



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
300 DON GASPAR
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501-2786
Telephone (505) 827-5800
www.ped.state.nm.us

HANNA SKANDERA
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
GOVERNOR

August 4, 2015

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents, Charter School Directors

FROM: Hanna Skandera, Secretary of Education

RE: **New Mexico Assessment Inventory**

The Public Education Department (PED) looks forward to partnering with school districts and charter schools to effectively implement assessment best practices for teaching and learning.

Laws of 2015, Chapter 101 (HB2) passed by the legislature and signed by Governor Martinez on April 9, 2015, requires all school districts and charter schools to conduct a review of their student assessment practices using a PED approved audit tool. Non-completion of the New Mexico Assessment Inventory (NMAI), including the requirement to report the results to the PED and the local school board of the governing body of the charter school, will result in the withholding of a school district's or charter school's SEG progress payments until the NMAI has been submitted, per the requirements of HB2. The full requirements passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor can be found at the following link: <http://www.nmlegis.gov/Sessions/15%20Regular/final/HB0002.pdf> and on page 175, lines 2-7.

Over the last four years the PED has made a consistent effort across New Mexico to reduce testing time on state-required assessments. Just recently it was announced that for the 2015-2016 administration of PARCC, testing time for students will decrease even further. It is imperative for educators and parents to monitor the academic progress of their students to know how best to support and intervene, and having a comprehensive, aligned assessment system that maximizes student learning is key to this imperative. In order to assure that we are maximizing instructional time for students and teachers, it is critical that we combine state-level efficiencies with streamlining of assessments at the local level.

The NMAI is designed to assist districts and charters in obtaining a comprehensive picture of assessment practices across their districts and charters and how those practices impact student outcomes. Additionally, the NMAI will assist the PED as we support districts and charters in effective implementation of assessment best practices for teaching and learning.

To fulfill the requirements of HB2, all districts and charter schools must submit their completed **New Mexico Assessment Inventory Workbook** to PED by **5:00 pm on Friday, September 11, 2015**. PED staff will then review each **Workbook** to ensure a complete submission and work with individual districts and charter schools, if

needed. The **Workbook** should be completed to reflect district and charter school assessment plans for the 2015-16 school year. Please submit your completed workbook to Leighann Lenti, Deputy Secretary for Policy and Program, at Leighann.Lenti@state.nm.us.

To assist in the completion of the **New Mexico Assessment Inventory Workbook**, PED will host 2 webinars on:

- August 6, 2015 from 3:00-4:00 pm
- August 11, 2015 from 8:30-9:30 am

Details for each webinar will follow at a later date.

HS/lcl

Enclosure (s):

New Mexico Assessment Inventory

New Mexico Assessment Inventory Workbook