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NEWS RELEASE

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Education Secretary Veronica C. García Agrees to Taos School Board's Corrective Action Plan

SANTA FE – Secretary of Education Veronica C. García responded today to the Taos School Board's proposed corrective action plan and agreed to all of its elements.

Additionally, the Secretary required the Board to adopt a resolution no later than July 16, 2010 to implement their plan and accept her modifications. She also imposed an October 1, 2010 ultimate deadline for completion of training for all board members, including verification of completion that must be submitted to the PED.

"I sincerely commend you on presenting a plan of corrective action that appears to be responsive to the areas of concern raised in my April 23 letter," said Secretary García.

The corrective action plan calls for the Taos School Board to complete trainings on authority and responsibility of school boards, Board-Superintendent relations, open meetings act, formal review of the district's current code of ethics policy, Board unity, and approval of the Superintendent's appointment of a parliamentarian for board meetings through the remainder of this year.

In her response to the Board, Secretary García said, "I am pleased that the Board embraces this opportunity to put an end to controversy in the Taos Schools. Your response indicated that you are mindful of your 'critical role in the community and responsibility for the education of the children.'"

"I anticipate that we can now move forward and put this matter behind us," said Secretary García.

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