AASA Recognizes Kirk Carpenter

New Mexico Superintendent of the Year

by Kirk Carpenter

Let me start out by saying “thank you” for recognizing me as the 2013 Superintendent of the year for the great state of New Mexico. This was one of the highest honors I’ve received in my lifetime. The recognition was not expected; there are many others that deserve this honor more than I do. It means a lot because the honor bestowed upon me came from my colleagues, and our state has some tremendous leaders.

As a result of being selected as the Superintendent of the Year, I was able to attend the AASA National Conference in Nashville, Tennessee in February. It was an excellent conference with many great speakers who are practitioners of our work so the message was well received. This year’s focus centered on five common themes including: 1) Common Core State Standards 2) Governance and Executive Leadership 3) Innovation in District Management 4) Superintendent Partnerships and 5) Student Achievement and Accountability. As you all know, when you attend a conference such as this, the networking possibilities are endless. I have already connected with other superintendents from different parts of the country on programs they have implemented and other situations they have dealt with that are common to what you and I face each day. During the conference there was a combination of keynote speakers and breakout sessions, a large number of vendors that had the latest technology and other learning aids to help schools, a complete bookstore with books on many different topics and many other learning opportunities. The event itself is very impressive and they do a great job with hospitality. There were two conference receptions and invitations to private receptions as well. And, of course, there was a lot of music—great music in fact! The Music City lived up to its name.

The events for the Superintendents of the Year were also incredible. The Superintendents of the Year were recognized during the opening general session, were treated to a great dinner and received an invitation to the President’s recep-

Continued on page 9

Recap of the 2014 Legislative Session by Dr. Gloria Rendón

is included on page 2

Rendón’s Reflections
From the Executive Director—Rendón’s Reflections

Dear Colleagues:

With another legislative session behind us, we can take a quick look in the rear view mirror and see that education fared much better this year than it has in the past several years. For the first time ever, I believe, three organizations—the NM Coalition of Educational Leaders, the NM School Superintendents Association and the NM School Boards Association, came together with the one legislative platform. As you may recall, there were five main points on our platform: increase the amount of funding for education, place the majority of new funds above the line, invest in our human capital, fund the micro districts and increase the amount of funding from the Land Grant Permanent fund.

From the first week of the session, it was clear that Superintendents’ voices had been heard. The initial education budget known as House Bill 3 included a 6.2% increase in above the line funding for districts. Our legislators fought hard to maintain that funding and the final increase is at about 5.7%. The compensation line item amounts remained intact throughout the session’s negotiations and include funding for an average 3% increase for all employees; an additional 3% increase for Educational Assistants and funding to increase the base amount for each of the Tier levels. The bill containing language to mandate Tier increases did not make it through the process, however, the funds remain in the budget.

Below the line items include funding for Instructional Materials ($20 million), Reading Proficiency ($14.4 million), Interventions for students, schools and parents ($10.4 million), and funding for Pre-K and K-3+ (about $40 million) among others.

In addition, other important pieces of legislation did pass both Chambers and currently lie on the Governor’s desk. HB 19 (Rep. Varela) provided additional funding ($15.2 million) for at-risk students and identified programs that can be funded with the additional dollars. HB 35 (Rep. Hall) provides funding for the micro-districts—districts with 200 mem or less. This additional funding will allow some districts to finally get out from under emergency supplemental funding and provide more flexibility in developing and expending their budget. HB 280 (Rep. Stewart) provides funding so districts can begin working toward reinstituting statutory class sizes. Districts will submit plans for achieving class size requirements within three years.

Other important bills include SB 122 (Sen. Brandt) and SB 307 (Sen. Cervantes) both of which provide language to fix the recent PE issue, meaning that courses such as Marching Band, ROTC and Athletics courses can count for the PE credit. SB 307 also allows districts to develop a PE course for approval by the PED and prohibits changes to a student’s graduation plan once the Next Steps Plan is in place. Both bills include an emergency clause meaning they will take effect immediately.

All in all, education was treated fairly during this past session. Legislators really listened to educators and administrators. Superintendents did a great job of representing all districts and maintaining the focus on our legislative platform.

Continued on page 4
NMCEL New Website Launched

Hopefully you have had a chance to explore the NMCEL website and some of the new features. If not, this may be a good time to see what there is to offer.

The website uses sliders (changing image panels that slide across the homepage). Important information and links are included on these sliders, so you may want to make sure that you wait for all five sliders to go through rotation before you move on to another area. We are trying to keep these current, so they are changing on a regular basis.

There are menu items at the top of the page and also on the right sidebar. Our Executive Director’s monthly article Rendon’s Reflections is on the homepage, as well as, a message from Dr. Crit Caton, Board President.

Several new administrative vacancies have recently been added and we expect these to increase in the coming months. You may access these by using the right side bar item titled Employment.

Information on our Annual Conference Speakers and links to registration for the conference and the hotel group rate are now up and running on sliders.

As always, we would like to have your input. Please email carol@nmcel.org.

www.nmcel.org

NMCEL Board Minutes in Brief

February 6, 2014

- Meeting was called to order and Board members approved the Agenda.
- NMCEL Executive Director provided announcements to the Board.
- NMCEL Executive Director, Leadership Coordinator & Office Manager provided information on:
  - Legislative Update
  - Specific Education Bills
  - 2014 Scholarship Process
  - 2014 Summer Conference
  - Mid-year Budget Review
  - Overview of the NMCEL website
- Action Items:
  - Approval of December 12, 2013 Minutes & Financial Statements through January 2014
- Reports:
  - Reports from Affiliates, Executive Director & NMCEL Staff

Affiliates

- New Mexico School Superintendents Association (NMSSA)
- Albuquerque Public Schools Principals Association (APSPA)
- Alliance for the Advancement of Teaching & Learning (NMSU)
- Cooperative Educational Services (CES)
- Eastern New Mexico Educational Resource Center (ENMERC)
- New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA)
- New Mexico Association of Bilingual Educators (NMABE)
- New Mexico Educational Retirees Association (NMAER)
- New Mexico Association of Elementary School Principals (NMAESP)
- New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals (NMASSP)
- New Mexico Association of School Business Officials (NMASBO)
- New Mexico Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (NMASCD)
- Phi Delta Kappa (NMPDK)
- New Mexico School Personnel Association (NMSPA)
- New Mexico Society for Technology in Education (NMSTE)
- Regional Educational Cooperatives Association (RECA)
- Southeastern New Mexico Educational Resource Center (SNMERC)
- New Mexico Council of Administrators of Special Education (NMCASE)
Rendón’s Reflections cont’d.

Finally, I believe that the biggest surprises came after the legislative session ended. The biggest one is the announcement that, along with several other State representatives, Majority Leader Rep. Rick Miera will not seek re-election. Rep. Miera has been a strong advocate of New Mexico’s public schools and is the longest serving chair of the House Education Committee. His retirement, along with the vacancies left by other long-tenured legislators, will leave a huge leadership void in the legislature. We definitely will miss their support and their institutional knowledge. However, several of them have mentioned that it’s time to pass the torch and make room for the next generation of leaders. Let’s hope this new generation of leaders continues to look to the “old guard” for wisdom and advice. Our organizations stand ready to support and assist our new leaders as they begin to shape policy for the next generation of New Mexico’s public school students.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gloria O. Rendón, NMCEL Executive Director

Make Plans To Attend the

NMCEL Summer Conference

“Leadership Redefined — Leadership Matters!”

Featuring

Dave Weber, July 24
Alan Blankstein, July 25

Member — $225 Non-Member — $350

Hotel Albuquerque

Visit the NMCEL website for Conference and Hotel Registration

(Registration Form Included)
The room fell silent as Alan Blankstein, founder and president of the HOPE Foundation and author of Failure is Not An Option, penetrated deep into the hearts of a full room of administrators in attendance at AASA’s national conference in February. NMCEL’s Executive Director and Leadership Coordinator were among those in attendance.

The audience at the session listened with intent to the speaker about the effect of a committed and well-managed school system. Blankstein summarized the fallacy of a common narrative contending that schools are staffed by untrained teachers and deliver poor instruction to students. He stated that in reality, staff members are pitted against one another in a competitive system and yet greatness is expected to emerge.

By a show of hands, audience members agreed with Blankstein that the major concern over the Common Core Standards doesn’t relate to the standards themselves but to the implementation and timeline. As a father of two young girls, Mr. Blankstein said the faults in the Common Core initiative from a parent’s standpoint are different. He explained, “I don’t care if [my daughter] beats China. I care if she comes home and says she hates school and is being tested too much.”

Blankstein outlined what he referred to as the “Create Model”, which emphasizes:

- Importance of committing to the mission of the system.
- Dedication of time and focus.
- Understanding the importance of networking staffers.
- Stimulating a collective teacher efficacy.

He discussed that there must be a change in the conversations from “What’s wrong and who did it?” to “What’s new to learn here?”

NMCEL will host Mr. Blankstein as the keynote speaker on day two (July 25) at the summer conference. He is a dynamic individual who speaks of his personal story of an unplanned baby, who was abandoned and forgotten for most of his life, and yet “some teachers were preachers and reachers for him”. This message reminds educators that through their influence, they have the power to change a student’s life.

Excerpts taken from AASA Conference Daily Online.
Aspiring Superintendents’ Academy

The Aspiring Superintendents’ Academy (ASA) is entering its sixth year of working with administrators who aspire to become superintendents in New Mexico school districts. This comprehensive and beneficial program allows participants to experience a curriculum designed to provide them with the requisites for success in a superintendent’s position. Participants in Cohort 5 were able to interact with experts covering an array of topics from building budgets to building solid relationships with board members and their communities. As a result, during their mock interviews with volunteer board members from various districts, they were touted as being exceptionally well prepared. Their program of study will be completed in June of this year. Past participants who have since become superintendents around New Mexico include Travis Dempsey, Cloudcroft; Susan Wilkinson-Davis, Vaughn; Ricky Williams, Hagerman; Lesa Dodd, Dexter.

Applications are now available for the 2014-2015 school year. Interested individuals are required to complete the application and submit it electronically to NMCEL at asa2014-15@nmcel.org. A panel of administrators including members of previous cohorts will interview prospective candidates.

Applications are due by close of business on May 9, 2014 and applicants will be selected and notified by June 13, 2014.

Qualifying Criteria — Applicants must:

- Be a practicing school administrator in a New Mexico school;
- Have had five years successful administrative experience;
- Hold a valid New Mexico administrator’s license;
- Have the concurrence and support of the applicant’s superintendent;
- Commit to participating fully in all aspects of the program;
- Complete the application form and submit required documents;
- Participate in a panel interview prior to final selection mid June;
- If selected, pay the $250 registration fee.

The application is available on the NMCEL website. Interested parties may call the NMCEL office at 505-277-6986 for further information or if you have questions.
Pupils, Purpose and Politics!
By Paul Benoit, NMSSA President

I have been a Superintendent for 11 years, a building and central office administra-
tor for an additional 12 years, and an educator for a total of 28 years. In that time,
I have been blessed to teach, mentor, evaluate, build budgets, manage programs,
design curriculum, make athletic schedules, cook in the cafeteria, clean restrooms,
drive student activity vehicles, coach, officiate ball games, tend to playground
scratches, testify in mediation hearings and court proceedings, soothe hurt feelings of
parents (sometimes causing the hurt, to begin with), discipline students, attend honor
assemblies, officiate at graduations, cheer at sporting events, break up playground
fights, counsel staff or students, trim weeks, paint classrooms, assemble computers,
budget databases, attend meetings, prepare professional presentations, write lesson
plans, chaperone field trips, direct school transportation and food service programs,
run study halls and tutoring programs, and, in general, serve as an educator! All of
these things are tied to “Pupil” and “Purpose” . . . All of these are what we do!

A “new” piece of the mix, for me, as a “Chief Educational and Instructional Leader”,
has been a role in the “Politics” of education. As a Superintendent, I have always be-
lieved it is incumbent upon me to be apprised of how educational funding works, of
the legislative process that funds schools and state agencies, and of the state-level
policies, practices and regulations that impact my district and the other 88 districts in
our state. With that in mind, this year’s legislative session was enlightening, to say the
least, from the vantage point of “President” of the NM School Superintendents’ Asso-
ciation (NMSSA)!

The first lesson that I learned is that voice and vision of our Association must be clearly
articulated and our platform known/understood by all 89 Superintendents. I entered
my term as President of NMSSA with a goal of establishing a process towards creat-
ing the (a) vision for the collective body of Superintendents. This legislative session
drove home the importance of continuing our work towards establishing a vision, THE
Vision, for the kids of New Mexico. Without this voice and vision, we cannot stand on
any foundation as the educational leaders in the state. The work must continue for
and from our Association with intensity, honesty and integrity.

The second lesson I learned is the importance of a communication process among the
89 Superintendents. During the session, Association Leadership spends time in consult
with legislators, PED staff and legislative staff on many issues. Of upmost importance
is a common understanding of the legislative platform the NMSSA

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Cathy Carr 602.284.1514 ccarr@amplify.com
Eric Howey 972.341.1394 ehowey@amplify.com

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develops each year! There are three levels of communication solicited from all 89 Superintendents in the development of the platform: 1) Communication through the smaller, more intimate regional groups, through an elected regional representative who serves on the Executive Council; 2) Communication through general meetings of the Association; and, 3) Electronic Communication, via email, directly to leadership regarding platform and other issues. Once developed, the platform of the collective membership must be represented and supported as one voice to Legislators, PED and Legislative staff. If we don’t communicate and plan ahead, together, and find a common stand on basic platform tenets, we will not move forward.

The final lesson of the session is “Less is More”! By sticking to our platform, specifically, of 1) Increased funding to schools (“Above the Line”), 2) Improving the “Emergency Supplemental” situation (especially for the smallest school districts), 3) Improving the educator pay; 4) Increasing availability of professional development funds and opportunity; and 5) Increasing level of funding for education from the State’s Permanent Fund, we were able to present a united front for our Association. Individual policy issues were not ignored, rather, we were able to demonstrate how policy and legislation affects each district differently, due to size and other demographics. In spite of these differences, NMSSA Leadership was able to focus on our uniform platform that, by consensus, we all supported. Specific impacts of policy was left to the 89 Superintendents to track, on behalf of their Boards and communities, and allowed NMSSA Leadership to present a more united front than ever before.

So, with the “Politics” over and while we await the Governor’s signature and subsequent budgetary implications, each of us returns to our focus on “Pupils” and “Purpose”. Let’s do what we do best: Educate the kids of New Mexico with our best feet forward and smiles on our faces, and leave “Politics” for another day!
AASA Recognizes Kirk Carpenter Superintendent of the Year for New Mexico cont’d.

Continued from page 1

Being able to talk to other Superintendents of the Year, listen to their stories and collaborate with them was amazing. What I found in speaking to colleagues from across the country is that they, too, are dealing with many of the struggles we are facing, and through conversation I found there is always something to take away and apply in the work back home. The issues we are all facing are very similar, and it was obvious that leaders across this country are dedicated and want nothing but the best for their students and staff.

All the way around it was a first class event. The recognition as the New Mexico Superintendent of the Year is one for which I am very thankful and honored. We always hear about what is wrong with education across the country. For me this was a way to celebrate what’s right with education in the greatest country in the world. I would highly recommend that you consider attending this conference.

Coverage of the Conference, including:

- Key Speakers
- Governance Articles
- Presentations/Download
  resources.aasa.org/ConferenceDaily

Including a message from First Lady Michelle Obama
http://vimeo.com/85296858

In an effort to present a dynamic conference with topics that are at the forefront of educating our New Mexico children, we are already seeking presenters for the breakout sessions on July 24 & 25. Sample topics to consider:

- Social Media & Creative Models in K-12 Teaching & Learning
- Strategies for Raising Student Achievement
- Establishing a Focus on Learning
- Shared Leadership
- Building Professional Communities that Value Learning

Please submit your proposal for consideration no later April 25. The conference Presenter Proposal Form can be accessed on the NMCEL website.

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NMCEL

• Executive Board Meetings, April 10, 2014
• Board Retreat, June 2-3, 2014
• 2014 Annual Conference, July 23-25, Hotel Albuquerque
• Symposium, October 21, 2014

Upcoming Events

NMASBO

• Spring Budget Workshop, March 26-28, Hotel Albuquerque, Albuquerque

NMABE

• State Spanish Spelling Bee, April 12, 2014, Hotel Cascada
• State Conference For Bilingual Education, April 23-26, 2014, Albuquerque
• National Spanish Spelling Bee, July 17-19, 2014, Hotel Cascada

NMESSP

• Principal of the Year Application Deadline, March 15, 2014 (see pages 12 & 13 within newsletter)

NMSSA Meetings

• March 27, 2014, Hotel Albuquerque
• June 7, 2014, in conjunction with NMSBA Law Conference, Albuquerque
• July 24, 2014, in conjunction w/NMCEL Annual Conference, Hotel Albuquerque

NMSTE

• Mini-Conference, April 11-12, 2014, Las Cruces

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♦ Dedicated to serving our New Mexico public school clients.
♦ Understanding of the diverse issues facing New Mexico’s school districts.
♦ Largest municipal market practice in New Mexico.
While AASA’s advocacy is focused on federal education policy, AASA members have increasingly requested information on state-level trends and issues. State legislatures are, of late, where all the action is, a reality attributable as much to the dysfunction of the current Congress as it is to increasingly coordinated efforts to move legislation that threatens public education. AASA’s advocacy team is already making progress on this work, and wants to highlight their most recent analysis of state-level education issues, starting with the 2014 State of the State addresses and the upcoming 2014 gubernatorial elections.

In the 28 State of the State addresses already given, there is a noticeable trend toward early education, career and technical education and workforce development, education funding and education technology and connectivity. In 10 states, early education came up as a major education priority. Several of these governors mentioned their early education Race to the Top grant awards, proposed to fund full-day kindergarten and expressed their goal to use community partnerships to expand early education access to all children. Alabama governor Robert Bentley said “the earlier [children] begin receiving a quality education, the better chance they have at success” and proposed an increase in pre-k funding throughout the state.

Given the focus on employment and 21st century skill development, it is not surprising to see the focus on CTE and workforce development within education. Several governors proposed assessing their states’ CTE programs to ensure they are effective and targeted towards appropriate skills for their areas; Governor Nathan Deal of Georgia proposed the Governor’s High Demand Career Initiative, to bring together thought leaders to discuss CTE in Georgia. Workforce development is a hot topic, with WIA reauthorization looking refreshingly close to passing through Congress. Illinois governor Pat Quinn wants to expand the youth conservation corps program, which helps at-risk youth get experience and jobs, while Idaho governor Butch Otter is shooting optimistically for having 60 percent of Idaho citizens age 25-34 have some degree or certification by 2020.

Also not surprising given lingering state budgetary issues, funding remained the overarching theme of most of the State of the State addresses, and was prevalent in the education sections. Some governors, such as Jerry Brown in California and John Hickenlooper in Colorado discussed attempts to improve how funds are allocated; Brown touted his Local Control Funding Formula that will change the way funds are allocated to schools, and Hickenlooper proposed a change in how student counts are performed to ensure more accurate funding for each school. Other governors, such as Georgia’s Nathan Deal, promoted education funding increases under their leadership. In his exit address, before he handed the governorship over to Terry McAuliffe, Virginia governor Bob McDonnell said he had ensured a larger percentage of education funds went to the classroom while he was governor.

Continued on page 12
AASA, The School Superintendents Association cont’d.

As AASA works with the FCC to improve the E-Rate program and increase funds available to schools to connect to broadband, governors in six states made connectivity and technology a major priority in their State of the State addresses. New York governor Andrew Cuomo said, “Let’s re-imaging our classrooms for the next generation. Let’s have the smartest classrooms in the nation because our children deserve nothing but the best.” Iowa’s Terry Branstad proposed the Connect Every Iowan Act that aims to make Iowa the most connected state in the Midwest, while Idaho’s Butch Otter is working to connect every elementary and middle school to broadband by the end of FY15.

AASA will continue to monitor these addresses and the education issues that arise in the 2014 gubernatorial elections, as 36 states hold elections, many of which are already gaining media attention. Texas frontrunner candidates Greg Abbott (R) and Wendy Davis (D) have already made education, particularly the charter school vs. traditional public school debate, a central piece of their campaigns.

These efforts are very much a work in progress and something we look forward to building on in the coming year. Our website and the advocacy blog (www.aasa.org/aasablog.aspx) will be continually updated to reflect the latest information. Any questions about the information or what may be forthcoming can be directed to AASA Policy Analyst Leslie Finnan (lfinnan@aasa.org).

### New Mexico’s Top Two Youth Volunteers Selected in 19th Annual National Awards Program

**Annika Cushnyr**, 17, of Bosque School in Albuquerque, and **Parker Lovesee**, 13, of New Mexico Virtual Academy in Farmington were named New Mexico’s top two youth volunteers for 2014 by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism. The Award, now in its 19th year, is conducted by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

Annika, a junior, collected 4,000 new and used books to start a “giving library” so that children and their families who visit a local medical center can get free books to take home and keep. Annika began her project after learning that New Mexico has a high rate of illiteracy. Annika discovered, that for many people buying a book is not an affordable option, and even getting to a local library can be difficult. This gave her the idea of creating access to books in a place where parents take their children for regularly-scheduled checkups. Annika’s project, “Start My Library” was born.

Parker, an 8th grader, collected more than $1,000 worth of badly-needed art supplies for an after-school program at the Albuquerque Boys & Girls Club. When Parker saw how few supplies the Club had for its art room and animation program, he knew he could make a bigger impact. “They didn’t have much more than watercolors and paper,” Parker said. “When I realized that this program is designed to change a kid’s life and keep them out of a gang or off of drugs, I knew I had to help.” Parker assembled craft kits with the help of 50 fellow volunteers, that would be easy for adults to use with kids. As donations flowed in, Parker and his team were able to pack and deliver 50 large boxes filled with art supplies to the Boys & Girls Club.

As State Honorees, Annika and Parker each will receive $1,000, an engraved silver medallion and an all-expense-paid trip in early May to Washington, D.C., where they will join the top two honorees from each of the other states and the District of Columbia for four days of national recognition events.

**Distinguished Finalists**

The program judges also recognized two other New Mexico students as Distinguished Finalists for their impressive community service activities. Each will receive an engraved bronze medallion. The finalists for 2014 are:

**Khirah Burger**, a junior at Albuquerque High School. She created a band with two of her friends and hosts concerts to raise money for her school’s special education program. Khirah, who volunteers as an aide in the special education class, donates the money to purchase much-needed supplies for the program.

**Dalton Wright**, a sophomore at Cloudcroft High School, built a 3-D archery shooting course at the Sacramento Methodist Assembly Camp. Dalton, who earned his Eagle Scout Award for this project, secured sponsors who provided the materials, recruited 20 volunteers, designed the course and constructed 14 platforms and ramps.
Presentation Proposal

NMCEL SUMMER CONFERENCE 2014
Leadership Redefined – Leadership Matters!

July 23 – July 25, 2014

Name____________________________________________Title__________________________________

Organization / Affiliate___________________________________________________________________

Address_______________________________________________________________________________

Phone________________ FAX___________________ E-mail____________________________________

Title of presentation:

Give a brief description of your presentation: (50 to 60 words please)

Other pertinent information:

AV Equipment: Presenters will provide own laptop and LCD projector.

***** PLEASE SUBMIT BY APRIL 25, 2014 *****

Email form to: 2014presentations@nmcel.org or
Fax to: 505-277-5496
Leadership Redefined.... Leadership Matters!

NMCEL 2014 SUMMER CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
JULY 23 – 25, 2014
Hotel Albuquerque, 800 Rio Grande Blvd., Albuquerque, NM
Mail or fax this form to contact above or register online at: nmcel.org

NAME (please print): ___________________________ District ___________________________

MAILING ADDRESS: ________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

POSITION: ______________ E-MAIL: __________________ PHONE __________________

EARLY REGISTRATION (received by July 1, 2014)

Members* $225.00 Non-Members $350.00
All cancellations must be received in writing, fax or email.
A fee of $75.00 will be charged for cancellations received after July 1, 2014.
No-shows will be billed full amount of registration.

LATE REGISTRATION FEE (after July 1, 2014 - including walk-ins):
ADD $75.00 TO APPROPRIATE FEE ABOVE!

My conference fee is $____________ Method of Payment: ______
[] PO# ______
[] Please invoice. [ ] Check Enclosed

* Contact your superintendent’s office or the NMCEL office to check for membership status if you are not sure.
After July 13th, only on-site registration accepted.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Call Hotel Albuquerque Reservations at 1-866-505-7329 and identify yourself as an attendee to the NM Coalition of Educational Leaders Conference in order to qualify for conference room rates of $90.
or should you wish to reserve your room online please visit http://goo.gl/y7FUb before July 01, 2014!
Nominate an Excellent Principal in Your District!

2014 NEW MEXICO NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPALS’ PROGRAM

A Program to Recognize Among Elementary and Middle Level Principals

Sponsored by the National Association of Elementary School Principals in corporate partnership with VALIC

The National Distinguished Principals’ Program begun in 1984, is based on three premises:

- Children’s attitudes toward learning and perceptions of themselves as lifelong learners are established in the beginning school years. By high school and college, patterns are formed, and interventions may be too late.
- The scope and quality of children’s educational experiences are determined primarily by the principal who, with the important work of teachers and support of caring parents, establishes the character of a particular school’s program.
- It is important that the dedication and enthusiasm of principals who guide children’s earliest educational experiences be acknowledged to both reward their accomplishments and allow their work to serve as models of excellence for others to follow.

CRITERIA FOR NDP SELECTION

The NDP Selection Committee is to assure that the selected principal:

- is a member of NAESP at the time of the award;
- is an active principal of a school in which a commitment to excellence is clearly evident through programs designed to meet the academic and social needs of all students, and through firmly established community ties with parents and local business organizations;
- has been an active principal for at least five years (NOTE: Only those years served as a building principal may count toward the necessary five);
- will remain in active service in a position of school leadership during the school year in which he/she will serve as NDP;
- shows a strong commitment to the principalship through active membership in professional associations;
- is respected by students, colleagues, parents, and the community at large;
- assumes an active role in his/her community, distinguishing himself/herself as a leader in civic, religious, or humanitarian activities;
- shows strong educational leadership by setting high expectations for school staff and students; and
- maintains an orderly, purposeful learning environment.

Evidence of outstanding contributions to the well-being of the educational community will include:

- ways in which the principal’s leadership has benefitted curriculum, staff morale, community support, student interest, and the learning environment;
- increasing or consistently high levels of student achievement as demonstrated on the state-wide assessment instrument;
- ways in which the principal provides creative leadership to inspire teachers and others to achieve and contribute to the school environment;
- examples of service or achievements above and beyond what is expected in the usual school program; and
- ways in which others have acknowledged the principal as a force for positive change.

SCHEDULE OF NDP EVENTS AND COSTS

The National Distinguished Principals awards ceremonies are held each fall in Washington, DC. Specific dates, hotel site, and details regarding scheduled activities will be mailed to award recipients in June.

VALIC, the corporate sponsor for the program, co-hosts the awards reception and banquet and underwrites the costs for two nights of hotel accommodations for each honoree. Honorees are responsible for transportation costs and all other related expenses, including any additional nights of lodging in connection with their trip to Washington.

Return completed Nomination Application to: Karen R. Jones, Ed.D,
krjones@zianet.com or by fax, 5-575-532-9158.
Applications due no later than March 15, 2014.
NATIONAL DISTINGUISHED PRINCIPALS PROGRAM
A Program to Recognize Excellence in School Leadership

2014 NOMINATION APPLICATION

Nominee’s Name

Nominee’s School __________________________________________ Grade Configuration ______________________

Address ______________________________________________________________________________________

Phone __________________ Fax __________________ E-mail ________________________________

School Type___ Urban_________ Suburban___________ Rural_________ School Enrollment____________

Total Number of Years as a Principal _________________________

Nominator’s Name/Address/Phone/E-mail __________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________________

Relationship to Nominee _________________________________________

Please read requirements for official application carefully:

Award Criteria

The nominee:

• is a member of NAESP at the time of the award;
• is an active principal of a school in which a commitment to excellence is clearly evident;
• has been an active principal for at least five years;
• will remain in active service in a position of school leadership during the school year in which he/she will serve as NDP;
• shows a strong commitment to the principalship through active membership in professional associations;
• is respected by students, colleagues, parents, and the community at large;
• assumes an active role in his/her community, distinguishing himself/herself as a leader in civic, religious, or humanitarian activities;
• shows strong educational leadership by setting high expectations for school staff and students; and
• maintains an orderly, purposeful learning environment.

If you are interested in applying or in nominating a candidate for the National Distinguished Principals award, please complete this form along with an attached letter (not to exceed two pages) identifying the strengths and skills that you feel make the candidate eligible for this award. Please check with your state principal’s affiliate or sponsoring organization to determine deadlines for submission or any additional state requirements.

Successful candidates will be required to complete the formal application form upon notification from their state or sponsoring organization’s selection committee.

__________________________________________ __________________________
Nominator’s Signature ________________________________ Date

__________________________________________ __________________________
Supervisor or Employer’s Signature ________________________________ Date


krjones@zianet.com or Fax: 1-575-532-9158.
Attention Education Leaders

Learning Summit Day 1, April 16
7:30am-8:30am - Summit Registration/Information & Exhibit Gallery
8:30am-9:30am - General Session I
9:30am-10:00am - Refreshments/Networking/Exhibits
10:00am-10:45am - General Session II
10:45am-11:30am - General Session III
JoAnn Sternke, Superintendent, Pewaukee School District
12:00pm-1:00pm - Lunch Keynote
1:15pm-3:00pm - Concurrent Session A
JoAnn Sternke, Superintendent, Pewaukee School District
3:00pm-3:15pm - Refreshments/Networking/Exhibits
3:15pm-4:45pm - Concurrent Session B
JoAnn Sternke, Superintendent, Pewaukee School District
4:45pm - Adjourn

Learning Summit Day 2, April 17
7:30am-8:30am Summit Registration/Information & Exhibit Gallery
8:30am-9:30am General Session IV
9:30am-9:40am Refreshments/Networking/Exhibits
9:40am-10:25am General Session V
Mark Elgart, President/CEO, AdvancED
10:30am-11:45 Concurrent Session C
JoAnn Sternke, Superintendent, Pewaukee School District
12:00pm-2:00pm Awards Luncheon
20th Annual New Mexico Performance Excellence Awards Ceremony
Door Prizes
2:00pm Adjourn

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Hotel Information
Isleta Resort
11000 Broadway Blvd SE
Albuquerque, NM 87105
1-877-747-5382 or 505-948-1999
Mention 2014 Quality New Mexico Learning Summit Code: QNM1414

Hotel Special Group Rate: $99 Single or Double Occupancy
- Rate valid on April 15 and April 16, 2014
- Rate cut-off date is April 1, 2014
- Each Registrant is responsible for his/her own lodging