



NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

VISION

All students and families residing in New Mexico, regardless of background or circumstance, will experience equitable access to a diverse array of innovative, high-quality public schools, where students will learn, thrive and realize their full potential.

MISSION

Authorize and support public charter schools for innovative, equitable, choice-driven education where all New Mexico students learn and thrive.

VALUES

Our Values set the tone for how we operate and how we expect NM state authorized charter schools to operate and communicate with us and their communities.

- **Transparency** - Maintaining open communication with stakeholders and promoting a culture of openness by displaying a clear understanding of the how and why decisions, expectations, processes, protocols and actions are made.
- **Consistency** - Cultivating uniformity in processes and decisions, with a commitment to fostering an environment defined by, trust, predictability, and best practices.
- **Respect** - Upholding a culture of dignity and consideration for every individual, school, community, and all applicable laws with diligence toward honoring and understanding the schools in our portfolio.
- **Student-centered Excellence** - Prioritizing and supporting the success, growth, and well-being of every New Mexico state authorized charter school student through a culture of continuous improvement and high standards and expectations.
- **Equity & Inclusion** - Ensuring every student has access and opportunity to a quality education by advocating for state authorized charter schools to have all the resources, funds, and supports to enroll, educate and support every student irrespective of their race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, gender, or ability.



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PEC'S ROLE

The PEC includes 10 independently elected members, each serving four-year terms across New Mexico's geographic districts. We focus on expanding access to high-quality, innovative and equitable public education. Our role is to ensure that charter schools serve all students well—academically, financially and organizationally—while offering New Mexico families diverse and accessible public school choices.

Unlike districts or PED, the PEC's sole responsibility is charter authorization. We approve schools, monitor performance and intervene when needed to protect students and public trust.

KEY AUTHORIZING CYCLES

APPLICATION & RENEWAL PROCESS

New Application Process

- Clear, criteria-based rubrics aligned to: community need, academic model, financial sustainability & governance readiness
- Structured review timelines
- Formal community input and PEC hearings

Renewal Process

- Full performance evaluation every 5 years (including all annual report information)
- Includes academic trends, site visits, organizational & financial health
- Staff recommendations reviewed and final decision by PEC in public meetings

ACCOUNTABILITY MODEL

Annual Performance Reports

- Evaluate academic outcomes (with attention to subgroup growth), financial viability, alignment w/mission-specific goals & compliance with governance standards.
- Issued annually and made public (improved public dashboard planned)

Renewal Cycle Oversight

- Focuses on multi-year performance trends
- Informs renewal decisions based on holistic performance and impact

LADDER OF INTERVENTION

Ensures early identification, responsive support, and decisive action when needed. Tiered response system for red flags or emergency conditions:

- **Tier 1: Annual Reports and Monitoring**
- **Tier 2: Notice of Concern**
- **Tier 3: Notice of Breach**
- **Emergency Protocol:** Immediate PEC response to financial, legal, or safety risks

DUAL ACCOUNTABILITY STRUCTURE

Charter schools must meet both traditional public school standards and charter-specific performance expectations.

- **Public Education Department Requirements:** Academic outcomes, graduation standards, educator evaluation, and financial reporting
- **Additional Charter-Specific Oversight:** Charter Schools Act and PEC Performance Framework around mission fidelity, governance, and renewal benchmarks



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PEC PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

Each year, every school receives a public evaluation of their academic, financial and organizational performance to promote improvement, set clear expectations, and document results per PEC rule NMAC 6.2.9.11.

These evaluations inform PEC decision-making, provide transparency to the public, and offer schools a clear view of their strengths and areas for growth.

OVERVIEW

Framework	Category	Performance Indicator
Academic	State Accountability System	1.A. State Accountability System
		1.B. Outcomes for Special Student Groups
		1.C. Participation Rate
	School-Specific	2.A. Mission Goal
		2.B. Education Program Implementation
		2.C. Conducive Learning Culture
Organizational	Governing Body Membership, Training, and Responsibilities	3.A.1. Membership
		3.A.2. Training
		3.A.3. Meeting Transparency and Documentation
	Equitable Enrollment Process	3.B. Non-discriminatory enrollment process
	Compliance with Legal Requirements	3.C. Annual Compliance Requirements
Financial	Financial Health	4.A. Days Cash on Hand
		4.B. Annual Financial Audit
		4.C. Financial Reporting and Compliance
		4.D. Fiscal Oversight
		4.E. Enrollment Variance

INNOVATION IN AUTHORIZING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

For each performance indicator, the PEC has determined the performance measure and performance criteria. For 1.A. and 1.B. in the Academic Framework, the PEC has embedded school choice in selecting performance measures. This provides flexibility for a school to demonstrate academic performance that is directly aligned with its mission, vision, and educational program and meets the needs of its families.

In response to the the Martinez/Yazzie lawsuit, through 1.B., the PEC also reviews achievement gaps in academic growth between student subgroups in each charter school.