



Dr. Veronica C. García  
Secretary of Education

# New Mexico Public Education Department

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## News Release

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### Secretary of Education Makes AYP Announcement

**SANTA FE** – New Mexico Public Education Secretary, Dr. Veronica C. García today announced the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) status and No Child Left Behind (NCLB) designations for New Mexico's schools.

"I congratulate all the schools that made AYP," said Secretary García, "and I applaud the work of students, educators and parents on their achievement." "Most successful AYP schools met criteria in 37 areas including increased proficiency rates (achievement targets) that move up every year as we work toward 100% student proficiency by 2014."

- 84 of 806 schools missed making AYP by only one category (cell on chart of 37)
- 122 of 806 schools missed making AYP by two categories
- 14 schools, that currently have AYP designations, made AYP for the second year in a row and have had the school improvement designation removed.

Out of the 806 public schools in the state, 41.9% made AYP and 58.1% did not make AYP. Last year 46% made AYP and 54% did not. Proficiency targets increase every year so that by the 2013-2014 school year, all schools will have 100% of their students proficient in reading and math. In 2006-2007 44% of all students in K-6 needed to be proficient to meet AYP in reading; last year it was 40%. In math, last year it was 23%, and this year it is 28%.

"The NCLB system, which includes making AYP designations, is currently under reauthorization," said Secretary García. "Problematic areas must be addressed. One area is the pass/fail system of AYP designations that does not give an comprehensive picture of school improvement. "While I support the spirit of NCLB, it has failed to deliver on its promise. What we need is fairness and funding."

"I encourage parents and the community to focus on overall proficiency rates of their schools and individual proficiency rates of the children," said Secretary García. "**Education Week, Newsweek**, and the most recent NAEP report have said that New Mexico has set high standards for the state assessment. Students who are proficient on this test can compete anywhere."

The 14 schools that came off of designation by making AYP two years in a row are:

- Painted Sky Elementary, Albuquerque
- Alamosa Elementary, Albuquerque
- MaryAnn Binford Elementary, Albuquerque
- Freedom High School, Albuquerque
- B.T. Washington Elementary, Hobbs
- La Promesa Elementary, Belen
- Tularosa Elementary, Tularosa
- Apache Elementary, Farmington

**-more-**

- Alcalde Elementary, Espanola
- Desert View Elementary, Gadsden
- Arrey Elementary, T or C
- A:Shiwi Elementary, Zuni
- Newcomb Elementary, Central Consolidated
- Sunset Elementary, Roswell

This is the third year that New Mexico administered the Standards Based Assessment (SBA) test in grades 3 through 9 and in grade 11 to meet AYP and NCLB requirements. Many states began assessing their students over ten years ago with a Standards Based Assessment tool.

“We will achieve our vision of a world-class educational system by maintaining our focus on Making Schools Work,” said Secretary Garcia. “We are laying the foundation for increased academic achievement by investing in programs such as Pre-K, Kindergarten Plus, student breakfast programs, math and science institutes and professional development for our teachers.”

“Students, Parents, Principals and Superintendents need to discuss the results of today’s AYP announcement,” said Secretary Garcia. “If a child is succeeding at her/his school, a parent should not make a school choice judgment based solely on AYP status or NCLB designation.”

For AYP listings and hand-outs from the press conference, go to [www.ped.state.nm.us](http://www.ped.state.nm.us) or call Beverly Friedman, NMPED PIO at 1-505-827-6661 or 1-505-795-0180 or Danielle Montoya, NMPED PIO at 1-505-476-0393 or 1-505-795-0182.

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