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The Advocate

November 2013

“Ten Things Everyone Should Know About K-12 Students’ Views on Digital Learning”

1. Students say they use the Internet to help with homework at home. More than half of students in grades 6-12 say they do this at least weekly; for 29 percent of high school students, it is a daily event—and 68 percent say their primary Internet access is through a 3G or 4G mobile device.

2. Students want to learn any time, any place—and at their own pace. Forty-one percent of students who have not taken a fully online class would like to take a virtual class; they see the No. 1 benefit as being able to learn at their own pace.

3. A majority of students support the “flipped classroom” model. Six out of 10 students say it would be a good way for them to learn.

4. A growing number of students are asking for digital texts—but print is still the preferred method of reading. One-third of students in grades 6-8 say their preference is to read a digital book for schoolwork; 44 percent of students say they want to read on a digital reader.

5. More students are learning via YouTube. Twenty-nine percent say they’ve used an online video to help them with their homework.

6. Students would like to be able to text their teachers for help. Thirty percent of students say that being able to text their teacher during class (and getting a personalized response) would help them be more successful in science.

7. Students are experiencing gaming at a younger age. Three-fourths of students in kindergarten through second grade are using computers and mobile devices to play educational games on a regular basis.

8. Use of Twitter is exploding among young people. Thirty-four percent of high school students are Twitter users now—a three-fold increase since 2011, when only 11 percent of students acknowledged tweeting as part of their social media profile.

9. Facebook is now a regular destination for group projects. Thirty-eight percent of students say that they regularly use Facebook to collaborate with classmates on school projects.

Continued on page 8
From the Executive Director

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you to those of you who attended the NMCEL/CES Symposium in October. Sue Gendron provided timely information on the new online assessments aligned with the Common Core Standards. Based on the questions and the level of discussion during the symposium, it was obvious that this is a “hot” topic and one that still needs further discussion. Please see a related article about the Symposium elsewhere in the newsletter.

Another current “hot” topic is high school graduation. Superintendents are expressing concern about the number of students who may not be eligible to receive a high school diploma because of their inability to pass the SBA. While the option of taking End of Course exams is available, many students may have taken the required courses two and three years ago; before EoCs were required or available as options. In addition, some of these students have already been accepted to college, have acquired several dual credit credits, are participating in work-related internships, etc., all of which should count as demonstrations of competency, thus allowing students to receive a diploma. A work group made up of representatives from several districts is in the process of identifying those options which might serve as demonstrations of competency and will be presenting those options at a later time.

A current concern is one which hits closely at the heart of every citizen of this country—that of free speech and the right to disagree with those in authority without fear of reprisal or threat. Lately, it appears that one district, in particular, will not be allowed to express their views or raise concerns without being publicly chastised. Recently, fliers were sent out to households in the Albuquerque area basically denigrating the APS district and their superintendent. If this can happen to one district, it can certainly happen to any district or organization who dares voice their opposition to any mandated initiative. This is an outrage to all of us and one more attack on our public schools and their leaders. Let your parents and legislators know that such actions are unacceptable, not just to school communities, but to citizens in general. Both sides of any issue should be heard, and when a growing number of teachers and administrators are concerned about any issue, then at the very least they should be able to say so. No one should feel threatened or fearful of expressing their concerns especially when a plan or an initiative has the potential of affecting a large number of people in any community.

Best wishes for a bountiful Thanksgiving holiday.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gloria O. Rendón, NMCEL Executive Director
NMCEL Name Change Reminder

If you attended the annual summer conference last July, you were introduced to the organization changes adopted by the NMCEL Membership. The organization is now known as the New Mexico Coalition of Educational Leaders (formerly New Mexico Coalition of School Administrators). Along with the name change are some important points to remember:

New Website: www.nmcel.org
New Email Addresses: Main Email, info@nmcel.org
Dr. Gloria Rendón, gloria@nmcel.org
Barbara Vigil-Lowder, barbara@nmcel.org
Carol Wood, carol@nmcel.org

NMCEL Board Scheduled to Meet November 7

November 7, 2013 Agenda

- Call meeting to order
- Approval of Agenda
- Introduction of Board Members/Recognition of Affiliates & Announcements
- Discussion Items:
  - Audit Report
  - Update: LESC, LFC Meetings
  - Update of Graduation Work Group
  - Legislative Platform
  - Scholarship Process
  - Office Relocation Update
- Action Items:
  - Request to Approve Minutes of September 13, 2013
  - Request to Approve Financial Statements for September/October 2013
  - Request to Approve Audit for year ended June 30, 2013
  - Request to Approve the Legislative Platform
- Board members approved the July 24, 2013 Minutes and Financial Statements for August 2013.
- Reports:
  - Reports from Affiliates
  - Reports from Executive Director & 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 (NMAAA)
- 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 (NMAASCD)
- 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)
NMCEL is pleased to announce a scholarship opportunity for seniors who will graduate in May of 2014. The NMCEL Board has allocated funding for two $3,000 scholarships to be awarded to current seniors who will enroll in a college or university in the Fall of 2014.

Criteria:

1. Candidate must be a graduating senior from any public high school in the state of New Mexico.
2. Candidate must have a GPA of 3.0 or better for consideration.
3. Preference will be given to those entering the field of education (teacher, counselor, school business official, human resources, etc.).

Applications must be emailed to the NMCEL office no later than:

**February 14, 2014**

Applicants must submit the following completed documents:

1. The Scholarship Application Form (signed by a high school official).
2. Two letters of recommendation from teachers and/or school administrators.
3. A written essay (at least 300 words) outlining their reasons for entering the field of education.

**Finalists must submit an Official High School Transcript prior to the interview process.**

Email to:

[scholarship@nmcel.org](mailto:scholarship@nmcel.org) (preferred method of submission)

Mail to: NMCEL:

COE, MSC05 3040

1 UNM

Albuquerque, NM 87131

Phone: 505-277-6986

[scholarship@nmcel.org](mailto:scholarship@nmcel.org)

[www.nmcel.org](http://www.nmcel.org)
Superintendents and Leaders from across New Mexico participated in an interactive professional development session on October 22 with Sue Gendron, Senior Fellow with the International Center for Leadership in Education (ICLE) and Policy Coordinator for SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium. Ms. Gendron’s career in education spans 38 years serving as kindergarten teacher, primary school principal, high school principal and assistant superintendent and superintendent of schools in Maine. She has worked with stakeholder groups to develop recommendations for a 21st Century diploma.

The main topics discussed included: 1) Next Generation Assessments; 2) DSEI Rigor/Relevance Framework; 3) Assessment Overview & Current Information, Item Types & Application; 4) Types of Assessment Items on Next Generation Assessments; 5) Why We Need to Focus on Technology; 7) Importance of Having a Strong Implementation Plan. She also discussed the

**Four Keys to College and Career Readiness**

The four keys represent a comprehension of foundational concepts to retain information and ways of thinking about information. They include having students take ownership of their learning and giving students access to information so they can make choices for themselves.

![Four Keys to College and Career Readiness](source: www.epiconline.org/readiness/)

Great presenter who was effective with the delivery of information. Timely information—practical & useful resources & websites.
Thought Provoking Questions —

Administrators in New Mexico are the instructional leaders in their districts and schools and must assure effective teaching and learning occurs in the classroom. Superintendents and principals are charged with providing the best resources and tools to improve the practice of educators. Through classroom walkthroughs and observations, an instructional leader can ask the following questions:

- Does the teaching process instill curiosity in the student?
- Does the teaching process allow for creativity?
- Does the teaching process assure there is persistence and engagement?

Points to Remember:

- Every lesson has the power to inspire.
- Every classroom has the potential to be a learning environment.
- Every student has the potential to succeed.

Congratulations to
Superintendent Winston Brooks and
Albuquerque Public Schools

“for your leadership and hard work in producing the best conference that the Council of the Great City Schools has ever held.” — Michael Casserly, Executive Director, Council of the Great City Schools.

The 1,000+ Attendees at the 57th annual conference were impressed with the friendliness of Albuquerque and New Mexico, and were able to experience the diversity of the state, the beauty of the landscape, mountains and sunsets, the many museums, restaurants and cultural sites.

Performances by APS students mesmerized the audience and the artwork displayed on the tables showcased their talent as well.

Keynote speakers: were
- Tony Dungy, Football Coach, Author
- LTC® Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch
- David Gergen, Senior Political Analyst, CNN

NMCEL Is Looking For Success Stories

NMCEL is looking for new success stories that promote your district to include in the newsletters.

Highlight the great work your district has been doing!

Success stories should include:
- Demographics
- Challenges
- Solutions
- Results
- Lessons learned
- Pictures or video (with appropriate permissions)

Please send your stories directly to Barbara Vigil-Lowder at barbara@nmcel.org.

“Education is the power to think clearly, the power to act well in the world’s work, and the power to appreciate life.”

—Brigham Young
NMCEL Executive Director, Dr. Gloria O. Rendón and NMCEL Leadership Coordinator, Barbara Vigil-Lowder recently joined forces with the NMSBA, CES and NMAA to present information about the work of the organization at the 2013 Fall Regional School Board Meetings. The team attended meetings in the following locations:

- Region II, Santa Fe
  September 11
- Region V, Clovis
  September 17
- Region VI, Hagerman
  September 23
- Region VIII, Reserve
  September 24
- Region I, Aztec
  October 2
- Region VII, Cloudcroft
  October 7
- Region IV, Los Lunas
  October 9
- Region III, Las Vegas City
  October 21
“Ten Things Everyone Should Know About K-12 Students’ Views on Digital Learning” cont’d.

10. Students’ use of mobile devices continues to rise. Students’ personal access to mobile devices has reached several significant tipping points:

- 80 percent of students in grades 9-12,
- 65 percent of students in grades 6-8, and
- 45 percent of students in grades 3-5

Middle school student tablet access **doubled** from 2011 to 2012, with 52 percent of those students now tabled-enabled.

Source: **Speak Up 2012 National Research Project Findings**—the results of the authentic, unfiltered views of 364,240 K-12 students nationwide.
### Upcoming Events

#### NMCEL
- Executive Board Meetings:
  - November 7 (online)
  - December 13 (NMAA)
  - February 6, 2014 (online)
  - April 10, 2014
- Board Retreat, June 2-3, 2014

#### NMASBO
- Winter Conference, February 19-21, 2014, Crowne Plaza, Albuquerque
- International Leadership Conference, February 20-22, 2014, Orlando, FL
- Spring Budget Workshop, March 26-28, Hotel Albuquerque, Albuquerque

#### NMABE
- State Conference For Bilingual Education, April 23-26, 2014, Albuquerque

#### NMASSP
- 2014 National Conference, February 6-8, Dallas, TX

#### NMSSA
- Superintendents’ Meetings
  - December 6, Albuquerque
  - February 14, 2014, Santa Fe

#### CES
- eRate Workshop, December 9, Albuquerque

#### AASA
- National Conference, February 13-15, Nashville, TN

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505-862-5999 paul.cassidy@rbccm.com

- 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.
AASA Advocacy Takes Leading Role in E-Rate Debate

Dan Domenech
Executive Director, AASA, The School Superintendents Association

Over the last two years, AASA has undertaken a very deliberate path in ensuring that superintendents and AASA advocacy have a leading role as it relates to E-Rate. E-Rate is the federal program that provides school districts with discounts to make telecommunications/internet connectivity more affordable. The hugely successful program, created in 1996 and administered by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), currently represents the only source of federal education technology program. That’s right: in a time where school districts are charged with providing students with a world-class education that prepares them for a globally-competitive 21st century education, the ONLY source of federal education funding is the FCC, NOT the US Education Department.

Last year, with support from nearly 50 school districts, state associations and national organizations, I was appointed to the Universal Services Administrative Company (USAC), the entity that oversees E-Rate. Thank you for that support! In this role, I represent AASA, schools and libraries, ensuring that our priorities are articulated and reflected as USAC makes decisions related to E-Rate. I served an abbreviated term, and am again up for nomination. I’d appreciate your support, as I hope to continue my work at USAC on behalf of AASA members. Our blog details how your district/association can submit a letter of support, should you be so inclined.

USAC oversees the administration of the program (think: processing applications and payments), but does not have any role in the policy decisions, including how the program funds are allocated/can be used or changes related to the application form/process. That responsibility lies with the FCC. To that end, this past July, I joined 10 AASA members, including AASA President Amy Sichel and President-Elect David Pennington in meetings with commissioners at the FCC. We highlighted what E-Rate means to schools, the critical role it plays in supporting digital learning, and changes AASA supports as the FCC currently considers major changes. Commissioner Rosenworcel spoke at our conference the very next day.

In the coming months, the FCC will respond to the feedback they received in the field in response to their proposed changes. You can read a summary of the proposed changes as well as AASA’s detailed analysis and response on our blog. We have worked hard to ensure that the FCC adopts changes to the E-Rate program that bolster and expand a successful program, including providing adequate funding.

Support for Educational Leaders

School leaders communicate a vision and set the culture of a school. They also inspire excellence in teaching and learning and build processes for support continuous improvement. Faced with the challenges of higher performance, fewer resources, and growing student populations, educational leaders need more support than ever.

Steve Houston
866-399-6019
Steve.Houston@hmhp.com

www.hmhco.com
Amplify your Common Core implementation.

As the Common Core summative tests approach, it is more important than ever to prepare your students and teachers for the rigor of the new standards and the test-taking skills they will require. Amplify offers a comprehensive suite of assessment content and tools—for grades K-12 in ELA, math and writing—designed to prepare your classrooms now. These include:

- CCSS Quick Checks including short assessments that introduce students in grades 2–12 to the new expectations and give teachers an immediate understanding of what needs to be accomplished. Scoring rubrics and distractor rationales help teachers guide instruction to prepare students for the summative tests.

- K–1 Assessments for assessing student mastery in grades K–1 with developmentally appropriate activities in ELA and math for small-groups or individual settings.

- Online Blueprinting Tool, innovative software that streamlines district planning and creation of individual assessments and annual assessment programs.

To learn more, visit: amplify.com/new-mexico.

Cathy Carr  
602.284.1514  
ccarr@amplify.com

Eric Howey  
972.341.1394  
ehowey@amplify.com

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Get Ready for the FAFSA

On January 1, the 2014 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) will open.

Will your students be ready to apply?

According to the US Department of Education, FAFSA submissions are a critical indicator of college- and career-readiness. Last year, the EduCash program, from national award-winning nonprofit EduGuide, helped more than 80 high schools with high percentages of students receiving free and reduced lunches achieve a 14% average increase in their FAFSA submission rates, netting hundreds of thousands of additional Pell Grant dollars for in-need students.

The new 2014 EduCash program still has room for about 20 more high schools to participate and benefit from expert coaching, professional development, peer networking, online tools and printable resources, free tax assistance for families, and school improvement reporting all geared at getting those FAFSAs.

The value of the EduCash program is $7,500 per high school, but thanks to a generous grant from College Goal Sunday administrator USA Funds, schools can participate for a matching rate of just $1,000 -- often supported through a school’s prior allocations for professional development.

For more information and to apply, please visit www.eduguide.org/applyforeducash and use grant code “Super November” before November 21, 2013 to lock in the $1,000 matching rate.
Institute Overview and Registration
CESDP 22nd Annual Back to School Family and Youth Leadership Institute

Join us at the Hilton at Buffalo Thunder in Pojoaque, New Mexico
November 14-15, 2013

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<tr>
<th>Thursday, November 14, 2013</th>
<th>Friday, November 15, 2013</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00-10:30 Registration and Breakfast</td>
<td>7:00-8:00 Breakfast</td>
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<td>9:00-10:15 Opening General Session</td>
<td>8:00-9:00 General Session, Keynote Speaker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Keynote: Recipes for Success</td>
<td>9:00-10:15 Breakout Sessions</td>
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<td>Student Performances</td>
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<td>10:30-12:00 Breakout Sessions</td>
<td>10:30-12:00 Breakout Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00-1:30 Lunch, General Session, Keynote Speaker, Students</td>
<td>12:00-2:00 Lunches, Poem Drawing, Closing</td>
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<td>Performance</td>
<td>Entertainment</td>
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<td>1:30-2:30 Breakout Sessions</td>
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<td>2:45-4:00 Breakout Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00-8:00 Dinner at Painted Parrot, Mariachi La Lluvia</td>
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OVERVIEW OF STRANDS AND SESSIONS:
Session strands will focus on a variety of topics related to building school, family, and community partnerships in New Mexico. Presenters include New Mexico parents and educators, family health specialists, family liaisons, PTA parent leaders, bilingual and Title I program staff, grand-parents, and family service organization staff.

All strands and sessions provide districts and schools with opportunities for meeting Title I, Title III, Title V, and other federal and state program requirements for staff professional development and parent development.

The following chart represents a sampling of strands for 2013. Many bilingual sessions included!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Youth Leadership</th>
<th>Welcoming All Families</th>
<th>Communicating Effectively</th>
<th>Supporting Student Success</th>
<th>Speaking Up for Every Child</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>* Justice and Equity</td>
<td>* Family Friendly Schools</td>
<td>* Communicating brand about buildings</td>
<td>* Keeping Up with Student Progress</td>
<td>* How does the School System work?</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Health and Wellness</td>
<td>* Justice and Equity in Schools</td>
<td>* Propagandize and Publicize</td>
<td>* All About Common Core State Standards</td>
<td>* Addressing Bullying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* College and Career Readiness</td>
<td>* Opportunities for Volunteers</td>
<td>* Working Together</td>
<td>* Homework Recipes</td>
<td>* How to Advocate for your Child</td>
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<tr>
<td>* Young Authors</td>
<td>* Language, Art, and Culture of New Mexico</td>
<td>* Social Media</td>
<td>* What is Academic Language?</td>
<td>* Equity Recipes for All Families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Goal Setting and Planning</td>
<td>* Recipes for Welcoming ALL Families</td>
<td>* Recruiting</td>
<td>* Sharing Community Resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Sharing Power
- Families and Schools as Equal Partners
- Parent Engagement in Title I, Indian Education, Bilingual Education
- Policies and Practices
- NM Parent Council Association

Collaborating with Community
- School-Community Partnership
- Expanding Learning Opportunities
- After School Programs
- Community and Resources for Families
- Meet with Program and Business Partners

Parent to Parent
- Grandparenting Rating Global Ideas
- Fatherhood
- Motherhood
- Recipes for Success
- Financial Literacy

NMPTA
- NMPTA
- State and National Advocacy
- PTA Opportunities and Resources Guide
- PTA Officers to Student Success
- Recipes for Success in the New Normal

Health and Wellness
- Power of Positive Thinking & Yoga
- Nutritional and Easy Recipes
- The Value of Kitchen Table Time
- Dealing with Stress
- Substance Awareness and Prevention

www.cesdp.nmhu.edu

Español Office: 1112 Plaza Del Norte • Española, New Mexico 87532 • 505-747-7236

Registration: http://www.cesdp.nmhu.edu/backtoschool/backtoschool.html