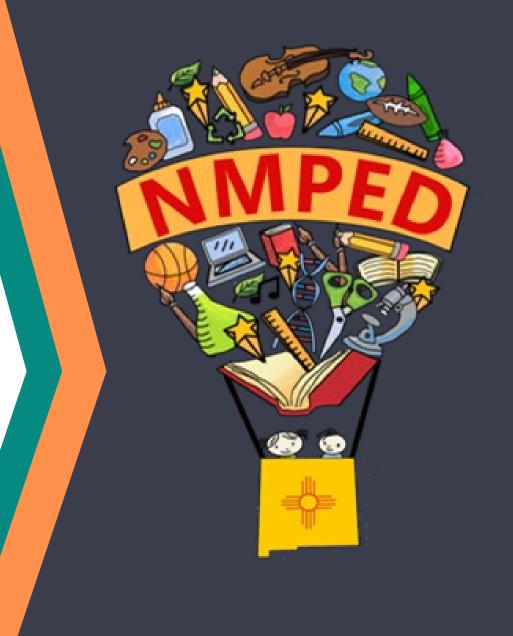
*Presentation for the Legislative Education Study Committee* 

# School Attendance and Chronic Absence

Gregory Frostad, Assistant Secretary Office of Policy, Research, and Technology Public Education Department

November 16, 2023

Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.



### By the Numbers

#### Statewide Attendance Figures

| School Year | Chronic Absentee Rate | Average Excused Absences per Student | Average Unexcused Absences per Student |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 2022-23     | 39 percent            | 8                                    | 10                                     |
| 2021-22     | 40 percent            | 8                                    | 11                                     |
| 2020-21     | 30 percent            | 4                                    | 11                                     |
| 2019-20     | 16 percent            | 4                                    | 4                                      |
| 2018-19     | 18 percent            | 5                                    | 5                                      |

\*Source: PED Annual State, District and Schools Attendance Report

# **Attendance for Success Act**

- Requires early identification
- Determines chronic absenteeism rate
- Provides guidance for reporting to the Children, Youth, and Families Department for excessive absenteeism
- Requires schools to report attendance improvement strategies
- Requires district reporting of student absences and intervention efforts



# **Attendance Funding**



One full time employee position for an attendance coordinator

#### \$5M in funding:

- District implementation of attendance initiatives
- Statewide attendance initiatives
- Attendance media campaign
- Leadership development to implement initiatives
- Schools identified as in need of improvement to implement initiatives

# **Improving Attendance in Schools**

- Attendance dashboard
- Individualized student attendance plan
- District and school improvement plan
- Class period attendance



### **Attendance Dashboard**

 Attendance Report: <u>Annual State, Districts and Schools Attendance Report – New Mexico</u> <u>Public Education Department</u>

STUDENTS V

EDUCATORS ~

FAMILIES/COMMUNITIES ~



#### ANNUAL STATE, DISTRICTS AND SCHOOLS ATTENDANCE REPORT

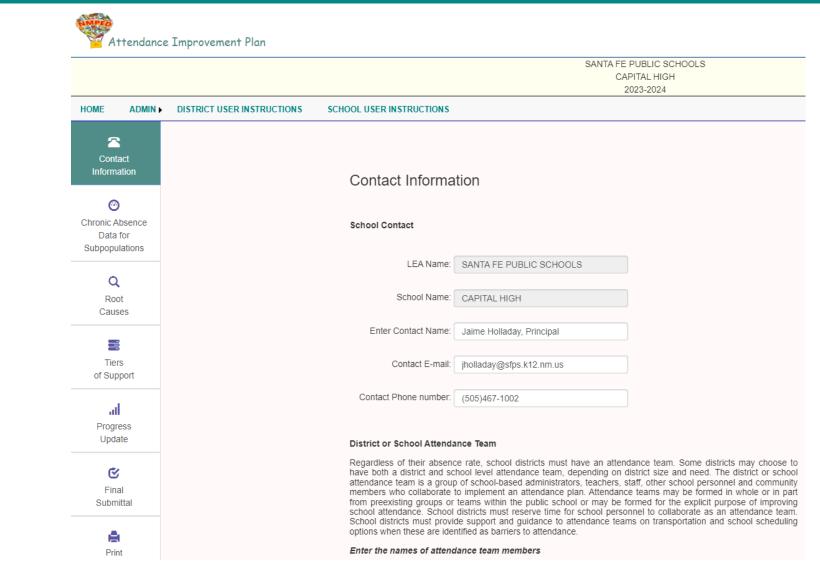
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### **Attendance Improvement Plan**



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# School Plan

PED Home (state.nm.us)

# **Potential Policy Needs and Resources**



- Continued support for statewide attendance initiatives
- Funding for schools to implement the Attendance for Success Act
- Funding for behavioral health initiatives and restorative practices to eliminate exclusionary practices
- Legislation to focus attendance interventions and reduce administrative burden

# Questions

