

## Education Secretary Veronica C. García Named to National Data Committee

**Santa Fe** – New Mexico Education Secretary Veronica C. García today was named by Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) President Dr. T. Kenneth James to the group's Comprehensive Data Systems Committee.

"Your leadership and dedication in this area is much appreciated and after consultation with the board of directors, we believe you will be an asset to CCSSO and serve the membership greatly in this capacity," said Dr. James. "I appreciate the direction you are taking for New Mexico's education system, and now more than ever CCSSO needs your leadership at the highest levels."

"New Mexico has been focused on improving school data to and from the school districts to improve education achievement for our students," said Secretary García.

"Over the past three years we have implemented the New Mexico Student Teacher Accountability Reporting System (STARS) that has been recognized by Education Commission of the States (ECS) as a model that other states could use when building their Longitudinal Data Systems. ECS is currently developing a plan where New Mexico's design and processes can be transferred to other states."

As President of CCSSO, James appoints members to CCSSO's chief-led committees and task forces.

The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) is a nonpartisan, nationwide, nonprofit organization of public officials who head departments of elementary and secondary education in the states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, and five U.S. extra-state jurisdictions. CCSSO provides leadership, advocacy, and technical assistance on major educational issues. The Council seeks member consensus on major educational issues and expresses their views to civic and professional organizations, federal agencies, Congress, and the public.

For more information on CCSSO, go to <http://www.ccsso.org/>

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