Must Be Present To WIN
Primary and General Elections Are Key

Elections have consequences... and if you want those consequences to be favorable to public schools and public school employees, then you MUST be consequential in their outcomes.

You are all well aware of the Wisconsin story (if not go to www.nea-nm.org and watch the 3-minute video). You’ve also heard of the setbacks in Ohio, Alabama, Michigan, and Arizona. The loss of school programs, curriculum, payroll deduction and due process in Arizona; of collective bargaining in the Midwest; the loss of members’ job rights or even the right to be a member in Alabama; and the loss of local elected bodies, such as school boards to operate in Michigan are ALL consequences of losing pro-public education advocates in state legislatures.

YOU are the one to make sure these kinds of consequences aren’t carried out in New Mexico. YOU are the one who can preserve, protect, and enhance the commitment to our public school funding, local decision-making; including the ability to bargain, and safeguard our strong, fair, and impartial due process and employee rights. YOU are the one who will cast your vote for those candidates deemed worthy to receive NEA-NM’s EdPAC recommendations.

But that’s not going to be enough. It’s going to take YOU convincing your family to also vote for those candidates recommended by your elected colleagues representing you on EdPAC. It’s going to take YOU, working with your NEA local and NEA-NM to organize and mobilize fellow members to work for and vote for these recommended candidates.

WHAT’S AT STAKE?

Frankly, everything that’s been on the table the last two years will again come before the new state legislature: public school funding, instructional materials, postponement of class-size caps, merit pay, retirement swaps/fixes, teacher evaluation, student testing and public money for private schools just to name a few. Our ability to stave off the bad things and push for the good things these last two years rested on a razor thin margin in the NM House and always faced the specter of a Governor’s veto. Lose that razor thin margin and all of these current attacks on our public schools and public school employees will be amplified and then extended to include those indignities suffered by our colleagues in other states.

WHAT’S THE ASK?

How much more can we ask from YOU? What can you do as you are busy ending this school year to impact very important primary races between now and June 5, 2012? How can you balance the start of a new school year and possibly assist in September/October in the critical general elections on November 6, 2012?

GIVE US TWO HOURS

Give us two hours through your local between now and November 6, 2012. It can be two hours this spring if your legislative races are decided in the primary, like in Santa Fe, Las Vegas, or Española. Bank both of them for the fall if your races will be decided then or split the two, one now and one later. Contact your local President or your UniServ Staff person and volunteer your two hours – two hours to call fellow members, stuff envelopes, put up yard signs, walk your neighborhood or write post cards to fellow members.

THAT’S IT – TWO HOURS?

Yep! Think of it. In Las Cruces with their two locals, that’s over 3000 NEA volunteer hours; In Santa Fe over 1000, in Las Vegas with their 3 locals over 500, and in our newest bargaining local, Loving, over 70 hours. That would be 20,000 hours IF each and every NEA-NM member is asked to volunteer two hours to help themselves get POSITIVE consequences out of these elections.

FINAL THOUGHT

Need more hours for your local? Need more people to influence? Then, don’t forget to organize your potential members to join NEA. That way you have access to more member volunteer hours, access to more members and their families to convince to vote for our recommended candidates so that we build on what we have, instead of losing what we’ve gained. ☺

JUNE 12-14
Summer Leadership Academy, Ruidoso, NM

Topics Include: Collective Bargaining, Political Action & Treasurers’ Training

Registration Fee: Two Days: $90; One Day: $50 (Treasurers’ Training Only: No Fee) Registration Fee is to help defray the cost of meals and must be received by June 5, 2012. Cut-off for training registration is Tuesday, May 29, 2012. Registration fees will not be refunded for cancellations after that day.

Send Registration Fee To: NEA-NM: c/o Edie Brycelea, 2007 Botulph Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505

Hotel: The Lodge at Sierra Blanca. A group room rate of $89 plus tax, has been secured for a Double Queen Deluxe room. Please call the hotel directly to reserve your room at 888-323-5216. Lodging costs are the responsibility of the local Association and/or the member.

Hotel Cut-off Date: May 15, 2012 (this date is firm so please make your reservations early!)

Visit www.nea-nm.org for details & registration

NEA-NM: Great Public Schools Begin With Us!
• Putting Kids First • Promoting Professional Excellence • Improving the Well-Being of School Employees
President Obama recognized that “It was the labor movement that helped secure so much of what we take for granted today. The 40-hour work week, the minimum wage, family leave, health insurance, Social Security, Medicare, retirement plans. The cornerstones of the middle-class security all bear the union label.”

And yet, since 2011, anti-union bills have been introduced in state after state. Legislators entertained proposals to strip public employees of collective bargaining and other rights in Wisconsin, Ohio and Arizona. Lawmakers in several states including Florida, Idaho, Missouri, Tennessee, South Carolina and North Carolina introduced bills to reduce union power or make it more difficult for them to sign up workers. As several other states continue to deal with such anti-labor proposals, we have also seen supporters of union rights stand up and fight back. Ohio voters overwhelmingly repealed the anti-union legislation. The recall election of Wisconsin Governor Walker is scheduled for June. In other cases, the courts have intervened to at least temporarily halt this unprecedented attack on union rights and on the middle class.

Who are the members of the unions that are being attacked so ferociously? For the most part, they are public employees, including teachers, education support professionals, firefighters, police officers, health care providers, and other public employees. Union members are the middle class, the 99% who work hard every day to make a living, to make life better and safer for others through their work. They pay their fair share of taxes, they invest in the local economy, and they live in the communities where they work.

Martin Luther King Jr. reminded us that “History is a great teacher. Now everyone knows that the labor movement did not diminish the strength of the nation but enlarged it. By raising the living standards of millions, labor miraculously created a market for industry and lifted the whole nation to undreamed of levels of production. Those who attack labor forget these simple truths, but history remembers them.”

So why these attacks and what can we do about it? Elections do have consequences. In 2010, voters elected a much more conservative group of policy makers to office. These policy makers didn’t campaign on an anti-union agenda. They didn’t speak against the middle class in their campaign speeches. And yet what they have tried to do since being elected is to do just that --attack union rights, public education and the middle class. Check out the video of Wisconsin educators talking about the consequences of the 2010 Election on our website at www.nea-nm.org. And then step up to make sure that doesn’t happen here in New Mexico!

We must use the roar of our collective voices to stand up for what is right and just. We must remind legislators and other elected officials that our working conditions are our students learning conditions. We must ask them the tough questions when they come knocking on our doors during the campaign; ask where they stand on issues that impact our lives every day. We must challenge them when they make statements that are not supported by their voting record, when they say they support public education but vote for vouchers or tuition tax credits, when they vote against funding for public education. We must be informed and involved. Most important, we must vote!

Each of us makes a difference. Every vote matters. Every time we stand up against what is wrong, or a lie, or an injustice, it matters. I am inspired by these words of Robert F. Kennedy Jr.: “Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”

It really is up to us -- each and every one of us. We must be informed and we must be willing to take action. It is time for us to stand strong together, for it is together that we will build that current, that our roar will be heard. Our kids are worth it and we are worth it.

In unity,

Sharon Morgan, NEA-NM President

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**Breaking News! OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE**

Your elected members of NEA-NM EdPAC met April 20-21, 2012 in Albuquerque to make recommendations in contested primary races for the June 5, 2012 Election. Your EdPAC* recommends:

**United States Senate**

**Martin Heinrich**

**United States House of Representatives**

**CD1: Eric Griego**

**CD2: Evelyn Madrid Erhard**

**CD3: Ben Ray Lujan**

**State House**

| HD 6: Representative Eliseo Alcon | HD 40: Nick Salazar |
| HD 12: Representative Ernest Chavez | HD 46: David Coss |
| HD 14: Representative Miguel Garcia | HD 50: Stephen Easley |
| HD 18: Representative Gail Chasey | HD 61: Phillip Roybal |
| HD 19: Representative Sheryl Williams-Stapleton | HD 70: Representative Richard Vigil |
| HD 25: Christine Trujillo |  |
| HD 26: Georgene Louis |  |
| HD 35: Representative Antonio Lujan |  |

1: These three recommendations are pending final action by the NEA Fund on 5/3/12.

*EdPAC studies incumbent voting records and voluntary responses to education issues on candidate questionnaires returned by those interested in participating in the NEA-NM recommendation process. EdPAC also held interviews with Congressional candidates who wanted to participate in the process.

NEA-NM: Great Public Schools Begin With Us!

• Putting Kids First • Promoting Professional Excellence • Improving the Well-Being of School Employees
You Have Elected…

...NEA-NM Election Results

NEA-NM members voted in two new members to NEA-NM’s leadership team in the recent statewide elections.

NEA Director & Alternate Director
Elected to a 3-year term as NEA Director representing NM on the national NEA Board of Directors is Geraldine Franco from NEA-Carlsbad. She will also be on the state leadership team and on the NEA-NM Board of Directors. Her term begins on September 1, 2012. Elected as Alternate Director to the NEA Board of Directors for a 3-year term is Rosemary Carrasco from NEA-Carlsbad. She will also join the state leadership team and the NEA-NM Board of Directors. Her term begins on September 1, 2012.

NEA-NM Board of Directors
Region elections produced re-election wins for a final 3-year term for Laura Vazquez, NEA-Belen in Central Region and David Chester, NEA-Las Vegas City in NE/NC Region. Their term begins on July 15, 2012.

NEA-NM EdPAC
Region members elected the following colleagues to represent them on NEA-NM’s political action committee which is charged with making recommendation decisions for federal congressional races, statewide races, and state legislative races: Carolyn Serafin-Abeyta, NEA-Belen representing Central Region for her last 3-year term, Carol Cutler-Linder, NEA-NM Highlands University representing NE/NC Region; 1st 3-year term, and Beverly Whygles, NEA-LC representing CSEC-LC and NEA-LC in the SW Region; 1st 3-year term. Their terms begin on July 15, 2012.

NEA-NM Retired
Retired members re-elected Betty Madrid, Roswell and Carol Teweilet, Alamogordo to represent them on the NEA-NM Board of Directors for another 1-year term. They elected Donna Stromei, Belen to a 3-year term on NEA-NM EdPAC representing retired members. Their terms also begin on July 15, 2012.

NEA Representative Assembly- A Capitol Idea

This year’s NEA Representative Assembly (RA) makes its quadrennial stop in the nation’s capitol as it does every presidential election year. Washington, DC hosts this year’s annual business meetings, recognized as the world’s largest deliberative body, where any and all of the 10,000 delegates (including the 40 or so from NM!) can speak to their colleagues on new business items, resolutions, ESEA Reauthorization, the continuing attacks on public schools, and other business placed before the body. You have elected 15 state delegates (3 are statewide officers) to represent you in DC from June 30 to July 5, 2012. The remaining 12 delegates are listed to the right in descending order according to votes received. They, along with the elected cluster delegates (members in locals with fewer than 76 members), will be called in that descending order to ascertain their availability to attend. See side bar for the list of alternate delegates who will be called in the order listed as long as there are vacancies in delegate slots.

Locals with 76 or more members are eligible to send local delegates to the RA and should have already held open nominations and secret ballot elections for those delegates. Contact your local president if you want more information about your local delegate elections.

2012 NEA Representative STATE DELEGATES

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<td>Mary Yazzie, NEA Bloomfield</td>
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<td>Ann Meyer, Farmington Education Association</td>
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<td>Pattie Burnam, NEA Las Cruces</td>
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<td>Paula Spencer, NEA Roswell</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Rosalinda Carreon-Altamirano, NEA Las Cruces</td>
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Alternates

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<td>13</td>
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<td>Beverly Whygles, NEA Las Cruces</td>
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<td>Write-in, Peggy Stielow, NEA RRSEU</td>
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<td>Write-in, Diana Jackson, NEA Alamogordo</td>
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<td>Write-in, David Chester, NEA Las Vegas City</td>
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CATEGOR TWO DELEGATE

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CLUSTER DELEGATES

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<td>Rosalie Gonzales, NEA Pojoaque</td>
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<td>Nancy Harding, NEA Artesia</td>
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RETIRE DELEGATES

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Alternates

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<td>Carol Teweilet, Alamogordo</td>
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Student Delegate

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<td>1</td>
<td>Myra Alvarado, Hobbs</td>
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attending ENMU-Portales

STAFF MENTIONS

…In a Related Matter…

Congrats are in order for Edie Brycelea and Julie Gonzales, NEA-NM staff members, who both celebrated their first 25 years of work for NEA-NM and 25 years of service to NEA-NM members. A tip o’ the hat, a sip o’ the bubbly and then…, back to work you two.

Farewells and Felicitations

Since our last issue, NEA-NM staffer, Nancy Sheehan, left NM for a similar staff position in our NEA affiliate in Oregon. Nancy is an accomplished and effective unionist who did much to further the cause in our Northwest Region. We wish her well in her new role and also welcome Tony Masser, who was hired right at press time to assume the UniServ staff duties in that corner of NM.
Feathers or Not, NEA-New Mexico Keeps Hope Alive

By Charles Bowyer

Woody Allen lampooned Emily Dickinson by stating, “How wrong Emily Dickinson was! Hope is not ‘the thing with feathers.’ The thing with feathers has turned to be my nephew. I must take him to a specialist in Zurich.” Funny, but, especially when spring birdsong is in full swing, I still like Dickinson’s original better:

“Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune without the words,
And never stops at all.”

The women and men who have been NEA-New Mexico for the last 125 years have, even without feathers, embodied the idea of hope for the children of New Mexico. From the handful of men who founded our organization in December of 1886 to the thousands of men and women who are today’s members, we have been responsible for public education in New Mexico for a very long time.

One scholar writing in an unpublished history of New Mexico education in the late 19th and early 20th centuries flatly stated that, “the Association was, ipso facto, responsible for education in New Mexico.”

In the mid-twentieth century, we forged the concept of due process rights for teachers and forced the state to create a retirement system for education employees. In the 1970s we helped craft the most equitable school funding system for New Mexico. We worked hard in the 2012 Legislative session to allow New Mexico to get out from under the burden of the Adequate Yearly Progress standards of NCLB.

That plan, contrary to what some legislators and leaders of other organizations have said, did not base teacher evaluation only on test scores or base student achievement on one test. Instead, it included, and I quote for the compromise legislation that we helped craft and support, a “focus on measures of student growth and achievement that are valid and reliable, common and uniform and not solely based on a single state assessment. If a valid and reliable measure is not available, a school district shall submit its proposal for a local measure to the department for approval.” It also required that student growth be reflected over multiple years. It did base half of evaluation on student achievement; however, that student achievement had to be based on valid and reliable measures of student growth and achievement that have a valid and reliable connection to teacher effectiveness. Teachers would have continued to have the full protection of the school personnel act.

Even though this compromise didn’t pass the legislature and teacher evaluation changes are now in the hands of the Secretary designate of the Public Education Department, through her rule making authority, we will continue to be engaged so that changes happen with us, not to us! We will never support a system of evaluation that is not based on multiple measures of teacher effectiveness or one that is tied to a single-standards based assessment.

Our hope for tomorrow relies on those “regular organized efforts” that caused our founding.

Today, our Association and our members are content to sit by and allow others to make decisions affecting the lives of our members, that includes the current efforts to create a new teacher and principal evaluation system for New Mexico. We worked hard in the 2012 Legislative session to craft a system that protected the rights of teachers and met the requirements to allow New Mexico to get out from under the burden of the Adequate Yearly Progress standards of NCLB.

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Our hope for tomorrow relies on those “regular organized efforts” that caused our founding. Organized efforts require members to be organized. These times are not the time to “go it alone.” Offer a colleague the opportunity to join us. Tell him or her that you know they join you and the other members in NEA-New Mexico in believing:

- every child deserves a fair shot at a good education;
- public school employees deserve respect and a decent living; and
- working together, we can change the world, one child, one school and one community at a time.

Only by working collectively can we make these beliefs New Mexico’s priorities. It wasn’t some unorganized group of employees that won all those past struggles and created public schools in New Mexico; it was a strong unified NEA-New Mexico. Only by gaining members can we increase our collective strength. Tell that colleague just how much we need them in the struggle and double your own voice and collective strength when they say, “Yes!”

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President Profile: NEA-Cobre

Jackie Grijalva:
United “Mind” Worker in Copper Country

Born into a mining family steeped in the culture of unionism and then moving to the site of one of the world’s largest open pit copper mines, Jackie Grijalva melds her talents: love of family, knowledge of her community, and belief in collective action into her classroom and her NEA local. Jackie is finishing her first year as local president for NEA-Cobre (Spanish for copper) in NEA-NM’s Southwest Region. She also serves as a SW Region elected representative to NEA-NM’s Education Political Action Committee (EdPAC).

She was born in Grants, NM where her father was an underground uranium miner and a strong, proud union member. After the mine closed, the family relocated to Bayard, NM where she attended and graduated from Cobre Schools. She went on to receive a BS in Secondary Education and Accounting before going back to obtain her Masters Degree in Education.

She views herself as a strong believer in education because education brings power; a power she has imparted for the last nineteen years as a teacher in the Cobre Public Schools. When asked why she became local president, she promptly responds that it was time for her to step up and give her predecessor who’d done an eight-year stint a much-deserved break. Her goals this year have been to increase membership, unite/involve current members and build a good working relationship with administration. Her strengths come from her strong work ethic, being a good listener, and her strong family ties to unions and union members in her community. Speaking of family, Jackie proudly lists her three children, Samuel, Amber, and Cassie, along with her husband of 28 years, Gilbert.

Jackie finds her relaxation in two diametrically opposed fashions: one is going to her in-law’s apple orchard in Mimbres where she’ll go out to read; and the other, well, that’s getting in the truck and heading to Albuquerque or Glendale, AZ to the next Professional Bull Riding event where she loves to cheer for Marchi and Palmero (riders or bulls...or both?)

There’s a proud and well-recorded history of unionism (“Salt of the Earth”-1954) and the strife, heartache, and unity this mining community has seen in the ebb and flow of the copper industry. As one can imagine the answer of asking a miner why he or she is a union member, Jackie respond in kind, “As a professional educator, I believe that being an NEA member is just part of the job.”

MEMBER MENTIONS

Loving That Advocacy

NEA-Loving reports 67% of its staff signed cards wanting the local to be their exclusive bargaining agent in mid-March. Congrats to NEA-Loving President Brandy Blanchard and her crew!

Let the Sun Shine

Monte del Sol Charter in Santa Fe had their voluntary recognition approved on 3/21/12 by the NM Public Employee Labor Relations Board. A pat on the back and a hearty “Well Done” for NEA-MdeS, leaders and their hard-working crew as they work to finish their first-ever contract.

In Memoriam

We remember the lives and contributions of these NEA-NM members who are no longer with us: Irma Tessneer, ESP member in Las Cruces where she was retired as an Educational Assistant from Booker T. Washington; Connie Contreras, retired as a NEA-Las Cruces member and AR; and Don Casados, a retired member of NEA-Santa Fe and educator for 37 years. Gone but not forgotten...

Early April brought us the unexpected news of the passing of Johnnie Archibeque, NEA-Bernalillo. Johnnie was an NEA ESP member who was instrumental in getting bargaining rights in his local in the 1990s. He also served two separate 2-year terms in the NM House of Representatives and was in the NEA-NM Hall of Fame. As recently as this year he rode the Rail Runner daily to the Capitol to lobby on behalf of AARP and NEA-NM. His gentle, friendly, considerate demeanor will be greatly missed by all fortunate enough to have known him.

Ten minutes with...

Jorge Avalos
Position: High School Educator
Local Association: Deming Education Association
Years worked in Education: 7

What is a typical school day for you?

I wake up at 5am and get on the road to Deming- 65 miles from my home in Las Cruces. I get to Deming about 45 minutes before class starts and read the daily load of emails. Then, I prepare my class for the students. I greet ALL my students with a smile when they come to my door. When the bell rings, the magic starts; I teach history to 30+ students with different learning styles and abilities, keeping them engaged for 85 minutes. I repeat this process all day. During my prep period I work on my curriculum mapping and, if time allows, I grade papers. When the final bell rings, we head home and if it’s not my turn to drive, I’ll grade papers all the way back to Las Cruces. I get home around 5pm and get ready for dinner. After dinner, it’s back to grading papers until it’s time for bed.

What do you like about your job?

I like the positive interactions with my students and seeing my students succeed. I like when my students become life-long learners; when they come back to me after they graduate and talk about their successes out of high school.

What is hard about your job?

Dealing with the non-teaching aspects of my profession makes it difficult; for instance, all the meetings, curriculum mapping, testing and other non-teaching high-stress requirements mandated by the district or the state.

What are the most fun and unusual things that have happened on the job?

One of the most fun occurrences in my job was when on the last day of school a group of students came to my room and put on an impromptu musical performance. The students sang and danced to Mariachi music.

How has being an Association member been helpful to you?

It has helped me to be treated like a professional. Administrators began to give me more academic freedom in my classroom because of what the Association did personally for me.

NEA-NM: Great Public Schools Begin With Us!
• Putting Kids First • Promoting Professional Excellence • Improving the Well-Being of School Employees

www.nea-nm.org
This year, NEA-NM’s Read Across America broke new ground as the Cat sauntered into middle school territory for the first time and also shared the spotlight with a Truffula Tree hugging, mustachioed Lorax. From Belen to Las Cruces, to Hobbs, to the Santa Fe Indian School and the Cat’s homebase at Gonzales Community School in Santa Fe, EVERY day is a good day to sit with a book and read to a child.

Today a Reader! Tomorrow a Leader!

Still want to celebrate end-of-year reading awards? Contact Elizabeth Martinez (emartinez@nea.org) and schedule the Cat to come and visit. Go to www.nea-nm.org and view the plethora of pictures from the Lorax and Cat visits across New Mexico. Be sure and see Cindy Lou Who and her grinch.

Photos on this page taken by Lesley Myers & Sharon Morgan
Photos taken at SFIS by Danielle Brycelea.
Photos taken at Cesar Chavez sent to us from Marcia Brown.

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Gonzales Community School
Santa Fe, NM
Mar. 1, 2012
The Cat’s yearly home away from home in Santa Fe.

Cesar E. Chavez Elementary
Las Cruces, NM
Mar. 2, 2012
Lupe Morena was the first to wear the Cat suit way-back-when. She’s retiring at the end of this year. This Cat hopefully is not retiring too.

Santa Fe Indian School
Santa Fe, NM
Mar. 2, 2012
It was the Cat’s first-ever visit to a middle school. He was accompanied by Harlan McKosato, the 2012 NEA-NM Read Across America Chair. Mr. McKosato spoke to the 7th and 8th grade classes.

Photos taken at CES by Danielle Brycelea.
Summer Slummin’ in the Sacramentoos
2012 Summer Leadership Academy

Cool pines surround you. Fresh air astounds you. Duffers start their eighteen holes by greeting you on your sweater-weather morning walk and deer meet you as you trek the trails at dusk. Interested? Intrigued?

Come join us at NEA-NM’s Summer Leadership Academy (SLA) in Ruidoso June 12 through June 14. Contact your local President and get on the team being sent to participate in the Collective Bargaining track or the critical and timely Political Action track. Enhance your knowledge and skills in either of these two areas so you can assist your local to be more successful and responsive to your members in the upcoming year.

Arrive at the beautiful and comfortable confines of The Lodge at Sierra Blanca, nestled among the forested hillsides of Ruidoso and adjacent to the golf course and Convention Center. Get there on Tuesday, June 12 in time for the welcome reception. After a great night’s sleep and sumptuous breakfast buffet, you kick off your SLA with a general session before your skills sessions. Freshen up after class, before having a memorable time at the annual NEA Fund Reception/Dinner/Raffle. If that’s not enough for the evening, drive into town for some dancing, shopping, or slot playing. Thursday sessions start at 9am and finish by 3pm giving everyone plenty of daylight driving as you head home.

Find out more information and registration instructions by going to www.nea-nm.org. Click on SLA and check out the offerings and schedule and then talk with your local President about attending. Locals and Regions will assist in paying most, if not all, your registration, lodging and travel.

We’ll be looking for you at The Lodge! ©

California Casualty Awards Grant for Hatch Valley High School Athletics

Hatch Valley High School, Hatch, NM, recently received a grant for $2,000 from the California Casualty Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant Program. The school joins 58 other high schools from across the country sharing a $75,000 grants pool for their struggling athletics programs.

Like many public high schools, Hatch Valley High School has been impacted by education cuts that only seem to worsen every year. “Extras” like new uniforms or equipment upgrades slip out of reach. The school will now use the grant money to help the girls soccer team purchase new vests, balls, goal and other training equipment, and assist the football team in improving its training equipment as well.

Jo Erickson (left), George Shapcott and Doug Goldberg (Right) present the $2,000 California Casualty check to NEA-Hatch President, Kathy Franzoy.

Shrinking state education budgets, pressure on schools to focus efforts on academics, and diminishing funds for athletics inspired California Casualty President and CEO Beau Brown to establish the grant program in honor of his father – Chairman Tom Brown, a lifelong athlete and sportsman.

For more information about the Thomas R. Brown Athletics Grant Program, visit www.CaliCasAthleticsGrant.com.

California Casualty is proud to partner with NEA-New Mexico as a trusted source for home and auto insurance since 1986. Headquartered in San Mateo, CA, with Service Centers in Arizona, Colorado and Kansas, California Casualty is a 98-year-old company providing auto and home insurance products, and others, to educators, law enforcement, fire fighters and nurses in 44 states. Learn more at www.calcas.com. ©

“Forgotten Man” Leads to Finding “Family”

Our NEA-NM 125th Anniversary book featured past president George I. Sanchez (1935). Which led to an AP story in the ABQ Journal on 2/13/12 about how he became such a prominent national educational presence while receiving nary a mention in his home state. The article identified his granddaughter, Cindy Kennedy, as a teacher in Santa Fe. A little investigative reporting of our own, led us to find out that not only is she a teacher at El Dorado School, she is also a member of NEA-Santa Fe. As her “Tata” might have said, “De tal palo, tal astilla,” which roughly means “The apple doesn’t fall far from the tree.”

We had the pleasure of meeting Cindy and presenting her with her copy of the anniversary book along with a compilation of her grandfather’s writings from the NMEA journal, “NM School Review”. (His official compilation of papers and research are housed at the University of Texas and UC Berkley.) So not only are we fortunate to meet his family, we are glad to know she is part of our NEA family also.

And, just to keep it ALL in the family, the day the article was printed, NEA-LC leader, Rosalinda Carreon-Altamirano, was named as this year’s recipient of NEA’s George I. Sanchez award- the first NEA-NM member to ever receive this award. ©
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www.nea-nm.org

Spring 2012
Have You Visited NEA Academy’s New Interactive Website?

Your input helped guide the design of the NEA Academy’s new website, and we think you’ll be pleased with the results. Come explore the site and fill out your personal profile. Based on the preferences you select, this new interactive learning environment will provide content recommendations, course alerts, and additional material of specific interest to you. We invite you to see the all-new NEA Academy at neaacademy.org.

Let Us Count the Ways… to a Master’s Degree

- 50 master’s degree programs in Curriculum and Instruction, Administration, Counseling, and General
- Three leading universities – UMassOnline (University of Massachusetts), Walden University, and Western Governors University
- 5 to 20% discounts on course tuition plus waivers of some fees
- NEA member-only scholarships for eligible applicants

The Richard W. Riley College of Education and Leadership
Walden University
UMassOnline
University of Massachusetts
Amherst · Boston · Dartmouth · Lowell · Worcester

NEA Academy’s University Partners

NEA Academy’s university partners were selected after a nationwide review of higher education institutions and advanced degree programs for educators. Visit the Academy’s website, neaacademy.org, for more information about each of these outstanding institutions and their special benefits for NEA members.
Keleher and McLeod Scholarship Award

All eligible NEA-NM certified and educational support members are invited to submit an application for the Keleher and McLeod Distinguished Scholarship Award for 2012. The award is presented yearly to a NEA-New Mexico member or members who will be taking classes (online or on campus) at the University of New Mexico.

The Keleher and McLeod Law Firm created an endowment at the University of New Mexico, earnings from which are to assist an NEA-NM member or members in furthering their education each summer. The firm represented the Public Service Company of New Mexico in a lawsuit against several natural gas producers in the San Juan Basin in the early 1980’s. The seven original plaintiffs in the suit included five NEA-NM leaders who, with the support of the Association, desired to see the price of natural gas reduced for residential customers and school districts.

The NEA-NM Education Issues Committee has been designated as the body to choose the scholarship recipient(s). The scholarship will consist of a sum to cover the cost of summer school tuition and books for coursework that will be beneficial to school employees in the performance of their jobs. Deadline for submission is May 18, 2012.

APPLICATION

NAME ____________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________

LOCAL ASSOCIATION ____________________________

PHONE (home and/or cell) ____________________________

How long have you been a school employee? ______________

Where, and in what capacity? ____________________________

What is your current position? ____________________________

How long have you been an NEA-NM member? ______________

For what coursework will you be enrolling at UNM? ____________________________

Are you working toward a degree? ______________

If so, what degree? ____________________________

Have you been selected into a graduate program? ______________

If so, what program? ____________________________

University of New Mexico Student ID: ____________________________

Will you be returning to your current employment position next year? ____________________________

If no, where and in what capacity do you expect to be employed next year? ____________________________

Is this your first application for the NEA-NM/Keleher and McLeod Distinguished Scholarship Award? ____________________________

If not, when did you last apply? ____________________________

Please provide your total estimated cost for tuition, books and any other anticipated costs. ____________________________

On a separate page, please state why you are applying for this scholarship. Include any information you think will help the NEA-NM Education Issues Committee make its decisions/selections. Please use no more than one typewritten page. You may also attach a resume.

Guidelines for the Scholarship:

• To be eligible, applicants must attend UNM or one of its branches (Valencia, Los Alamos, Taos, and Gallup).
• Scholarship funds may be used to pay for UNM on-line courses, but will not be adjusted to cover any additional fees associated with on-line coursework.
• Scholarship funds may not be used for coursework at other institutions even though credits may be transferred to UNM later.
• NEA-NM will notify recipients and the scholarship office at UNM as soon as the recipient(s) is selected.

Completed applications and supporting documentation are due at NEA-NM Headquarters, May 18, 2012.

Send application to: Edie Brycelea, NEA-NM, 2007 Botulph Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505

ebrycelea@nea.org
...The Fight Goes On: A Look Back at 125 Years of Service

April 1975 • NEA-NM Advocate, pg. 11:  
**Anti-Teacher Legislation** The Association had to fight to defeat several pieces of legislation. 1) **SJR 11**, introduced by Sen. John Irick, which would have prohibited teachers from running for the legislature. 2) **HB 410**, introduced by Rep. Dan Berry, which would have prohibited school boards from paying an employee any of his paycheck while serving in the legislature. Both were soundly defeated by strong Association pressure. 3) **HB 266**, introduced by Rep. H.B. Barnard, which repeals the tenure law. Teachers from his district in Clovis sent him over 250 letters and telegrams saying what he should do with the bill. He never requested a committee hearing of the measure probably because Association lobbyists quickly secured more than enough votes to assure its demise. 4) The fourth bill was Senate Finance Committee substitute for SB 426 which listed those items which a public employee could have deducted from his paycheck. Association dues was not one of the items. The bill was tabled twice in the Senate and died there upon adjournment.

April 1986 • NEA-NM Advocate, pg. 1:  
**Council Issues Warning to U.S. Teachers** - *Warning: The State of New Mexico may be hazardous to your professional health.* That’s the essence of the message the NEA-New Mexico Delegate Council voted to share with the nation’s teachers as part of the business conducted during its spring meeting in Santa Fe March 22.

The Council passed the resolution to “inform the nation’s teachers of the current lack of statutory professional security and stature afforded teachers” in the state as a result of the passage of S.B. 106 - the education reform bill passed by the 1986 New Mexico Legislature which abolished teacher tenure and replaced it with a limited and confusing set of due process provisions. “Teachers need to know what happened in our state and how it will impact them professionally,” said President Mason.

March 1978 • NEA-NM Advocate, cover: President Watkins and Annadelle Sanchez, Administrative Assistant, admire ceramic apples presented to them by NEA Director, Catherine Smith, for outstanding service to NEA-NM.

March 1978 • NEA-NM Advocate, pg. 6: “We are Different!” caption: Stella Raught uses the Mastery Reading Approach.