

# NEW MEXICO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

## 2020 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



Presented to  
**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE**

**ARLAN PONDER, PRESIDENT**  
**JOE GUILLEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Wednesday, December 18, 2019**  
**Santa Fe, New Mexico**

### **About NMSBA...**

#### **Vision**

The New Mexico School Boards Association aspires to be recognized as the premier source of development and support for local boards of education in New Mexico. The NMSBA will be known as the leading advocate for local boards in their role of insuring that all students will graduate from New Mexico high schools prepared for a quality life and committed to improving society.

#### **Mission**

The New Mexico School Boards Association is the member organization for all of New Mexico's school boards to support their efforts in providing a quality education for all students of New Mexico. The NMSBA serves its members through:

- \*Commitment to local decision making
- \*Advocacy at the state and federal level for commonly held needs
- \*Leadership development services and training for local school boards
- \*Collaboration with community, elected officials and other educational organizations

*Celebrating over 60 years of service to New Mexico's School Boards*



## **NEW MEXICO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION 2019-2020**

### **STATE OFFICERS**

Arlan Ponder, President – Cloudcroft

Olivia Calabaza, President-Elect – Bernalillo

Marvyn Jaramillo, Vice-President – Mesa Vista

Dymorie Maker – Secretary Treasurer - Lovington

Pauline Jaramillo, Immediate Past-President – Socorro

### **RESOLUTIONS & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Arlan Ponder, Chair – Cloudcroft

- Barbara Petersen - Albuquerque
- Olivia Calabaza - Bernalillo
- Frank Cordova - Cobre
- Ralph “Toy” Sepulveda - Cobre
- Bayne Anderson - Deming
- Levi Pesata - Dulce
- Robyn Hoffman - Farmington
- Sharon West - Fort Sumner
- Jennifer Viramontes - Gadsden
- Laura Salazar-Flores - Gadsden
- Gloria Lovato-Pacheco - Las Vegas
- Tom Humble - Logan
- Dymorie Maker - Lovington
- Mara Salcido-Alcantar - Lovington
- Marvyn Jaramillo - Mesa Vista
- Mary Trujillo-Mascareñas - Penasco
- Sharon Dogruel - Pojoaque
- Inez Rodriguez - Portales
- Marcella Sisneros – Santa Rosa
- Ramon Montano – Rio Rancho
- Mona Kirk - Roswell
- Shane Holder - Ruidoso
- Linda Montoya – West Las Vegas
- Stephanie Vicente - Zuni



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### INTRODUCTION

The mission of the New Mexico School Boards Association (NMSBA), as an advocate for public education, is to provide leadership and services that enable local boards of education to govern effectively. Through NMSBA, local boards of education are involved in the legislative process to achieve needed school and program reforms. Each of these efforts is focused on the goal that every student is entitled to a free and quality public education.

Every year, NMSBA initiates a legislative process that enables local school boards to express their opinions on current educational issues. These opinions are collected through a resolutions development process. Following a comprehensive analysis of all resolutions, the NMSBA Resolutions and Legislative Committee recommends legislative priorities to the membership for adoption. At the recent NMSBA Annual Convention, the 2020 Legislative Priorities were adopted and now represent the collective voice of New Mexico's 89 school boards and over 450 school board members.

The 2020 New Mexico Legislative Session will be a challenging 30 days with many important issues to deal with. We trust our Legislative Priorities will be carefully considered by New Mexico's Legislative and Executive Leaders.

### GUIDING PRINCIPALS

In analyzing legislative proposals in the interim and during the legislative session NMSBA uses three guiding principles:

- **Unfunded Mandates**  
NMSBA opposes legislation that mandates public schools to implement new programs or initiatives without providing the necessary financial resources. NMSBA will continue to advocate for funding for unfunded mandates that currently exist.
- **Local Control**  
One of the important components of a successful public education system is local decision-making. NMSBA believes that decision making at the district level must be preserved and expanded and opposes any legislation that attempts to diminish or take away this authority.
- **Adequate Funding**  
NMSBA believes funding for public schools, which is the primary responsibility of the state, should be increased to a level that assures every student will receive an adequate education based on their needs. Funds should be appropriated in a manner that preserves the ability of school boards to allocate funds within their districts based on the diverse needs of their students and communities.

## 2020 NMSBA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

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NMSBA's top priorities are focused on providing the best education possible for students, increasing achievement and implementing quality learning programs and best practices.

1. ***SEG SUFFICIENCY FUNDING:*** NMSBA supports increased funding, resources, flexibility and the accountability necessary to comply with the Martinez/Yazzie Court Ruling which calls on public schools to remedy identified deficiencies and create positive educational experiences and improved outcomes for all of our students.
  2. ***EARLY CHILDHOOD/PRE-K FUNDING:*** NMSBA fully understands the need for and supports a comprehensive, well-aligned education system that begins with early childhood education and prepares students for success in higher education or in a career pathway. NMSBA supports full funding for all day pre-school, half-day preschool for 3-year olds and K-3 Plus initiatives including operations, facility and transportation costs.
  3. ***TEACHER RECRUITMENT, RETENTION AND PREPARATION:*** NMSBA supports legislation to increase salaries for teachers and public school employees as well as allowing retiring teachers to return to work immediately without penalty in order to address shortages. NMSBA also supports initiatives to expand and improve teacher preparation programs including grow your own initiatives.
  4. ***SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY:*** NMSBA supports funding for improved school safety and security including capital improvements and equipment; staff training; behavioral, emotional and mental health services and counseling; student well-being and restorative justice programs and improved cybersecurity in our schools.
  5. ***CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION:*** NMSBA supports funding and legislation to establish career and technical pathways in our schools as well as financial assistance and job opportunities that lead to high-skill, high-wage and in-demand careers for our students.
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# NEW MEXICO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

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December 18, 2019

To: Honorable Legislative Education Study Committee Members

From:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Guillen, NMSBA Executive Director

Subject: Invitation to NMSBA Events January 23 & 24, 2020

On behalf of the New Mexico School Boards Association (NMSBA) it is our pleasure to invite you to join us for two special events we are conducting in conjunction with the 2020 NMSBA Board Institute which focuses on professional development for New Mexico's elected school board members.

I am New Mexico Public Schools/School Board Appreciation Day Press Conference

10:00 a.m., Thursday, January 23, 2020

State Capitol Rotunda

Please join us as we celebrate "I am New Mexico Public Schools" a statewide campaign to promote the effectiveness of public schools, focus attention on our numerous accomplishments as well as the need to adequately fund public education. This year we are also recognizing the key role school boards play in public schools across New Mexico.

Legislative Appreciation Breakfast

7:00-8:00 a.m., Friday, January 24, 2020

Eldorado Hotel, Santa Fe

Please join us for a special breakfast to honor House and Senate Education Committee members which precedes the opening general session of the NMSBA Board Institute. We expect to have approximately 350 school board members and superintendents present and would be honored with your presence at the pre-conference breakfast.

You will be allowed time to briefly address those in attendance at each event if you so desire. Please RSVP at your convenience by calling Lorraine Vigil, NMSBA Program Director at 983-5041.

Thank you for your outstanding leadership and commitment to improving public education in New Mexico.

**Arlan Ponder**  
*President*

**Olivia Calabaza**  
*President-Elect*

**Marvyn Jaramillo**  
*Vice-President*

**Dymorie Maker**  
*Secretary-Treasurer*

**Pauline Jaramillo**  
*Past-President*