President’s Message
Mary Parr-Sánchez

As 2019 speeds to a close, I have both happy and sad news to report. The happy news is that Charles Bowyer is retiring after a long and rewarding career. The sad news is that Charles Bowyer is retiring, and we will all miss his expertise and guidance. We have our good friend, former Tennessee President, and NEA Executive Committee member Dr. Earl Wiman to help us, as he has agreed to shepherd us through the transition period of hiring a new Executive Director.

We have shifted some of our folks around. Congratulations to Steve Sianez, who is our new Government Relations and NEA UniServ Director. We are interviewing to replace Steve as the SW UniServ Director. We will keep you all posted.

I have had to say goodbye to our friend and colleague, Ernestine Chavez: The Executive Director of NMPSIA. She has been an advocate for public school employees all her adult life. I will miss her more than I can say, but I will continue to honor her legacy of respect, dignity and compassion for all employees—especially employees who fall ill or on hard times.

I am filled with gratitude for all our hardworking educators around the state. I am humbled and honored to be your spokesperson in Santa Fe. I know how hard our work has been these past ten years, and I admire all of you who hung in there through the storms. I acknowledge how hard it is to stay working in a profession that so few people understand.

I ask: Are we ready to turn the page? Are we ready for a second chance? Rest and refresh over the winter break and give yourself permission to come back in 2020 and change the world. Let’s make 2020 the year where we get what we need, what our schools need, and what our students deserve. Onward…

Mensaje del Presidente
Mary Parr-Sánchez

A terminarse muy pronto el 2019, tengo buenas y tristes noticias que reportar. La buena noticia es que Charles Bowyer se retira después de una carrera larga y gratificante. La noticia triste es que Charles Bowyer se retira y vamos a extrañar sus conocimientos y buen guía. Tenemos a un buen amigo, el Expresidente del local de NEA Tennessee y miembro del comité ejecutivo de la NEA, el Dr. Earl Wiman, quien ha decidido ayudarnos con la transición de contratar a un nuevo Director Ejecutivo para NEA-NM.

También hemos hecho algunos cambios internos. Felicidades a Steve Sianez, quien ahora será nuestro nuevo Director de Relaciones de Gobierno y Uniserv Director del Noroeste. Estamos entrevistando para remplazar a Steve como Uniserv Director del Sureste. Nos mantendremos al tanto del cambio.

Tuve que decirle adiós a una amiga y colega, Ernestina Chávez: la Directora Ejecutiva de NMPSIA. Ernestina ha abogado por los trabajadores del sistema de educación pública por toda su vida adulta. La extrañaré más de lo que puedo describir, pero continuaremos honrando su legaica de respeto, dignidad y compasión por todos los empleados—especialmente aquellos que caen enfermos o atraviesan tiempos difíciles.

Estoy llena de gratitud por todos los incansables educadores del estado. Estoy humildemente honrada de ser su portavoz en Santa Fe. Se lo duro que ha sido nuestro trabajo en estos últimos diez años y admiro a todos los que han navegado las tormentas. Reconozco lo duro que es mantenerse en una profesión que tan poco entienden.

Me pregunto: ¿Estamos listos para darle vuelta a la página? Descansen, recobren fuerzas durante estas épocas navideñas y concedan permiso de regresar en el 2020 a cambiar el mundo. Hagámoslo del 2020 el año que tomemos lo que necesitamos, lo que nuestras escuelas necesitan y lo que nuestros estudiantes merecen. Adelante…

Save-the-Date:

Jan. 21, 2020
First Day of NM Legislature

Jan. 22, 2020
Annual Legislative Training
Inn at Loretto-Santa Fe

Jan. 22, 2020
Annual Legislative Reception
NEA-NM Headquarters Office

Jan. 24, 2020
NEA-NM Electronic Voting Begins

Feb. 14, 2020
NEA-NM Electronic Voting Ends

Feb. 20, 2020
Last Day of NM Legislature

Ernestine Chavez-Lucero Memoriam

Ernestine Chavez-Lucero was called home on Friday, November 22, 2019 after a short illness. She was born on July 30, 1961 in Las Cruces, NM to a large NM family where she was the youngest child.

Ernestine moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico to start her career in state government and raise her three beautiful children Desiree, Myles and Niomi. Richard Lucero and Ernestine Chavez were united in marriage in Aug. 2019 and were deeply committed to love and care for New Mexico educators in sickness and in health. She will be greatly loved and missed by many who had the honor of knowing her.

Ernestine leaves behind a legacy of love and deep commitment to her work which was to care for New Mexico educators in sickness and in health. She was greatly loved and missed by many who had the honor of knowing her.

Ernestine Chavez-Lucero was united in marriage in Aug. 2019 and was deeply committed to love and care for NMPSIA’s membership and her team.

Ernestine worked over 25 years at the New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority (NMPSIA) where she eventually became the first Latina Executive Director for the Agency. Everyone who knew Ernestine knew how passionate and driven she was about her work caring for New Mexico educators. She possessed an unprecedented work ethic and truly cared for NMPSIA’s membership and her team.

Ernestine leaves behind a legacy of love and deep commitment to her work which was to care for New Mexico educators in sickness and in health. She was greatly loved and missed by many who had the honor of knowing her.
The NEA-NM 2019 All-Member Election is underway. Following are the candidates for various positions. Elections will begin with online voting Friday, January 15, 2020. (all active members of a local in Central Region are eligible) January 10, 2020 (one candidate declared as write-in)

Central Region Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors, three-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (all active members of a local in Central Region are eligible)

- Andy D. Abraham, NEA Las Cruces (one candidate declared as write-in)

SW Region District 2 Ballot

Southwest Region Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors-Election District representing Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces, three-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (all active nonsupervisory members of a local in the Election District representing Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces are eligible)

- Antonio Garcia, NEA Las Cruces (one candidate declared as write-in)

NEA REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY DELEGATES

State Delegate to the 2020 NEA Representative Assembly (all active members are eligible)

(12 candidates eligible, including write-ins)

1. Lucille Martinez-Holguin, Espanola NEA
2. David Martinez, Jr., NEA West Las Vegas
3. Kate MacDermott, NEA Santa Fe
4. Natasha Martinez, NEA Las Cruces
5. Estrella Tolles, NEA Las Cruces
6. Diana Jacobo, NEA Silver Consolidated
7. Trish Ruiz, NEA Hobbs
8. Tamara Gabriel, Farmington EA
9. Kermit Wilson, NEA Las Cruces
10. Tammie Yazzie, Central Consolidated EA
11. Cherryn Lee, Central Consolidated EA
12. Charlene Tyler, Central Consolidated EA
13. Yvette M. Martinez, NEA Santa Fe
14. Nicole Baker, Farmington EA
15. Lisa Weinbaum, NEA Las Cruces
16. Melissa Nakai, Central Consolidated EA
17. Shannon Fakia, Central Consolidated EA
18. James Horvath, Farmington EA
19. Lisa Felix, Farmington EA
20. Nora Snyder, NEA Las Lunas
21. Bess Ruck, NEA Carlsbad
22. Cheryl Anne Font, NEA Santa Fe
23. Sherri Feinsher, NEA Las Lunas
24. Tessa Joslin, Farmington EA
25. Marcia Brown, CSEC-Las Cruces
26. Angela Mirabal, NEA Las Cruces
27. Beverly Whigles, NEA Las Cruces
28. Charity Cheung, NEA Deming
29. Michael Campbell, NEA West Las Vegas
30. Carlos Avila, NEA Las Cruces

State Category Two Delegate to the 2020 NEA Representative Assembly (all categories and members who are active supervisors, NEA Life members, NEA retired staff-Life members are eligible)

Dr. Miguel Serrano, NEA Las Cruces

One (1) candidate eligible, including write-in

CLUSTER DELEGATE BALLOT

Cluster Delegate to the 2020 NEA Representative Assembly (all active nonsupervisory members in locals of 75 or fewer members are eligible)

1. Shelby Padilla, NEA Raton
2. Sue Holland, NEA Raton

RETIRED BALLOT

Retired Delegate to the 2020 NEA Representative Assembly (only retired members eligible to nominate and be nominated) *

1. Eduardo Holguin, Rio Rancho
2. Rosalinda Carreon-Altimanino, Doña Ana
3. Mary Lou Cameron, Deming
4. Carol Teweleit, Alamogordo

The actual number of retired delegates and cluster delegates to be elected will be determined by the membership figures in each category as they exist on January 15, 2020. Student delegates to be elected will be determined by the membership figures in each category as they exist on March 16, 2020.

DECLARED ELECTED CANDIDATES

In accordance with Standing Rule 9, since only one candidate declared for these positions, these candidates were declared on November 1, 2019. The standing rule states, “If the number of candidates nominated, including write-in candidates, does not exceed the number of nominees in candidacy in accordance with timelines and procedures established by the Elections Committee equals the number of positions to be filled, the Board of Directors shall declare such candidates elected.”

REGION MEMBER OF THE NEA-NM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Central Region Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors, three-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (all active members of a local in Central Region are eligible)

Carleen Sefrit-Abeyta, NEA Belen

Northwest Region Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors, three-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (all active members of a local in Northwest Region are eligible)

Tammy Yazzie, Central Consolidated EA

Southwest Region Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors-Election District representing Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces, three-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (all active members of a local in Southwest Region outside Las Cruces eligible)

Denise Sheehan, NEA Las Cruces

REGION MEMBER OF THE NEA-NM EDPAC

Central Region Member the Education Political Action Committee-Election District, three-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (all active members of a local in Central Region are eligible)

Sandra Goldberg, NEA Belen

Northwest Region Member of the Education Political Action Committee, three-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (all active members of a local in Northwest Region are eligible)

Michael Moss, Central Consolidated EA

Southwest Region Member of the Education Political Action Committee-Election District representing Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces, three-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (all active members of a local in the Election District representing Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces are eligible)

Cheryl Carreon, NEA Las Cruces

Southwest Region Member of the Education Political Action Committee-Election District representing all Southwest Region locals except Las Cruces-CSEC and NEA-Las Cruces, three-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (all active members of a local in Southwest Region outside Las Cruces eligible)

Katrina Bustillos, Silver Consolidated EA

Southwest Region Member of the Education Political Action Committee-Election District, one-year term, commencing upon election through July 14, 2020 (all active members of a local in Southwest Region outside Las Cruces eligible)

Rosalinda Carreon-Altimanino, Doña Ana

Rosalinda Carreon-Altamirano, Doña Ana

NEA-FLOYD, NEA-FT. SUMNER, NEA-HONDO, HED-ENMU PORTALES, NEA-CARLSBAD, NEA-EUNICE, NE-HOBBES, NE-JAL, NE-LAVER, NE-DORA, NE-TATUM, and NE-TEDCO—are eligible

Trish Ruiz, NEA Hobbs

Southwest Region Member of the Education Political Action Committee-Election District, three-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (all active members of a local in Southwest Region-Election District 1 are eligible)

- NEA-FLOYD, NEA-FT, SUMMER, NEA-HONDO, HED-ENMU ROSELL, HED-NM MILITARY POST, NEA-RODEO, NEA-ATLAS, NEA-CINS, NEA-FLOYD, NEA-LAVER, NE-DORA, NE-TATUM, and NE-TEDCO—are eligible

Denise M. Dawson, Roswell EA

Member of the NEA-New Mexico Board of Directors, representing Retired Members, one-year term beginning July 15, 2020 (only retired members eligible to nominate and be nominated) 2020 two positions to be elected

Rosalinda Carreon-Altimanino, Doña Ana

Henry Gonzales, Albuquerque