

**LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS**

Bill No: SB 259

48th Legislature, 2nd Session, 2008

Short Title: ENMU Professional Development Schools

Sponsor(s): Senator Carroll H. Leavell and Others

Analyst: Eilani Gerstner

Date: January 24, 2008

Bill Summary:

SB 259 appropriates funds to the Board of Regents of Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU) to create a consortium for professional development schools.

Fiscal Impact:

\$165,000 is appropriated from the General Fund for expenditure in FY 09 and subsequent fiscal years. SB 259 does not contain a reversion clause.

The Higher Education Department (HED) analysis notes that this program is not included in HED's FY 09 funding recommendations.

According to ENMU, if provided on a recurring basis, the funding would be allocated as follows:

- \$30,000 for technology and facility needs at each of five professional development school sites, totaling \$150,000; and
- \$1,500 stipends to each of two coordinators at each of the five sites, for a total of \$15,000.

Issues:

According to the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, professional development schools:

- are institutions formed through partnerships between teacher education programs and P-12 schools that provide teacher candidates with an intense clinical preparation in a real-world setting, similar to the experience teaching hospitals provide medical interns and nurses; and
- have a four-fold mission: the preparation of new teachers, faculty development, inquiry directed at the improvement of teaching practice, and enhanced student achievement.

According to ENMU:

- The funding would allow the College of Education and Technology to expand partnerships at La Casita Elementary in Clovis, the Child Development Center Lab School at ENMU in Portales, and Portales High School, which would provide more clinical experience for bilingual and special education teacher candidates.

- The College of Education and Technology currently operates two other professional development school sites through partnerships with James Elementary in Portales and Monterrey Elementary in Roswell.
- The expansion would include increased integration of technology at each of the five sites.
- In the professional development school partnerships, ENMU students practice teaching methods with experienced public school teachers, and teachers are exposed to recent research in learning practices through collaboration with university faculty.

A related bill, noted below, appropriates funds to ENMU to establish and operate professional development schools associated with the College of Education and Technology.

Related Bill:

HB 59 *ENMU Professional Development Schools*