Message to Our Members at this Critical Juncture in School Reopening

I want you to know that the NMPED and Governor are making a pivot from the state controlling school reopening to more of a local control model. The Governor and NMPED are modeling that there is no one size fits all school reopening. Every school district can open k-12 schools at 50% capacity if that is what the community deems best starting February 8th, 2021. NEA-NM agreed to re-opening IF Districts met a checklist of safety indicators and IF the state has verified they are actually being met. There is also the condition that a District must work with their stakeholders, including unions, to determine what their plans are going to be and how multiple solutions may be implemented. There is no statewide plan and the EARLIEST schools can more fully open is February 8th for in-person learning. As an example, Districts can choose to remain in a virtual setting until all employees have received their vaccinations.

From NEA-NM over the next few weeks, you will be receiving more detailed information regarding employment issues including vaccinations, COVID safe practices enforcement, and reopening in general. There will also be a special virtual Townhall meeting for all members with NMPED Secretary Dr. Ryan Stewart on February 10th, 2021 at 5pm for one hour. Please register for this important event.

NEA-NM is here and ready to act with your local leaders and our staff to assist you in these safety protocols and reopening measures. We are dedicated to telling your story, reporting your district’s violation and problem solving with you as your local district makes reopening decisions. High-risk staff are still able to work remotely to protect themselves or their families. The juncture that we are faced with is about determining at the local level, what is good for the local community. Report safety violations to NEA-NM.

Please submit any questions you have for Dr. Stewart’s February 10th Townhall.

Thank you for your continued advocacy on behalf of New Mexico’s children

Mary Parr-Sánchez
President, NEA-New Mexico
Austerity Won't Help New Mexico's Children

The coronavirus pandemic has put in stark reality the essential function of our public schools and the absolutely critical roles they play in the overall life and well-being of our students and their communities.

Read more

Extended Learning Could be Mandated and More..

The 55th Legislature is in full swing. Public school bills are moving fast and we are working diligently to keep track of these bills and make sure we either support or defeat them. This week Senate Bill 40, a bill that mandates Extended Learning and K5 Plus, passed the Senate Education Committee. The bill, sponsored by Senator Mimi Stewart circumvents the fundamental principle of including educator and community voice in the implementation of these programs. For this reason, we stand against it. Read more about this bill and others and join us in making sure we stand together for our students in this legislative session.

Read more

Electronic Voting is Now Active!

Postcards and emails with instructions for electronic voting were mailed this morning, to eligible member voters, including retired members eligible to vote for delegate and retired member of the board of directors and EdPAC. During the voting process and if you have questions or require assistance with obtaining your “Election Code” and “Voting Pin,” you may contact one of the following NEA-NM staff members at (505) 982-1916, between the hours of 7:45 am–5 pm, Monday through Friday.

Vote Now
Update your Membership Information!

Life happens! We move, create new emails, change phone numbers and more. But it’s more important than ever to stay connected to get the latest updates from NEA-New Mexico on the impacts of COVID-19 on schools, legislative happenings, professional supports, advocacy and more.

An email will be sent to all NEA-NM members in early to mid-February requesting a review of contact information so be on the lookout.

Watch for Your Chance to Win!

Upon receiving and verifying your contact information prior to midnight on February 26th, you will be entered to win a random drawing for one of ten $50 gift cards! Prizes will be announced by March 10th to direct email and awarded thereafter.

Invitation to Free Virtual Poverty Conference

One of our great state affiliate partners, the South Dakota Education Association, would like to invite you to participate in a free virtual poverty conference featuring national poverty expert Dr. Donna Beegle. Dr. Beegle is providing this webinar on February 3rd and then offering three additional sessions on February 6th.

There is a much deeper description at each registration link.

Wednesday, February 3, 2021: Join us at 5pm MST for a 90 minute introduction to national poverty expert Dr. Donna Beegle and her wisdom on reaching students living in poverty. This session focuses on special problems in education that have arisen as a result of Covid-19, but is a prelude to three additional sessions occurring on Feb. 6th.

Saturday, February 6, 2021: Dr. Donna Beegle continues her acclaimed training in three additional 90-minute sessions between 9am and 3pm MST. Designed to provide the foundation for understanding poverty along with practical, usable tools that allow for immediate action, Dr. Beegle engages the audience with activities and breakout discussions to allow for a deeper dive into how we can make a difference for students and families who live in the crisis of poverty.

(Choose a CEU or graduate credit option at registration. The credit option requires attending the Feb. 3 session, so make sure to register for both.)

Register for February 3, 2021  Register for February 6, 2021
Financial Essentials - Know the Basics and Start Your Journey Today

Have you ever wondered about how your state pension actually works? Learn more about the various plans, the decisions you need to make, how together that will impact you both today and in retirement. Do not leave your future on autopilot! Take advantage of your NEA-NM member benefits and manage your financial security starting now. Regardless of how far away or close retirement may seem, this workshop will help you feel better about what’s around the next corner. This workshop includes:

• Why you need private savings in addition to your state pension
• Your options for retirement savings and why they matter
• What you can do to plan for an enjoyable retirement

The session is scheduled for February 17th from 5-6pm and will be hosted by NEA Member Benefits Affiliate Relations Specialist Antonio Galindo and Security Benefits.

RSVP Here

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