

NMSSA/NMCEL Legislative Platform for 2020 Legislature

1. Adequate/Stable Funding to Support Profile of a New Mexico Graduate
 - a. Ensure sustainable Funding is provided to cover present salaries and any future increases to ensure that districts can be regionally competitive.
 - b. Provide state funding to both expand CTE opportunities and enhance existing programs, with the local flexibility to allocate funding for facilities, materials, and/or staffing and consider adding a CTE multiplier to the SEG (0.25).
 - c. Allow local districts to determine which course sequence will satisfy each individual student's requirement to successfully pass 4 years of math and revise 22-13-1,1(J)2 to codify this change.
 - d. Review and modify the school transportation formula to address systematic shortfalls in district budgets.
 - e. **If credits are changed, all districts must be permanently held harmless from any SEG reduction.**
2. Improve educator recruitment and retention
 - a. Create a new tax credit (modeled after the Rural Health Care Practitioner Tax Credit) to incentivize licensed educators to consider serving in rural/or tribal schools.
 - b. Increase the ERB pension multiplier to achieve consistency of retirement benefits between ERB and PERA.
 - c. Support improving the solvency of the NM Retiree Health Care Fund through actions including the restoration of swept funds and the increasing of employee and employer contributions into the fund.
3. Maintain a "Safe School" environment that values all students
 - a. Support and fund cybersecurity audits and infrastructure improvements to safeguard student data and district network capabilities.
 - b. **Support a substantive increase in the guaranteed SB-9 match.**
 - c. **Raise/expand adequacy standards and re-establish a Deficiency Corrections Unit at PSFA to address conditions below these revised standards.**
4. Create an equity of opportunity
 - a. Foster Growth in CTE coursework and programs to prepare students for careers beyond high school by funding CTSO staff and infrastructure, as well as by extending flexibility on credentialing requirements.
5. Reconsider use of "at-risk" and the services provided to eligible students
 - a. Request specific formula/categorical funding to increase student access to instructional support service providers.