4th nationally for standards, assessments, and accountability**, Education Week *Quality Counts 2007*
- ★ Recognized in June 2007 by the US Dept. of Education for having **high academic standards aligned to the NAEP**
 - ★ 8th nationally in 4th grade reading
 - ★ 9th nationally in 4th grade math
 - ★ 7th nationally in 8th grade math
 - ★ 11th nationally in 8th grade reading
- ★ **NAEP Results 2007**
 - ★ 4th grade shows progress in math and reading
 - ★ 8th grade shows progress in reading and holds steady for math,
 - ★ NM one of only 14 states to improve in both math and reading
 - ★ NM one of only 4 states to show significant increases for Hispanic students in grade 4
 - ★ NM showed significant increase in 4th and 8th grade Hispanic students scoring basic and above in math and reading
 - ★ NM 4th grade students eligible for free/reduced lunch showed significant increases in both reading and math
- ★ NM is one of only 11 states to have **standards-based assessments aligned to strong content standards**, American Federation of Teachers 2006
- ★ **Math and Science Act 2007**: ensures alignment, rigor, and relevance in curriculum and establishes Math and Science Bureau and Advisory in statute
- ★ Aligned a process for text book adoption, **boosted instructional material investments by over \$4 million to \$37.2 million in 2007**
- ★ In 2006, established the Math and Science Bureau and named a statewide **Math and Science Advisory Council** with representatives from K-12, higher education, and the private sector
- ★ **"A" science standards, "B" math standards, science standards ranked 6th** in the nation, Fordham Foundation 2005
- ★ Increasing School Choice—Amended Charter School Act to provide for dual chartering authority
- ★ **NM 2nd in the nation for school choice**, Fordham Foundation 2006
- ★ **NM 2nd in the nation for education reform** and leading the nation in three categories: curricular content, standards based reform, and school choice, Fordham Foundation 2006
- ★ Earned a **"B+" for resource equity to schools**, Education Week Quality Counts, 2007
- ★ Adopted the Student & Teacher Accountability & Reporting System (STARS), assigned each student a unique student ID creating the capacity for longitudinal studies and increased accuracy

Closing the Achievement Gap

- ★ NM ranked 1st in the nation for the number of elementary school students eating free and reduced-price breakfast, *Food and Research Action Center, 2007*
- ★ **Over 82% of eligible students in grades K-12 participated in the school breakfast in 2006**
- ★ **2nd nationally for increasing free and reduced breakfast**, Food and Research Action Center, 2006
- ★ **2nd nationally for food available** to students & **4th nationally for strong nutrition policy**, Center for Science and the Public Interest 2006
- ★ **NM administered over \$93 million in state and federal funds providing nutritionally balanced free or low cost meals/milk to more than 156,000 students daily, 2007**
- ★ Increased number of **school based health centers** from 56 in 2006 to 70 in 2007
- ★ **Invested \$8 million in elementary PE programs in all 89 school districts**
- ★ **Health Education performance standards were adopted** in rule in 2006
- ★ **All 89 school districts have developed Phase I Wellness policies** including developing school health advisory committees and nutrition and physical activity components
- ★ Recognized as one of the **top 3** states by Fordham Foundation Report 2006: "How Well Are States Educating Our Neediest Children?"
- ★ One of four state recognized for innovative **School Improvement Strategies**, Education Week 2006 (Baldrige principles)
- ★ Implementing the only comprehensive **Indian Education Act** in the nation, 2006
- ★ Created the **Division of Indian Education, 2006**
- ★ Created the **Rural Education Division, 2006**
- ★ Conducted 25 culturally appropriate content and instructional strategy workshops in 2006
- ★ Increased Joint Powers Agreements with tribes for revitalization and preservation of native language from 9 to 12 in 2007
- ★ Increased Memoranda of Agreements with tribes to develop tribal standards and criteria for licensing Native American Language teachers from 10 to 13 in 2007
- ★ Doubled the number of Native American teachers and administrators in programs for advanced degrees or administrative certificates from 92 in 2006 to 184 in 2007
- ★ Increased the number of newly certified Native American teachers from 69 in 2006 to 113 in 2007
- ★ Invested **\$49 million in state and federal funds for bilingual, ELL, and immigrant** programs in 2006-2007
- ★ NM now has nearly **67,000 teachers endorsed and instruction in bilingual and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)** programs, 2007
- ★ NM is **servicing over 60,000 students in ELL programs** alone, 2007

School Readiness

- ★ **Pre-K Act 2005** -- physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development
- ★ Partnering with private providers: accountability, alignment, and professional development
- ★ Adopted Statewide **early learning outcomes** (i.e. Literacy, Numeracy, Physical Development)
- ★ Developed criterion referenced Observation and Documentation Assessment processes, 2007
- ★ National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER) reports students in NM PreK:
 - ★ Increased vocabulary growth by 54%
 - ★ Increased math skills by 40%
 - ★ Increased literacy and print awareness by 118%
 - ★ PreK students outperform their non-PreK peers in vocabulary and literacy
- ★ K-Plus pilot program in its third year shows:
- ★ DIBELS assessment data in K-Plus shows participants are entering Kindergarten with appropriate reading level skills
- ★ DIBELS data suggest K+ participants will out perform their non-KPlus peers in Kindergarten
- ★ Benchmark growth increased an average of 21%
- ★ K-3Plus funded at \$7.5 Million for 2007-2008 serving 60 schools in 19 districts, 5,622 students
- ★ **NM ranks number 1 for growth in Oral Reading Fluency in Reading First Western States**, Federal Reading First Office 2007
- ★ In 2007, the New Mexico Reading First program for Early Childhood reading comprehension & oral reading fluency in **35 districts and 108 schools**
- ★ 2006 NM ranked in the **top ten states in reading achievement** by the Federal Reading First Office in three categories: grades 1, 2, and 3; grade 3 for Students with Disabilities; grades 1 and 2 for English Language Learners

Parent Involvement

- ★ Named **statewide Parent and Family Involvement Advisory Council** with parents and representatives from 23 organizations and parent and family groups.
- ★ Created an agency **Parent Involvement Action Committee to ensure integration and collaboration for 21 state and federal mandated and 9 optional parent involvement activities.**
- ★ Implemented a Parent Involvement **Media initiative**, 2006-2008
- ★ Parent involvement **district and school training**, 2006-2008
- ★ Completed a **teen father video** in collaboration with Human Services Division, 2007
- ★ PTA **parent involvement workbook targeting K-6 for every parent**, 2007
- ★ Supporting **13 rural school-community programs that partner school curriculum with community needs** to revitalize economies, workforce, and culture
- ★ NM's **Rural Revitalization program considered a model by the National Community Education Association**, 2007
- ★ Developed/distributed "Working Together: School-Family-Community Partnerships" (Parent Involvement Tool Kit), 2006
- ★ **Parent to parent** video, DVD, in English and Spanish, 2006
- ★ Developed a state **domestic violence curriculum**, 2006
- ★ **24 community conversations with 3,000 parents and community members**, 2005

Quality Teachers

- ★ New Mexico now has **94%** of all core courses **taught by highly qualified teachers** (2006-2007)
- ★ NM named "State of the Month" for strategies to improve teacher quality, *National Commission on Teaching and America's Future, March 2007*
- ★ New Mexico **increased national salary rankings** from 46th to 36th from 2005 to 2007
- ★ NM ranked **5th nationally for the percentage change in average teacher salaries** in 2007
- ★ **Invested \$6.5 million in professional development and mentorship** programs in 2007
- ★ 2007 Legislature established a \$50K minimum for level 3 teachers
- ★ 2007 Legislature boosted salaries by an average of 5% for teachers and licensed support staff
- ★ NM ranks 20th nationally for new National Board Certified Teachers, *National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, 2007*
- ★ Education Week 2006 – Grade of **B** on efforts to improve teacher quality
- ★ NM one of only 9 states with an approved **highly qualified teacher plan**, US Dept. of Education, 2006
- ★ Implemented new 3 Tiered License system, **investing \$82 million in teacher salaries for increased compensation for increased competencies**
- ★ In 2006, provided \$470,000 for salary increments for National Board Certified Teachers
- ★ In 2000, 1,051 waivers were granted to teachers not meeting licensure requirements. In 2006, 155 waivers were granted.

21st Century Classrooms

- ★ NM becomes the **first state in the nation to create a statewide eLearning system that, from its inception, encompasses all aspects of learning** from traditional public and higher education to teacher professional development, continuing education and workforce education, *North American Council for Online Learning NACOL, 2007*
- ★ Invested a total of \$6.5 million statewide for updated computers, hardwiring, and software to ensure student access to technology
- ★ NM earned a "B" for statewide student access to technology, *Education Week Technology Counts 2008*
 - ★ Percent of students with access to a computer in the classroom
 - ★ Percent of students with access to a computer in a lab/media center
 - ★ Number of students per instructional computer
 - ★ Number of students with access to a high-speed internet-connected computer
- ★ **Cyber Academy Act 2007 -- aggressive education technology strategy**
 - ★ Reduces geographic and capacity barriers
 - ★ Expands course offerings—language, math, science, technology, and career-tech
 - ★ Resolves conflicts in student schedules
 - ★ Provides dual credit, credit-recovery, summer school, on-line tutoring, alternative high school completion, and home-bound options
 - ★ Increases access to highly qualified teachers
 - ★ Reduces teacher-pupil ratios

- ★ NM Public Education Department piloted its first semester of eLearning services in 2007:
 - ★ Twenty-five eTeachers in thirteen districts received training and participated in course development.
 - ★ Seven high schools registered students in twenty-two courses including French, German, English, history, math, economics, and digital video production.
 - ★ Two New Mexico courses were developed and piloted: Algebra I and New Mexico History (high school).
 - ★ Teacher, school, and student handbooks were developed.
 - ★ Domain established at www.ideal-nm.org
 - ★ Learning Management System is in the final stages of procurement.
- ★ In 2007, 14 NM districts received a total of \$1.5 million in funds for capital technology improvements including computers, hardware, and software
- ★ **NM Laptop Initiative** for 7th graders provided computers to 1,355 students at 21 sites statewide in 2007, expanding the program to **serve nearly 5,000 students at 31 sites statewide.**

College & Workforce Readiness

- ★ **High School Redesign 2007** increased graduation requirements, increased alignment between K-12 and higher education:
 - ★ Four years of math with at least one course of Algebra II or higher
 - ★ Four years of English
 - ★ Three years of laboratory-based science
 - ★ Three years of social studies
 - ★ At least one Advanced Placement® (AP), dual enrollment, honors, or online course
 - ★ Participation in the Next Step Planning
 - ★ A three-part assessment system that measures high school, college, and workforce readiness
 - ★ Algebra I will be made available in 8th grade
- ★ Collaboration with HED through **taskforce initiatives** providing more accountability for a seamless and aligned P-20 system of education, 2007
 - ★ American Diploma Project
 - ★ Dual Credit Council
 - ★ P-20 Alignment Council
 - ★ Math and Science Advisory Council
 - ★ Career Technical Education State Advisory Council
- ★ NM standards and benchmarks well **aligned with SAT, PSAT, and AP tests**, National College Board 2006 and 2007
- ★ In 2007, NM **AP test takers increased** by almost 9% and the number of scores between 3 and 5 increased by 4%.
- ★ Over **4,000 NM students will be eligible for college credit** earned on AP exams in 2007
- ★ **Hispanic AP test takers increased 15% in 2007**
- ★ **Native American AP test takers increased by 7% in 2007**
- ★ **PSAT test takers statewide increased nearly doubled increasing by 98% in 2007**
- ★ Created by executive order the Workforce Oversight Coordinating Council who identified 7 Career Clusters **aligned to New Mexico's growing economy**, 2006
- ★ Increased the number of industry recognized certifications aligned to NM Career Clusters from 98 to 148, 2007
- ★ Invested 10 million in career **educational technical centers** in 2006
- ★ NM Division of Vocational Rehabilitation served over 2,000 students transitioning from school to work, 2007
- ★ Provided 32 intervention programs through *Graduation, Reality, and Dual-Role Skills* targeting pregnancy prevention, career readiness, fatherhood, and youth-development
- ★ Called for **alignment of high school exit and college entrance** exams

School Safety

- ★ Passage of the 2007 Ethics Bill, requiring all districts to report allegations of ethical misconduct to the NM Public Education Department, even those that resign
- ★ All 806 schools have comprehensive safe schools plan
- ★ Collaborated with the Dept. of Homeland Security to develop effective safety and emergency training and programs, 2006
- ★ Implemented an Anti-bullying rule, 2006