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PRESS RELEASE

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Public Education Commission Meets to Take Action on 14 New Charter School Applications

(Santa Fe, NM)—The New Mexico Public Education Commission (PEC) will meet to take action on 14 applications for new state authorized charter schools on Wednesday and Thursday, September 19 and 20, 2012 at 8:00 a.m., in Mabry Hall, Jerry Apodaca Education Building, 300 Don Gaspar, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501.

At this meeting, the Commission will hear from the New Mexico Public Education Department's Charter School Division (CSD) and the applicants. The state's Charter School Division will make recommendations, and the applicants will have 15 minutes to make their presentations. The Commissioners will then have the opportunity to make comments and ask questions of the CSD and applicants. Following this discussion, the Commission will vote to approve or deny the applications for new charter schools.

Since there are 14 applications to be considered by the PEC, the meeting is scheduled for two days. The agenda will be followed, and the Chair of the Commission will adjourn the meeting on Wednesday to reconvene on Thursday to complete the meeting.

The PEC held public input hearings August 20-24, 2012 in Taos, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Columbus, Deming, Las Cruces, Gadsden, Alamogordo, and Carlsbad. During those hearings, the PEC listened to presentations from the charter schools, local school districts, and the public.

Comprehensive information on the 14 charter school applications can be viewed at:
<http://ped.state.nm.us/Charter/2012a/>

The PEC became an official state authorizer for charter schools July 1, 2007 as a result of the passage of the New Mexico Charter Schools Act which was passed in 2006. Charter schools may also be authorized by their local school districts.

For more information concerning this meeting, please call 827-6661.

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