Leading the Learning in a Digital R^3 World

CES/NMCEL Symposium

Superintendents and Instructional Leaders from across New Mexico participated in an interactive professional development session on October 27 sponsored by Discovery Education.

Dr. Karen Beerer and Mr. Hall Davidson focused on Superintendents being the key to leading a successful transition to digital instruction. She shared three challenges Superintendents face while leading during this transition—that is Rules, Regulations, and a call for Rigorous instruction.

Dr. Beerer has almost 30 years experience in public schools. She has taught at the elementary level, as well as, at the graduate level. She has served as a reading specialist, an elementary principal, Supervisor of Curriculum and Professional Development and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment. Dr. Beerer has a passion for professional development, specifically helping educators utilize research-based practices in instruction to ensure achievement of all students. She has provided professional development to teachers and administrators throughout the country on a multitude of topics such as Common Core State Standards, effective literacy instruction and leading change in the 21st Century.

Mr. Hall Davidson has worked from think tanks in Turkey to classrooms in Tennessee. He has collaborated with thought leaders including teachers, superintendents and departments of education. A former K-12 bilingual math teacher and college faculty member, he left the classroom to become part of an Emmy-winning team, creating math and technology integration programs. For forty years, he has been an educational innovator in important waves of change, first in broadcasting, then computers, and now digital learning. He has worked with transformational industry groups, education ministries and with thousands of students through guidance of the nation’s oldest student media festival. Across four decades of work with education, he identifies right now as the most transformative and important time for teaching and learning.

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From the Executive Director

Dear Colleagues:

By now most of you have received the rather bleak news regarding test scores and graduation rates. A recent article indicates that the new test scores allow for plenty of finger pointing whether it is at the federal government, our state officials, parents, teachers….take your pick. Rather than wasting time doing that, I believe most educators in New Mexico prefer to see this new information as an opportunity to make improvements. It’s become increasingly clear that our state has to figure out how to deal with the issue of poverty, and people at every level, in many walks of life, and in all parts of the state acknowledge that this is a huge issue in our state. However, poverty is an issue in many other states as well and some states have taken steps to mitigate those circumstances so that all students have an equal opportunity to succeed regardless of their zip code. I believe that New Mexico is at a tipping point—to make improvements at many levels for the purpose of improving all our lives; and what’s more is that this is happening at a grass roots level. You can see it in the manner in which people are responding to tragedy and crime in their communities. People are taking back their communities and taking steps to support each other as citizens and neighbors.

In a different but related way this is also happening in our schools. It seems that we’ve been going through a huge adjustment period in education—adjusting to a different kind of student, a different way of teaching and learning, a different way of testing. As with any change, there will be some who will adjust to the change and some who can’t or won’t. With change comes some longing for the “good old days”, and as with any kind of loss, there are stages of “mourning”. More and more, however, educators seem to be adjusting to a new way of doing things. I believe that what hasn’t changed is that the people who choose the field of education do so because they truly care about kids and want to make a difference in the lives of young people. That philosophy is what sustains us all through a myriad of changes and adjustments.

Speaking of changes and adjustments, the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) will see a change in the Director position as our friend and colleague, Frances Ramirez Maestas retires from a long and successful career in state government and the committee welcomes a new director, also a friend and colleague, Rachel Gudgel, currently on staff with the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC). We bid a fond farewell with heartfelt thanks to Frances and wish her many years of bliss in retirement and we bid a hearty welcome to Rachel as we pledge to work with her during the coming years.

Best wishes for a blessed Thanksgiving holiday.

Dr. Gloria O. Rendón, NMCEL Executive Director
Leadership is . . .

The act of making a difference.

The ability to achieve results through people.

Who are you when no one else is looking?

Knowing what you’re best at, what brings a light to your eyes, and what you most love to do—and then doing it.
2016 NMCEL Scholarship Announcement

NMCEL is pleased to announce a scholarship opportunity for seniors who will graduate in May of 2016. 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 2016.

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 12, 2016.

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 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 (preferred method of submission)

Mail to: NMCEL
COE, MSC05 3040
1 UNM
Albuquerque, NM 87131
Phone: 505-277-6986
scholarship@nmcel.org
www.nmcel.org

mCLASS® DIBELS Next®—easy, accurate, and free.

Amplify is proud to be PED’s selected vendor for K-3 Formative Assessment, funded by the state of New Mexico.

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Cathy Carr, PhD
602.284.1514
carr@amplify.com

Eric Howey
305-549-3706
ehowey@amplify.com
Dr. Beerer and Mr. Davidson discuss:

**QR, VR, AR**

uses in education.

Collaboration Tool

[padlet.com](http://padlet.com)

Print, Color, Play

[quivervision.com](http://quivervision.com)

Administrators participated in a highly interactive day as they discovered new ways to use rich CG animation, innovative interactivity, unique games and apps with teachers and students. They took virtual trips using Google Earth and the 3D Virtual Reality Google Cardboard. Administrators experienced *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore* using the augmented reality app, IMAG•N•O•TRON, which brings the pages of the book to life.

Truly successful people understand the passions and talents of all and have the ability to see themselves as having unlimited potential. The speakers challenged administrators: [Moonshot Thinking (YouTube Video)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=).
A Policy Framework for Scaling Personalized Learning

This policy framework guides states and districts in working together to create flexibility to support scaling personalized learning.

Building off the previously released, District Conditions for Scale: A Practical Guide to Scaling Personalized Learning, this framework was developed with insight and feedback from school districts, state education agencies, policymakers and education organizations that are focused on scaling personalized learning across districts.

By adopting this state policy framework, state and districts can be empowered to overcome barriers of a system that was designed for a time that has long since passed.

policy-framework-scale-personalized-learning.pdf

Publication Date:
Thursday, August 13, 2015

Dr. Donald Pope-Davis — A Conversation with Superintendents

Donald Pope-Davis, Ph.D., was recently named the Dean of the College of Education at NMSU upon retirement of Dr. Michael Morehead. Dr. Pope-Davis is a long-time educator with a background in psychology and diversity. “The opportunity to be engaged with a college and institution that places pedagogical engagement, excellence in scholarship, diversity and inclusive excellence, and collaborative learning as important core goals were extremely attractive to me,” Pope-Davis said.

Superintendents across the state were able to meet Dr. Pope and have a conversation with him about his vision for the future of NMSU, College of Education, and education in New Mexico at the NMSSA Meeting on October 28, 2015.
Enlightened Leadership for Challenging Times
Joseph W. Hoff
This book consists of timely, field-tested and practical content for both school and district administrative leaders. This leadership development resource book contains a blend of how-to’s, innovative practice, suggestions for training and self-growth, and a healthy dose of inspiration for leaders. The author’s objective is for the reader to realize a more complete understanding of what techniques leaders might consider and apply to enhance their leadership effectiveness. Enlightened Leadership is a great resource for leaders who wish to create and support organizations that are both forward-moving and success-oriented in this most challenging of times.

Steve Nash
Two-time NBA/MVP
President, The Steve Nash Foundation

Steve Nash for Invest in US: Build a Better Nation with Early Childhood Education.

Two-time NBA MVP Steve Nash has long championed early childhood issues and education. That’s why he supports building a better nation by expanding high-quality early childhood education programs for children from birth through age five.

He states, “When we invest in them, we invest in us.”
Visit Us
We’re on the Web!

www.nmcel.org

2016 Legislative Session Dates:
January 19   Opening Day
February 3   Deadline, Introduction of Legislation
February 18   Session Ends

nmlegis.gov

Upcoming Events

CES
- Complimentary Job Order Contract Training, November 12, 2015, CES

NMAESP
- “Leading for Learning” Conference, November 6-7, 2015, Sheraton Uptown, Albuquerque

NMCEL
- Board Meeting, December 10, 2015, NMAA
- Board Meeting, February 4, 2016, Online
- Board Meeting April 14, 2016, CES
- Board Retreat, June 6-7, 2016, TBD
- Summer Conference, July 20-22, 2016, Embassy Suites, Albuquerque

NMSSA
- Meeting at NMSBA Annual Convention, December 4, 2015, Albuquerque
- Meeting at NMSBA Board Institute, February 12, 2016, Santa Fe
- Meeting at Spring Budget Workshop, March 31, 2016, Hotel Albuquerque
- Meeting at NMSBA Law Conference, June 3, 2016, Tentative Date
- Meeting at NMCEL Conference, July 21, 2016, Embassy Suites

NMSTE
- NMTIE Conference, November 17-20, 2015, Hotel Albuquerque

AASA
- National Conference, February 26-28, 2015, Phoenix

Resources for Understanding PARCC Results

UnderstandTheScore.org
The PARCC test was designed to provide clear information about a student’s progress toward meeting grade level expectations and mastering important skills like critical thinking. The score report provides a snapshot of how a child is progressing and shows where he or she excels or needs more support. This website gives information, along with grades, teacher feedback and scores on other tests and will give a more complete picture of how well a child is performing academically.

The New Mexico Public Education Department provides information and data for educators and families.

Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers
The PARCC assessment system website provides information for parents, students and educators. Learn more about the assessments. The website also includes instructional tools, resources and videos.
The New Mexico Coalition of Educational Leaders (NMCEL) provides an opportunity to school and district leaders to engage in a professional dialogue on various topics pertinent to the school communities. Our membership is made up of school and district leaders who work diligently to improve teaching and learning at all levels.

You can enjoy the Benefits of Corporate Sponsorship with NMCEL

Select from a cafeteria style menu of benefits which may include:

- Full color ads in our Electronic Newsletter, The Advocate.
- Prominent Exposure at the Annual Conference including agenda ad and exhibit table.
- Business link to your website from the NMCEL website.
- Letter of Introduction to every school district in the state.

Additional options available.

High Plains Regional Education Cooperative #3 is partnered with the following professional and reputable contractors providing pre-bid contracts for architectural design, general contracting, environmental remediation, furnishings, energy solutions, food services, and security systems for school districts, state agencies, and local public bodies:

- Access Technologies, Inc.
- Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
- Atkin Olshin Schade Architects
- Energy Control, Inc.
- FacilityBUILD, Inc.
- MIRADOR Enterprises, Inc.
- PLAY!

- School Furnishings Unlimited
- SLA Management, LLC.
- SMPC Architects
- Southwest Abatement, Inc.
- STOVEN Construction
- The Hartman+Majewski Design Group
- Vigil & Associates Architectural Group

For more information, contact High Plains REC at 575-445-7090.

Become a Corporate Sponsor

Full corporate sponsorship is available for $5,000, a 30% discount over purchasing options separately.

NMCEL can custom tailor a package that meets your corporate needs.

Contact the office or visit the website.

505-277-6986

www.nmcel.org
New Mexico STEM Leadership Event

Discovery Education and SNMERC invite school district leaders and STEM leaders from across New Mexico to participate in an innovative two-day STEM thought leadership and professional development experience that will explore the educational transformation taking place throughout New Mexico on November 9-10, 2015.

On day one, attendees will have a private tour of the remote Spaceport America site, where they will have an opportunity to experience numerous interactive exhibits and kiosks, interact with Spaceport America crewmembers and take a cruise down the spaceport’s main runway. The second day of activities will provide all attendees the opportunity to participate in a Discovery Education STEM Academy, which will provide an intense focus on instructional practices to successfully apply a STEM philosophy in districts, as well as provide action steps for immediate application of students' learning.

Event Sponsors

For questions about this event, contact Dave Willden at dwillden@pvrec8.com.
Comprehensive Literacy Solutions

Scholastic’s mission has remained constant for 95 years—to encourage every child’s intellectual and personal growth that begins with literacy, the cornerstone of all learning.

English Language Arts & Content Area Support
Reinforce and sustain instruction with our comprehensive, customizable print and digital blended literacy solutions. From whole class to small group to independent learning, we have the research-based resources to help you differentiate ELA and content area instruction and maximize success for every learner.

Professional Learning Services
Collaborate with us to design a targeted, systemic plan to enhance every educator’s instructional skillset and content knowledge around literacy. Working together, we will help you prepare today’s students for tomorrow’s fast-moving world of information and technological change.

Family & Community Engagement Resources
Harness the power of fully integrated learning supports as we partner with you to assess and remove barriers that interfere with students’ ability to succeed. Our programs and services help build capacity and create the critical connection between home, school, and community. Together we will boost literacy development and foster positive learning environment for children wherever they are.

For more information on our products or services, contact a Scholastic Representative at 800-367-1437, or email SCCG@scholastic.com.
Announcing the NEW Achieve3000 state edition for New Mexico!

Achieve3000 announces our New Mexico edition!

Achieve3000’s new state-specific edition offers the only patented solution that’s proven to increase students’ ability to comprehend informational text, a key factor for PARCC success. Our innovative solutions:

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- stretch students to progressively more rigorous texts
- build academic vocabulary and content-area knowledge
- develop students’ ability to respond to text-based writing prompts using precise evidence
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2.5X expected reading gains for students using Achieve3000!

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Act now to prepare your students for the school year ahead!

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- LevelSet™ assessment up to 3x's/year
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- Professional learning services

To learn more about the NEW MEXICO Achieve3000 and our introductory pricing, contact me today for a free demo!

Veronica Fuentes, Regional Director of Sales
veronica.fuentes@achieve3000.com
915.433.3705

Visit us at the Le Cosacha Conference, Nov. 4—7!

Visit our website: http://www.achieve3000.com/

Achieve3000 congratulates Newcomb Elementary, Central Consolidated School District, for being named a 2015 National Blue Ribbon Award Winning School!

More than 98% of its student are Native American. Newcomb has been recognized as an Exemplary High Performing School. In one year, it has advanced from a “C” to an “A.” We are proud to be one of the resources supporting the hard work of the principal, teachers, and students of Newcomb Elementary!