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# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: June 18, 2010

## Public Hearing Scheduled For K-12 Mathematics and English/Language Arts Common Core Standards That Will Be Implemented in 2011

**Santa Fe** – The New Mexico Public Education Department will conduct a public hearing at Mabry Hall, Jerry Apodaca Building, 300 Don Gaspar, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501-2786, on July 23, 2010, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. to obtain public input on rules concerning adapting New Mexico’s Standards of Excellence in Mathematics and English/ Language Arts to become national Common Core Standards.

Governor Bill Richardson and Secretary Garcia signed a memorandum of agreement in May of 2009 with the National Governors Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) that called for states to work together to develop common standards for English/Language Arts and Mathematics for grades K-12.

To be eligible for the Race to the Top competition, the PED is required to adopt the Common Core Standards for Language Arts and Mathematics by August 2, 2010, for use in New Mexico public schools. PED is conducting a two part adoption process. The public rule hearing is part one where adoption of the Mathematics and English/Language Arts Common Core Standards will be discussed. Once the two rules are adopted, they have will have a delayed implementation date of August 31, 2011 for state public schools. Amending NMAC 6.29.4 and NMAC 6.29.7 will mean that the current Math and Language Arts standards will remain in effect until August 31, 2011 when the Common Core Standards will replace them.

The second part of the process is to work with educators and community members throughout the state to add the common core Benchmarks and Performance Standards and review current New Mexico mathematics and Language Arts K-12 Benchmarks and Performance Standards. Two statewide committees, composed of teachers, school administrators, other professionals in education, parents, and others, have been established to determine which, if any of the current standards will be retained. PED will conduct another public hearing in late fall of 2010 for the adoption of the “new” Benchmarks and Performance Standards for Language Arts and Mathematics. Implementation of these revised, K-12, standards will be required beginning with the 2011-2012 school year.

“New Mexico continues to be recognized for its challenging state Standards of Excellence,” said Secretary García. “By participating with the NGA and CCSSO in developing Academic Common Core Standards, we assure that our students will receive a world class education and have the ability to compete at an international level.”

Rules that will be discussed at the July 23, 2010 hearing include the following.

Rule Number	Rule Name	Proposed Action
6.29.4 NMAC	Standards for Excellence English Language Arts	Amending
6.29.7 NMAC	Standards for Excellence Math	Amending
6.29.13 NMAC	Language Arts Common Core Standards	New
6.29.14 NMAC	Math Common Core Standards	New

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Interested individuals may testify either at the public hearing or submit written comments regarding the proposed rulemaking to Kristine Meurer, Director, School and Family Support Bureau, Public Education Department, CNM Workforce Training Center, 5600 Eagle Rock Ave. NE, Room 201, Albuquerque, NM 87113, Fax (505) 222-4759, e-mail: [Kristine.meurer@state.nm.us](mailto:Kristine.meurer@state.nm.us).

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Written comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 23, 2010. However, submission of written comments as soon as possible is encouraged.

The text of the proposed rulemaking actions may be accessed on the Department's website (<http://ped.state.nm.us>) or obtained from Kristine Meurer, Director, School and Family Support Bureau, Public Education Department, CNM Workforce Training Center, 5600 Eagle Rock Ave. NE, Room 201, Albuquerque, NM 87113, Fax (505) 222-4759, e-mail: [Kristine.meurer@state.nm.us](mailto:Kristine.meurer@state.nm.us). The proposed rules will be made available at least thirty days prior to the hearings.

Individuals with disabilities who require this information in an alternative format or need any form of auxiliary aid to attend or participate in this meeting are asked to contact Kristine Meurer ([kristine.meurer@state.nm.us](mailto:kristine.meurer@state.nm.us)) or (505) 827-4748 as soon as possible. The Department requests at least ten (10) days advance notice to provide requested special accommodations.

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