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NEWS RELEASE

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16 New Mexico Schools Rated “America’s Best High Schools” By *U.S. News and World Report*

SANTA FE – *U.S. News and World Report* has named 16 New Mexico high schools in their list of “America’s Best High Schools.”

Academic and enrollment data from more than 18,000 public high schools was analyzed to find the very best schools across the country using data from the 2006-2007 schoolyear. The final list includes almost 1,600 high schools in 41 states that meet key criteria in three categories of distinction: gold, silver, and bronze.

Based on methodology used by a K-12 education data research business run by Standard & Poor’s, three New Mexico high schools received a silver rating and 13 received a bronze rating.

Los Alamos High School, and **La Cueva High School** and **Sandia High School** in Albuquerque received the Silver award.

The following schools received the Bronze award: **Academy for Technical & Classics** in Santa Fe, **Bloomfield High School**, **Clayton High School**, **Cliff High School**, **Eldorado High School** in Albuquerque, **East Mountain Charter High School**, **Hagerman High School**, **Lake Arthur High School**, **Logan High School**, **Magdalena High School**, **Springer High School**, **Tatum High School**, and **Texico High School**.

The goal of the “America Best High Schools” project is to provide a clear, unbiased picture of how well public schools serve all of their students in preparing them to demonstrate proficiency in basic skills as well as readiness for college-level work, according to SchoolMatters, a service of Standard & Poor’s who developed the project for *U.S. News & World Report*.

According to methodology, developed by School Evaluation Services, a best high school is one that succeeds at:

- 1) Attains performance levels that exceed statistical expectations for all the school’s students in core subjects of reading and math;
- 2) Achieves proficiency rates on state tests for their least advantaged student groups that exceed state averages;
- 3) Prepares student for college as measured by student participation in and performance on Advanced Placement (AP) tests.

For the complete list of America’s Best High schools, visit www.usnews.com/highschools. To learn more about a specific school or compare schools side-by-side, visit www.schoolmatters.com.

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