I hope you survived the end of the most unusual school year in New Mexico’s history. Never has the state’s education or health care system faced the unprecedented challenges presented in early 2020. Schools across the state shut their doors to in-person learning and educators were thrust into a virtual learning environment overnight, many with little to no training or technology to fall back on. Other staff had to continue working at the schools - often in dangerous conditions in order to ensure that students have access to food and clean schools when they return.

After all that educators have been through this past year (and the past 8 years of an unfair teacher evaluation system that drove many out of the profession), we find ourselves facing a Special Legislative Session that could slash budgets for schools in the upcoming year. We were already facing a teacher shortage, a bus driver shortage, a substitute shortage and rising health care costs with diminishing benefits.

At first, I was lured into thinking that we didn’t really have a choice in the budget cuts that lie ahead, but the more I thought about it, the more I realized: ENOUGH!! Except for one year, last year, educators across all the professions have taken home less money than the year before - all the way back to 2008. Meanwhile, we have seen our students sink to the very bottom of the education and child well-being barrel. Sufficient school funding is the law and we can't let school budgets get the buzz saw.

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!

Mary Parr-Sanchez
President, NEA-New Mexico
President, New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority
cell: 575.571.3293
Your Voice Matters! Take Our Member Survey.

Please share your concerns around the re-opening of schools with NEA-NM. Our State President Mary Parr-Sanchez is serving on the Public Education Department’s Re-Opening Task Force. In order to better advocate for you and your concerns, please complete this brief NEA-NM survey.

A Call to Action for Special Session

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham has called for a special legislative session for June 18th to address the budget shortfalls our state is facing amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

We demand that our legislators stand with public education and make sure they fund our schools 100%. Our kids deserve it and the future of our state depends on it. Public education cuts do not heal.

Under the CARES Act, New Mexico will receive $107 million for K-12, $79 million for higher education, and $22 million for emergency education relief grants that the governor can distribute to schools, colleges, and universities that have been particularly affected by the virus and economic downturn.

Legislators, fund our schools 100% show students who you represent!

We need all hands on deck to make sure our legislators hear from us and fund our kids 100%.

Please join your fellow NEA-NM colleagues as we advocate for our students in this upcoming special session during the week of June 15th.

Join Us
Amid a collapse in state revenues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the crash in oil prices, New Mexico is facing an alarming budget shortfall.

In this upcoming special session, legislators should keep public schools as a top priority. We know school budget cuts hurt profoundly and never heal.

It is extremely important to exercise our power to vote in the primary elections. Let’s send a message to our legislators and make sure they understand we stand with true public education champions. Visit the one stop official site for all your NM voting information.

New Mexico Voting Information

NEA-NM Recommended Candidates

Register

The urgency for a collective voice to defend and advance gains for public education in New Mexico has never been greater. With a pandemic as a backdrop, school personnel will remain on the front lines in the Fall. NEA-NM is hosting a three-day Leadership Summit this June 17th to 19th, inviting all members to join us in organizing and meeting the challenges that lie ahead. This unique virtual setting will have a variety of breakout sessions, from professional development to how to grow and strengthen your Local, and more. Join, meet, and collaborate with colleagues from across the state! Your participation also ensures that our collective voice has the greatest impact on maintaining quality public schools and the students we serve.

NEA-NM Presents Our 2020 Summer Leadership Summit

Digital Learning

Click below for uploaded webinars which take place on Thursdays at 4:00 pm.

More Info

Putting Kids First • Promoting Professional Excellence • Improving the Well-Being of School Employees