CES & NMCEL Present
The 16th Annual Educational Symposium
October 18, 2016

Jim Warford, a dynamic educational leader and a passionate speaker, draws on both his powerful personal story and his unique combination of education, business and creative experience.

Jim Warford, Keynote Speaker

It’s The Teaching, Not The Technology:
An Effective Guide to Blended Learning

Has your school or district invested lots of time and money putting technology in the classroom only to find that instruction often still looks the same? How can you get a better return on your investment? This session will explain why it’s about the delivery not the device. This session will give you a guide for how teachers can use the new tools more effectively, while increasing student engagement and learning.

Location:
Embassy Suites
1000 Woodward Place NE
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Room Reservation Rate: $89.00 per night

Contact Information: 505-245-7100 or 800-362-2779

Registration Information: Visit ces.org or contact Joan at joan@ces.org or 505-344-5470

Registration Fee: $150.00
Colleagues:

I am appreciative of the welcome you have all provided me as I have transitioned into the Executive Director position. Together, we have a great opportunity to shape the future of education in New Mexico. As I have begun my “listening tours” I am not surprised at the dedication and personal investment that each of you are making in each of your districts. I am also not surprised that two major concerns that you bring forward are the funding dilemma we are facing in New Mexico public education and the concerns with the continuing staffing issues you faced as the year began. I also have heard you discuss the need for relevant and focused information/training for our colleagues in the whole array of leadership positions in our schools. Let me address some thoughts on each of these items in this “straight talk.”

But first, I have some great news about our attempt at finding high level corporate sponsorships. As I mentioned last time, we have been able to reach a Platinum Partnership with Discovery Education. This week our second Platinum Partnership was executed with Gaggle. This internet/student safety group is among the leaders in the nation in this sector of support. I will be providing more information regarding Gaggle soon. Welcome to our Gaggle Platinum Partners!

Funding:

There is a legitimate problem in New Mexico’s general fund balances today and likely into the near-term future. Lots of numbers are being talked around regarding the state’s financial position. It appears that there is a shortfall of about $150 million for the last fiscal year, over $300 million for the current fiscal year and, perhaps $250-$500 million for FY 18. Of course, future forecasts are speculation on best estimates on the oil and gas market. My message, however, is that we will need to focus on a very tight, no growth current and near future financial structure. So, the question becomes, what do we need to contemplate as the education leaders in New Mexico given this likely scenario?

The first debate point is about balances. One stream of thinking that I have been trying to influence NOT TAKING, is to take credit for cash balances that districts currently hold. The reason this has become a target for some, is that our school district cash balances have grown from about $115 million in FY15 to almost $253 million in FY17. I have explained that the trend is not much different than the state’s reserve set aside over the same period (a several fold increase). Cash balances don’t happen by mistake and are not unplanned by districts. For instance, cash balances in instructional material accounts are currently more likely “banking” of underfunded resources for use in the next fiscal year to be coupled together to allow only one adoption cycle to be completed. During my “listening tour” many of you have expressed that the instructional materials funding provides less than 50% of the necessary funds for the current adoption cycle. Hence, the planned cash “hold back.” This is good management, and the prospect of “recouping” cash balances by the state is a poor management option.

Continued on page 4
NMCEL Board Minutes in Brief

September 8, 2016

- Meeting was called to order.
- Board members approved the Agenda.
- Introduction of Board Members/Recognition of Affiliates, Announcements
- Discussion Items:
  - 2016 Conference Report, Evaluation, Debrief
  - Update: LESC and LFC Meetings
  - Update on Professional Development Activities:
    - Symposium
    - Aspiring Superintendents’ Academy
    - New Superintendents’ Institute
  - Update on Partnerships/Corporate Sponsors
  - Update on Phone Conferences with Secretary Skandera
  - Legislative Platform Discussion
- Closed Session to Discuss Limited Personnel Items
- Action Items:
  - Approval of the July 21, 2016 Minutes
  - Approval of Financial Statements through August 2016.
- Reports:
  - Affiliates
  - Executive Director
  - Communication & Leadership Coordinator
  - Office Administrator
  - Legislative Report
- Joint Meeting: NMCEL/NMSSA Executive Council
  - Legislative Platform Discussion/Development

Apply Now!
NM Robotic Grants
For new 7th-12th Grade Teams
Deadline 11/4/16

http://info.firstinspires.org/firsttechchallengegrant-0
https://usfirst.submittable.com/submit/62717
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1QyM9WTF18

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 (NMASCD)
- 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)
You have helped me understand that each cash balance position is there for a reason and that there is not a “one size fits all solution.” I am working to assure that our legislative leaders understand this fact and I am working on your behalf to find solution sets for our collective revenue problem.

It is necessary that we reach out and find solutions that address solvency for New Mexico and our public schools.

As we form our legislative platform, the general topics that have emerged for both the Superintendents and the Coalition as a body fall into four areas:

**Solvency:**
- “Freeze Framing” our current appropriation to Public Schools.
- Filling the void between the available resources (short and long term) with “revenue enhancements. This includes a long term fix in supporting the use of the Land Grant Permanent Fund and/or the Severance Tax Permanent Fund
- Placing a moratorium on Charters.

**Equity of Program Access**

**Teacher/Administrative Pipeline**

**Shrink Below the Line “Supplementals” by 20%**

**Staffing Issues**

Many of you have expressed frustration and concerns about the “pipeline” for staffing. You have indicated that finding quality/ready teachers is becoming more difficult and that the quality of workforce seems to be diminishing. Many have expressed a concern that the teacher education programs in New Mexico seem to be struggling in delivering the training and developed capacity for today’s classroom. Additionally, many have expressed a continuing frustration with the NMTeach evaluation rating of teachers and what you feel are disparities between teacher ratings that come from that system. This is an area that I hope to engage in our short and long term planning and support.

**Training and Support**

As I have heard your “needs”, I see a trend regarding the training of our administrators and some voids that we currently have. I have begun discussions with UNM, NMSU, CES and NMSLI to determine how we might deal with these needs. In the next month or two, I hope to have a proposal that would collaboratively provide the targeted, quality support to you as districts through NMCEL to fill this gap. The need to develop our internal and statewide administrative cadre is a significant part of “growing the future” of New Mexico Public Education. Thanks in advance for your continued thoughts and input.

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**NMCEL At Work**

NMCEL Executive Director and Leadership Coordinator have joined NMSBA, CES, NMASBO and NMAA to present information about the work of the organization at the Regional School Board Meetings.

- Region I, Aztec, October 19
- Region II, Mesa Vista, September 15
- Region III, Las Vegas City, October 17
- Region IV, Los Lunas, October 12
- Region V, Logan, September 20
- Region VI, Roswell, September 26
- Region VII, Las Cruces, October 25
- Region VIII, Deming, September 27

**Upcoming LESC Interim Meeting Schedule**

- October 12-14 - Santa Fe
- November 16-18 - Santa Fe
- December 14-16 - Santa Fe
- January 16, 2017 - Santa Fe

**Upcoming LFC Interim Meeting Schedule**

- October 26-28 - Santa Fe
- November 15-18 - Santa Fe
- December 5-7 - Santa Fe
Stan’s Straight Talk cont’d.

Again, let me congratulate each of you on your commitment to New Mexico Education and to continuing our joint efforts at dealing with the challenges for leadership that permeate our work. I am honored to work with each of you and am certain that we have the capacity to deal with all the issues that confront us as we develop the legacy of success for New Mexico education!

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New Mexico Association of Secondary School Principals

United States Senate Youth Scholarship

The United States Senate Youth Program is a national initiative to provide a yearly opportunity for talented young people to demonstrate interest in public service to deepen their interest and understanding of America’s political processes and encourage their commitment to political leadership.

The Program brings the highest-level officials from each branch of government together with a competitively select group of high school students—two high school juniors or seniors from each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity—during an intensive week-long educational program held in Washington, D.C. In addition, each student receives a one-time $10,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to pursue coursework in history and political science. Now in its’ fifty-fifth year, the program has been fully funded since inception by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation as part of the Foundation’s commitment to preparing young people for citizenship and leadership.

Applications for the 2016-2017 USSY Program are now being accepted.

Contact Julie Arnold, NMASSP Representative, jarnold@rrps.net

Application Deadline is October 10, 2016.

USSY Program Guidelines and Application can be found on the NMASSP website.
The New Mexico Coalition of Educational Leaders (NMCEL) is comprised of seventeen affiliates that represent administrators across the state. Each affiliate selects a person to represent their organization on the NMCEL Board. NMCEL welcomes the following individuals to the board for the 2016-2017 school year.

**Patrick Arguelles**  
Principal  
Career Enrichment Center/Early College High School  
Albuquerque Public Schools

Patrick has started his educational career as an elementary school teacher. He then became the Activities Director at the high school level for over eight years. His administrative career began as an assistant principal, and on to the Principal at the Early College Academy for Albuquerque Public Schools, a position he has held for two years.

Mr. Arguelles’ goal as an NMCEL Board member is to contribute his knowledge and skills to this incredible group of educational leaders from across the state. He hopes to learn more about the practices and procedures in other districts. He represents the Albuquerque Public Schools Principals Association.

**Traci Filiss**  
Executive Director  
Taos Academy Charter School

Traci Filiss began her educational experience in Vermont teaching high school science. She moved to New Mexico in 1996 and taught for the Cimarron District until 2006. During that time, she opened Wheeler Peak Online Academy for the district and supported the initiatives for developing IDEAL NM for the state. In 2007, she designed and opened a new model charter school, blending the best of digital education with face-to-face instruction and continued as the administrator for the school. She is an advocate for digital education at the state level, as well as, nationally.

As an NMCEL Board member, Ms. Filiss will continue advocacy to provide and advance educational technology for New Mexico children. Supporting the initiatives of NMSTE through NMCEL can broaden the awareness and support across our state.
High Plains Regional Education Cooperative
Pre-Bid Contracts

High Plains Regional Education Cooperative #3 is partnered with the following professional and reputable contractors to provide pre-bid contracts to school districts, state agencies, and public bodies in the areas of architectural design, energy solutions, environmental remediation, furnishings, general contracting, and security systems.

- Access Technologies, Inc.
- All-Rite Construction
- Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.
- Atkin Olshin Schade Architects
- Energy Control, Inc.
- MIRADOR Enterprises, Inc.
- PLAY!
- School Furnishings Unlimited
- SMPC Architects
- Southwest Abatement, Inc.
- STOVEN Construction
- The Hartman+Majewski Design Group
- Vigil & Associates Architectural Group
- Weil Construction.

For more information, contact Gary or Steve at High Plains REC (575-445-7090)
Or visit our procurement page at www.hprec.com

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.
Take advantage of this statewide mCLASS:DIBELS Next program today and your school will benefit from the ease-of-use, improved accuracy, and time savings that mobile assessment provides.
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Cathy Carr, PhD
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Amplify Assessment
amplify.com
Superintendents Finance & Budgeting Training

This two-day workshop will benefit superintendents with one to three years of school budgeting experience; however, all levels of experience are welcome to attend. Registration fee: $125. Refreshments and lunch is provided both days.

Topics include:

- Business Office Structure
- School Funding
- Certified Purchasing Agent & Procurement
- Capital Projects
- Bonding & Debt Management
- Risk Management
- Building & Managing the Budget
- Boards & Superintendents
- Finance Issues from a Legal Perspective
- Superintendents & the Business Official

**When**

October 11 & 12, 2016, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Where**

Cooperative Educational Services
4216 Balloon Park Road NE
Albuquerque, NM 87109

**Contact**

John Hickman, 505-344-5470, joan@ces.org
Levels of Opportunity:

- Platinum — $15,000
- Gold — $10,000
- Silver — $5,000
- Bronze — $2,500

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

Contact us to discuss the possibilities.

505-277-6986
Contribute to the success of NM students, and ultimately our state’s future, by joining us at a community meeting near you this fall.

At the community meetings you will learn about the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) and share with the NM Public Education Department (PED) your concerns, priorities and expectations about our state public education system helping to guide our system to better support our students and teachers, and to provide an innovative plan for all children that is reflective of your community.

**Meeting Locations:**
- Gallup – Oct. 12
- Farmington – Oct. 14
- Santa Fe – Oct. 17
- Albuquerque – Oct. 18
- Roswell – Oct. 27
- Las Cruces – Nov. 15

**Who Should Attend?**
- Teachers, principals and district administrators
- Parents and families
- Community, tribal and civic leaders
- Business and economic development leaders
- State and local elected officials
- School board members
- Anyone interested in the future success of New Mexico students

The [Every Student Succeeds Act](http://www.everystudentsucceeds.org) is the primary law governing K-12 education in the United States. Passed in December 2015, the new law replaces the previous federal education policy known as No Child Left Behind. Throughout the country, states are holding public meetings about ESSA – providing an opportunity to engage with students, educators, district leaders, families and the community for input on how to continuously refine education systems to better support our educators and students. The New Mexico Public Education Department (PED) will convene a series of six regional meetings throughout the state to solicit input from communities about the development of New Mexico’s ESSA plan to support schools and student learning.

Space is limited, so please register as soon as possible at [http://nmfirst.org/event-details/excellence-in-education](http://nmfirst.org/event-details/excellence-in-education)

*Please feel free to forward this invitation!*
At The Forefront of STEM Teaching & Learning

As a part of our commitment to effective STEM education, we have developed a variety of powerful and engaging resources designed to fuel a cultural shift around STEM teaching and learning!

Learn More: DiscoveryEducation.com/STEM
### Upcoming Events

**CES**
- **Superintendents Finance & Budgeting Workshop**, October 11-12, 2016, CES
- **Facility Manager’s Workshop**, October 17-19, 201, Embassy Suites, Albuquerque
- **Educational Symposium**, October 18, 2016, Embassy Suites, Albuquerque

**NMABE**
- 2016 La Cosecha Conference, November 9-12, 2016, Santa Fe Convention Center
- Student Leadership Institute, November 11, 2016, Santa Fe Convention Center

**NMASBO**
- **Boot Camp**, October 10-14, 2016, Embassy Suites, Albuquerque

**NMCEL**
- **Educational Symposium**, October 18, 2016, Embassy Suites
- Board Meeting, October 27, 2016, Online
- Board Meeting, December 8, 2016, NMAA
- Board Meeting, February 16, 2017, Online
- Board Meeting, April 6 2017, CES
- Board Retreat, June 5-6, 2017, TBD
- Summer Conference, July 19-21, 2017, Embassy Suites, Albuquerque

**NMSSA**
- Retreat & Meeting, October 19, 2016, Embassy Suites, Albuquerque
- Meeting at NMSBA Annual Convention, December 2, 2016, Albuquerque
- Meeting at NMSBA Board Institute, February 24, 2017, Santa Fe
- Meeting at Spring Budget Workshop, April 12, 2017, Hotel Albuquerque
- Meeting at NMSBA Law Conference, June 9, 2017
- Meeting at NMCEL Conference, July 20, 2017, Embassy Suites

**AASA**
- **National Conference**, March 2-4, 2017, New Orleans

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**AASA New Blog Series**

A New IDEA Changes Needed In the Federal Special Education Policy.

Monthly series of blog posts by professors, lawyers, education researchers and other experts on issues to consider for IDEA reauthorization (with a focus on ways to improve IDEA).

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**Visit Us**

We’re on the Web!

[www.nmcel.org](http://www.nmcel.org)
AASA, The American Association of School Superintendents

The American Association of School Superintendents (AASA) is the National Affiliate of New Mexico Coalition of Educational Leaders (NMCEL). Even though many of New Mexico’s Superintendents join AASA annually, there may still be questions about the work AASA does and the benefits of membership. AASA, the School Superintendents Association, founded in 1865, is the professional organization for more than 13,000 educational leaders in the United States and throughout the world. AASA members range from chief executive officers, superintendents and senior level school administrators to cabinet members, professors and aspiring school system leaders. AASA Executive Director, Dan Domenech, and his team have provided information about the work the association is doing on behalf of both members and non-members in our nation’s capital. The goal of AASA is that administrators gain a better understanding of advocacy—what does that mean and how/what AASA does in Washington, D.C. and the impacts on local school districts.

The Perkins CTE Reauthorization

Sasha Pudeslski
Assistant Director, Policy and Advocacy
AASA, The School Superintendents Association

This is an exciting time for advocates of career and technical education. Right on the heels of the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act, both the U.S. House and Senate have begun drafting a new version of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, yet another federal education law ripe for a re-write.

It originally appeared the Senate would introduce their legislation first, but concerns about regulations for ESSA and the role of Secretary King began to impede bipartisan negotiations. The House then pushed ahead and after working quietly and closely for months with a select group of organizations (which included AASA), introduced legislation in July to reauthorize Perkins. The House Education Committee passed its bipartisan CTE reauthorization in a rare 37-0 vote. The full House passed the bill on September 13th by a vote of 405-5.

After ensuring that the House would keep Perkins a formula-driven program, AASA focused our lobbying efforts on two major issues: 1) reducing the administrative burden in Perkins and 2) enhancing alignment between local CTE programs and business/industry and higher education institutions. Unlike ESEA or IDEA, Perkins is not a broken law in dire need of repair. Instead, the primary issue with Perkins is that the tiny federal allocations do not justify the paperwork required to receive the funding.

AASA worked closely with the Association of Career and Technical Education to develop a blueprint for how to reduce the paperwork burden in Perkins. Our idea, to create a biennial local needs assessment to take the place of the bulk of the annual local application process was entirely adopted by the House. This needs assessment would require districts to consult with higher education partners and local or regional business/industry entities to ensure there was strong programmatic alignment and relevance in the district’s CTE program offerings. Districts would also have to consult with local stakeholders (teachers, administrators, students, etc.) to ensure they were directing Perkins funding toward the areas of greatest need and importance.

In addition, they would also have access to relevant labor-market information when conducting the needs assessment, which would ensure school leaders consider what programs to maintain, add or eliminate based on the job opportunities students will have when they graduate. Outside of the results of the biennial needs assessment and a description of how it informs funding priorities for districts, the only other information districts would be required to provide on an annual basis would be: 1) a list of CTE program offerings, 2) a description of career counseling and exploration activities the district provides, and 3) a description of how the district works to prepare students with disabilities and other special populations for high skill, high wage occupations. As a result, the local application would be significantly pared down from the current law, which is what AASA intended to achieve. It would also ensure that districts are more cognizant of how-well aligned their programs are with the needs of business and industry.

Continued on page 14
The Perkins CTE Reauthorization cont’d.

AASA remains focused on reducing the role of the Secretary in dictating federal accountability guidelines and targets. Building on our successful advocacy in ESSA, we sought to streamline the accountability system in Perkins to align performance measures with those set by each state under ESSA, and to add strong prohibitions to the bill to prevent the Secretary from over-reach.

In the House bill, districts must report on CTE graduation rates, post-secondary outcomes, and academic proficiency, but states have the discretion to choose another factor, such as the attainment rate of an industry recognized credential, the rate of dual-enrollment or the rate of students participating in work-based learning, that they can use as a fourth indicator. This flexibility ensures that states can use a metric that prioritizes policy and investments in CTE and aligns with what they may already require districts to track and report.

Since this is a bipartisan bill, the accountability provisions in Perkins aren’t 100 percent to AASA’s liking. Overall however, we have some major improvements from the current law. While the accountability system exclusively focuses on the performance of those students who are CTE concentrators, they define them as students who have completed three or more CTE courses or completed at least two courses in a single CTE program of study. We believe the second part of the concentrator definition is problematic and will aggressively lobby the Senate to limit the definition of CTE concentrator to only those students who complete three or more CTE courses in a single program.

While we are disappointed to see the continuation of the non-traditional measure in the accountability system, AASA is pleased that this measure only requires districts to focus on the participation of non-traditional students in CTE, rather than participation and completion.

Of importance to school leaders is that the bill repeals the requirement in current law that states must negotiate their targeted levels of performance with the Secretary, which free states to set more reasonable targets for accountability. It also requires that state leaders consult with superintendents, teachers, workforce development boards and other key stakeholders when setting performance targets.

The House bill also prevents the Secretary from withholding funds from a state that does not meet certain performance targets and ensures LEA improvement plans are developed by the LEA with limited input from the state. It also discourages states from requiring districts to redirect limited resources towards improving specific indicators.

On the whole, AASA is very pleased with how the bill addresses our major priorities within the reauthorization and urges the senate to move forward in completing the reauthorization process this year.

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**Updates, Information and Resources**

- [2016 National Conference on Education Registration](#)
- [My AASA](#)
- [Publications, Media, Resources](#)
- [Leadership and Professional Development](#)
- [Policy and Advocacy](#)

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**Additional Information contact:**

Eliott Wolf
TIG Business Development Mgr.
Eliott.Wolf@tig.com
505.830.6260 x3489 | 1.800.356.3999
NMCEL Welcomes New Platinum Sponsor

Gaggle has been providing safe online learning products and solutions to the K-12 market since 1999. Our focus is, and always has been, on student safety so educators can have the confidence to allow learners to take advantage of current technology for communication, collaboration and learning.

8th annual Student Leadership Institute (SLI 2016) will take place during the 2016 La Cosecha Conference

Friday, November 11, in Santa Fe

The institute will emphasize the importance of perseverance in leadership and will once again focus on bringing together linguistically and culturally diverse students to focus on issues of identity, leadership, and the development of an asset-based perspective related to their diverse backgrounds.

Informational flyer is on page 18 of this newsletter.