

2. Racial and Social Equity

Email your State Senator and House Representative and tell them to fund education 100% and that the racial equity must be promoted and strengthened in NM schools. Use the email sample below and feel free to customize and share your personal story.

Step by Step

1. Copy the message (below or above) and paste into your email and customize by adding your personal story, then sign your name.
2. Use subject mentioned (below or above), “FundEd100%..”
3. Find your legislator here (use same link in the intro where it says “email your state senator..”)
4. Send email to designated legislator.

Subject: FundEd100% and promote and strengthen racial and social equity in NM schools

Dear Legislator,

The horrific killing of George Floyd is the latest flashpoint reminding the nation of the historical and contemporary trauma from racism. As the Black community confronts this pandemic, we are all challenged, as our Governor recently stated, to “seize this moment to have an essential discussion about racism and inequality and our inability to reckon with institutional racism, to acknowledge that those divides have never been brought together.” In this spirit, we urge you and your colleagues to honor the central roles school communities play to prevent, mitigate and offset the ills of racism and invest in them to strengthen this front.

This Fall, educators and school staff not only will be welcoming back students that share a collective trauma wrought by the Corona virus, they likely will be exposed to students with heightened concerns and confusion around themes of racial and social inequities. These inequities are laid bare during this health pandemic, as communities of color, particularly indigenous populations, experienced higher rates, infection, job loss and other socio-economic setbacks. Navigating these challenges will require increased investments in counseling and training for educators as they work with students.

The Martinez/Yazzie decision also speaks to the imperative of investment in schools to foster safer, multi-cultural spaces so that New Mexicans students can thrive. Additionally, NEA-NM has helped lead the way for the growth and development of community schools that offer wrap around services and supports to a wider school community.

As bedrocks of communities across the state, we urge you to FundEd100%, and stand with public education to work with students and families to give voice to transformative solutions that will bring about real change.

Racial Equity messaging

Call your legislator and tell him/her that Racial Equity must be promoted and strengthened in NM schools.

Talking points:

1. Educators have spent decades advocating to rectify vast inequities in school funding. We have a clear understanding and first-hand view of the problems our students and schools are facing. We cannot and will not back away from addressing the big issues our students and our members will face when they return to schools and classrooms.
2. Our reaction to this crisis must not only ensure that we don't leave our most vulnerable students behind, but that we also acknowledge and understand the nation's racial history and demand the closing of inequities for black and brown and low-income students.
3. The repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic are especially brutal for communities of color, indigenous populations, immigrants and women who face unique challenges, including access to public services like health care and paid sick leave.
4. In addition, immigrant communities and students are increasingly vulnerable, given the current anti-immigrant environment and fear that isolates these communities from services.
5. People of Color, indigenous populations, and immigrants are less likely to have the privilege of working from home and practicing social distancing during the crisis.
6. What impacts the health and strength of our communities, directly affects students and schools.
7. If we know local families of color lack internet access, we must design a phone option to augment videos viewable on phones or via public radio or television until the inequity has been addressed.
8. We must guard against racism by envisioning the racist impacts of potential implementation and designing policies to prevent them.
9. We must strive to be radically inclusive in all things. If that means including language translation equipment in a school's equipment list, or budgeting for translators as we plan for staff, or planning parent conferences around

unpredictable parent schedules since many families of color work in the service sector, we should do so.

Post any of the above messages on Social Media and use #FundEd100%