

Planning, Implementation,
Transformation, and Sustainability

Moving Community Schools Forward

A Presentation to the NM LESC



01

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

The Community Schools Act; the Purpose and Strategy of Community Schools; the Martinez and Yazzie Consolidated Lawsuit.



02

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

The Growth of Community Schools in NM; the Formation of the NM Coalition for Community Schools.



03

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

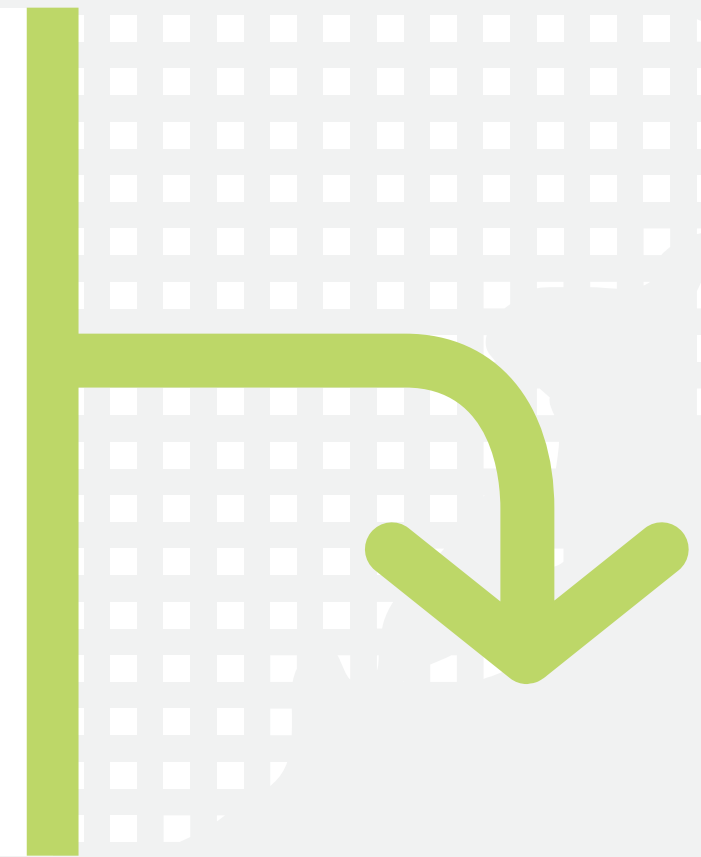
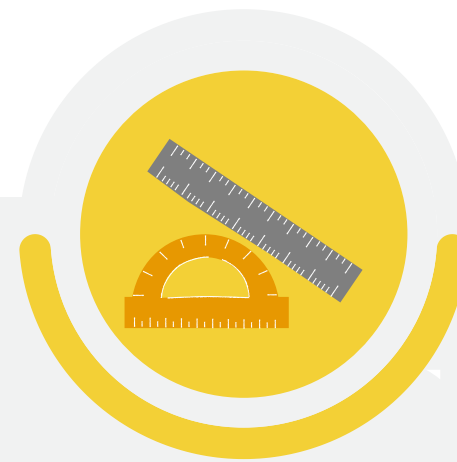
The Need to Scale, Support, and Sustain.



01

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

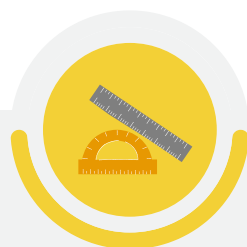
The Community Schools Act, the Purpose and Strategy of Community Schools, the Martinez and Yazzie Consolidated Lawsuit



01

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

The Community Schools Act and the Purpose of Community Schools



The Community Schools Act was first passed in 2013 then amended in 2019 to align with national research and best practice and to create a grant program managed by NMPED. Its purpose is to "provide well-rounded educational opportunities and supports for student success in New Mexico" (Community Schools Act, Ch. 22, Art. 32, NMSA 1978).

“

Community schools [are] an evidence-based approach that can help the state improve the educational success of New Mexico children. National research finds that, when well-designed and fully implemented, community schools **increase student success and reduce gaps in both opportunity and achievement** (LPI NM Report).

”



01

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

The Community School Strategy



Community School Strategy

A community school is a locally driven school transformation strategy that promotes child well-being. Community schools leverage and coordinate the resources of the whole community to build a thriving school for students, families, school staff (including educators), and community partners.

1

INTEGRATED
SYSTEMS OF
SUPPORT



2

EXPANDED,
ENRICHED
LEARNING
OPPORTUNITIES



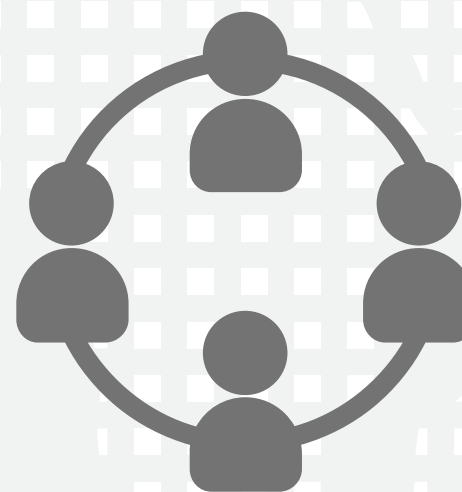
3

EMPOWERING
STUDENT AND
FAMILY
ENGAGEMENT



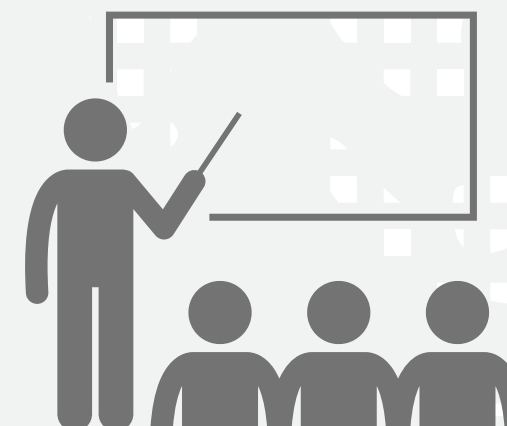
4

COLLABORATIVE
LEADERSHIP,
SHARED POWER
AND VOICE



5

RIGOROUS
COMMUNITY-
CONNECTED
CLASSROOM
INSTRUCTION



6

CULTURE OF
BELONGING,
SAFETY AND CARE



Community Schools are more than:

A Grant Program

Programs and Wrap-Around
Services

An Experiment

External Partnerships

Community Schools are:

A locally driven school transformation strategy
that promotes child well-being

A system that ensures the right students/families
have access to the right support at the right time

An evidence-based approach that is driven by
local voice

Rigorous community-connected classroom
instruction – culturally and linguistically responsive

"COMMUNITY SCHOOLS IN ACTION"



WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

The Community School Strategy is the delivery mechanism to meet the requirements of Judge Singleton's ruling



How does the Community School Strategy address the findings of the Martinez and Yazzie Consolidated Lawsuit?

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

The Community School Strategy is the delivery mechanism to meet the requirements of Judge Singleton's ruling.



01

Community School Strategies

Integrated Systems of Support

Expanded, Enriched Learning Opportunities

Empowering Student & Family Engagement; Culture of Belonging, Safety & Care

Rigorous Community Connected Classroom Instruction

Martinez Yazzie Findings

Insufficient resources for counselors, social workers and other non-instructional staff

Limited access to quality prekindergarten

Failure to develop culturally-relevant curriculum and instructional material

Limited access to research-based reading programs and adequate, culturally-relevant instructional materials

Martinez Yazzie Findings

Inadequate funding for at-risk student and English language learners

Limited access to afterschool, summer school, and extended learning time programs

If school factors support and strengthen students' cultural and ethnic identities, student achievement tends to benefit

Insufficient access to highly effective teachers, particularly in schools serving the most at-risk students



WHERE ARE WE NOW?

The Growth of Community Schools in NM; The Formation of the NM Coalition for Community Schools.



Growth of Community Schools in New Mexico



Growth from
2019 to
2022



NMPED Funded
Community
Schools
(69 total in
FY 2023)

Community
Schools with
other funding

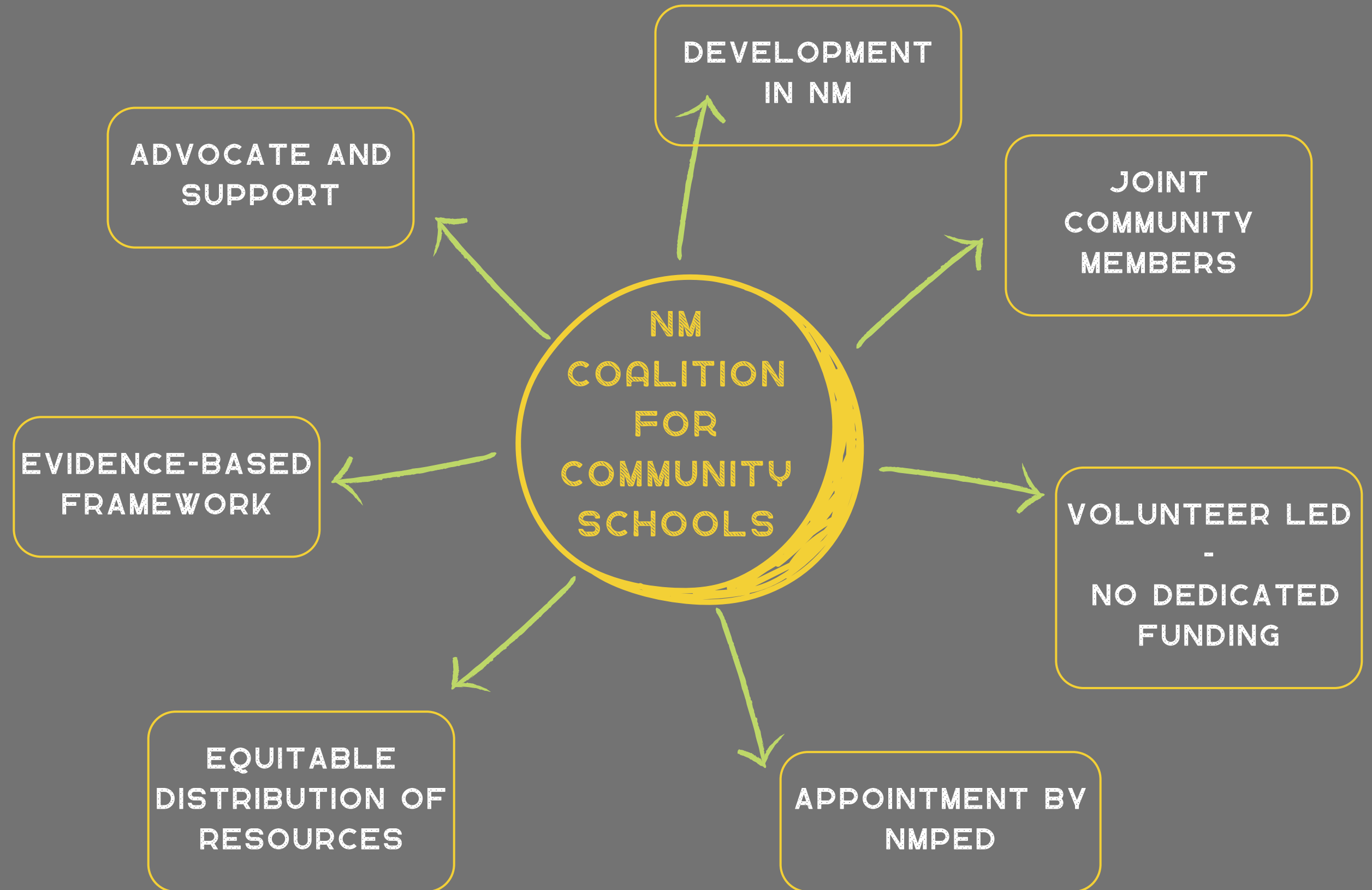
Creation of
Statewide
Coalition for
Community
Schools

The formation of the NM Coalition for Community Schools



The formation of a NMPED appointed Coalition is called for in the Community Schools Act, allowing for collaboration across statewide systems, initiatives, and networks. The Coalition members currently function as ad hoc volunteers with no dedicated funding.

The New Mexico Coalition for Community Schools






Cindy Solis
21st Community Learning Centers




Julia Bergen
Communities In Schools



Mary Parr-Sanchez
National Education Association




Dr. Angelo Gonzales
NMPED




Curtis Chavez
Keres Children's Learning Center



Crystal Ybarra
Santa Fe Public Schools



Chuck Charleston
Native American Community Academy



Nancy Rodriquez
New Mexico Alliance for School-Based Health Care



Danette Townsend
ABC Community School Partnership



Bryan Garcia
Albuquerque Public Schools




Shawn Morris
RFK Charter School



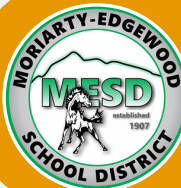
Whitney Holland
American Federation of Teachers




May Sagbakken
New Mexico Out of School Time Network




Dr. Marjori Krebs
University of New Mexico




Natalie Geoffrey; Romero Moon
Moriarty-Edgewood School District



Cheryl Carreon
CommunityShare




Dr. Aine Garcia-Post; Brenda Ballard
Las Cruces Public Schools




Sylvia Chavez
Resilience Leaders of Dona Ana County



Dr. Jeannie Oakes



Timothy Hand
Anna, Age Eight Institute



Johnny Abeyta
Academia Dolores Huerta Boys & Girls Club

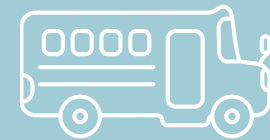


Paula Oxoby-Hayett
Taos Municipal Schools

03

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

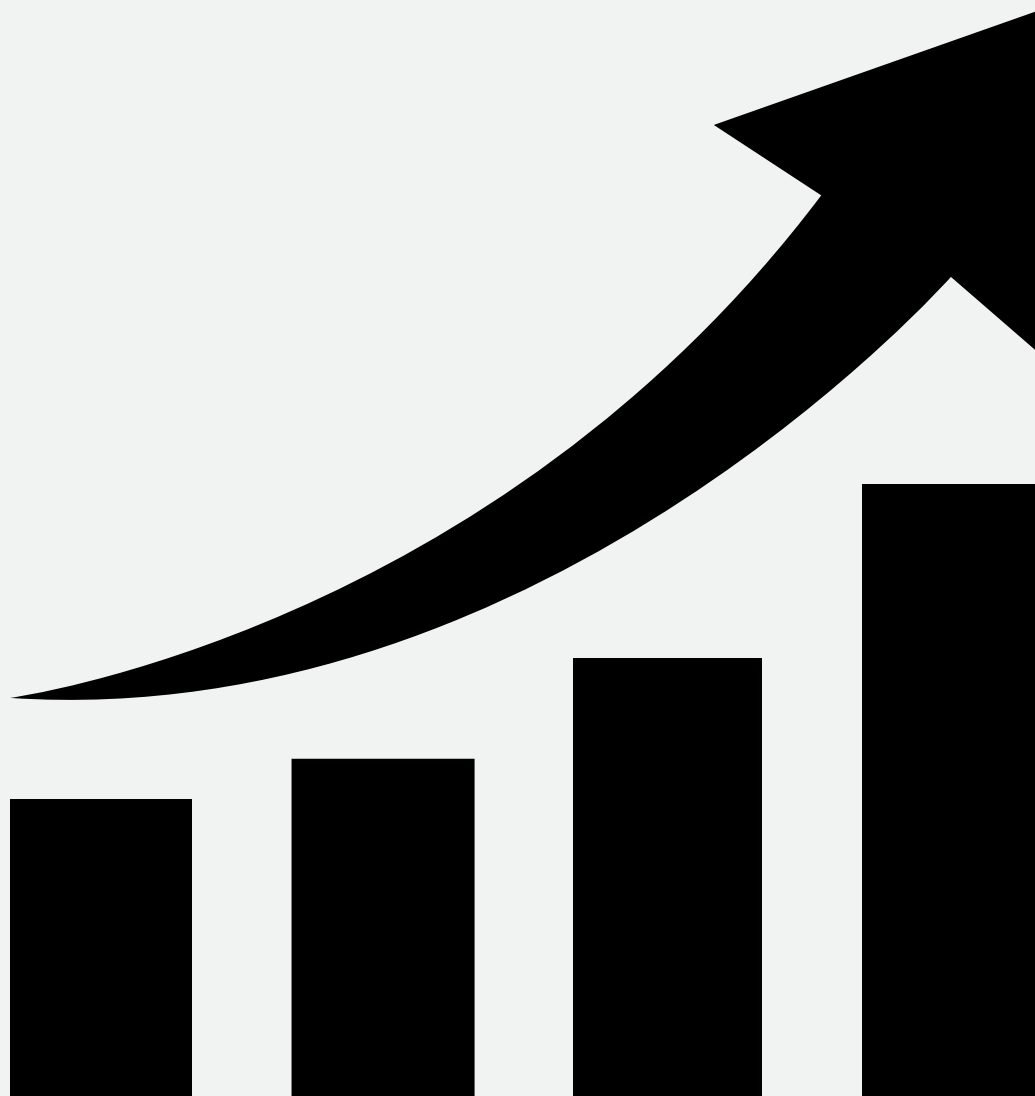
The Need to Scale, Support, and Sustain



03

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

The need to fully implement
the community school strategy



— “ —

[In NM], Community Schools that had been in operation for more than 5 years and that had **fully implemented** the pillars showed better-than-average growth in student achievement scores.

(Learning Policy Institute Report "Community Schools the New Mexico Way")

— ” —

03

WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Impact of supporting full implementation



Findings from a 2015-2018 study in NYC indicate that **community schools with full implementation** show overwhelming evidence for a positive impact on student outcomes when compared to non-community schools.

(RAND study)



Community School fully implementing the strategy



graduation rates

reduction in disciplinary incidents



on-time grade progression



credit accumulation



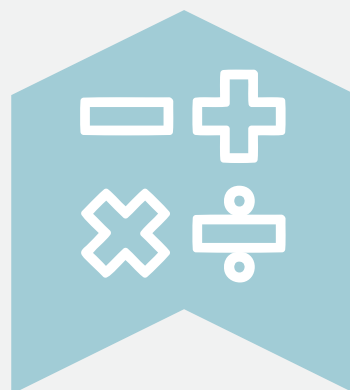
student attendance



students' sense of connectedness



math achievement



WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Addressing current challenges to full implementation of the Community Schools strategy in NM



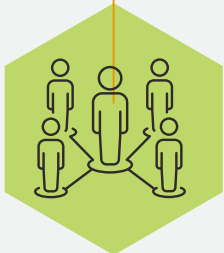
There is a need to scale, support, and sustain full implementation of the Community School strategy in NM. Sustainable funding, capacity building, evaluation for continuous improvement, and developing statewide tools for full school transformation are identified opportunities.

Challenges to Full Implementation in NM Community Schools

01

Sustainable Funding

Need for sustainable funding to support continuity of implementation at the school level



02

Capacity

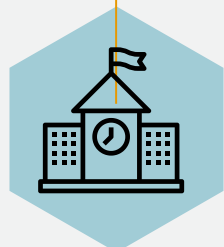
Capacity at all levels – schoolwide and learning development for community school leaders



03

Evaluation & Continuous Improvement

Need for rigorous evaluation of community schools that is based on statewide critical practice



04

Silver Bullet Approaches to School Transformation

Education reform efforts typically lean on silver bullet, one-size-fits-all approaches while community schools value local wisdom and require shared leadership



WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Recommendations from LPI
and local organizations



In the longer term, the state [of NM] can adopt policies and make new investments that enable all of New Mexico's highest-poverty schools to become comprehensive community schools ([LPI NM Report](#)).

Collaborative, local voice to seek opportunities for NM community schools full implementation



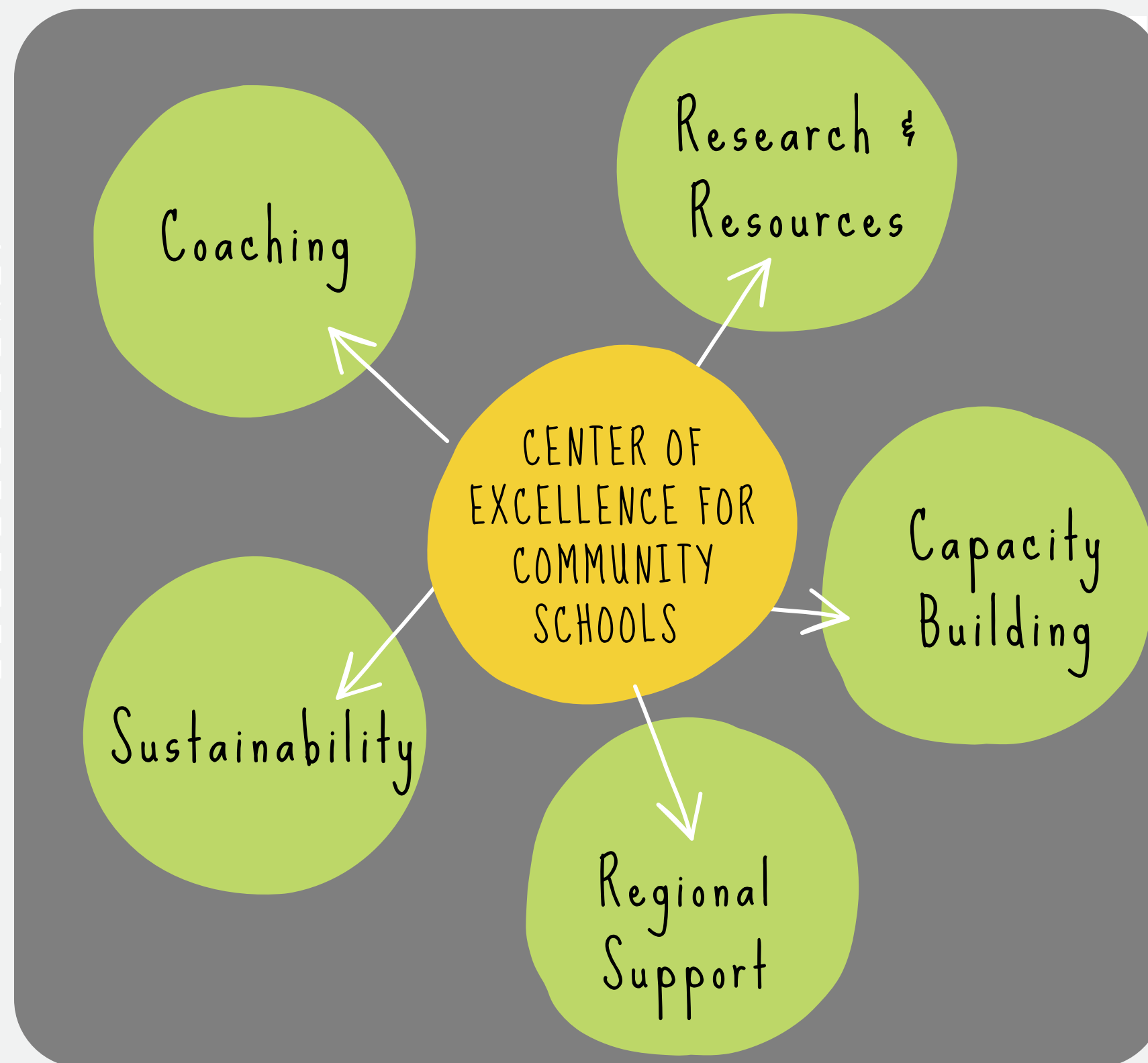
NM
COALITION
FOR
COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

Statewide
Technical
Assistance

WHERE WE ARE GOING

**Center of Excellence for
Community Schools****Center of
Excellence for
Community
Schools in NM
(COECS)**

The Center of Excellence will provide the tools needed to mitigate the challenges currently not being met in the requirements of the Community School Act and support full implementation of the community school strategy statewide.



03

WHERE WE ARE GOING
**Financial sustainability for
technical assistance**



Policy Request

Braided and diverse funding for technical assistance and development to support transformation of NM public schools



BELOW THE LINE APPROPRIATION TO PED



Increase funding to \$11.5M with funding set aside; 3% Admin, 7% Technical Assistance



PUBLIC EDUCATION REFORM FUND

\$20M appropriated into the community school fund with purposes under the community schools act expanded to include technical assistance

ESTABLISH A MULTIPLIER THROUGH SEG



1 year pilot program – one-time funding for 5th year schools for technical assistance and certification support. Pilots a sustainable funding source for schools meeting certification requirements in the future.

Sources:

“Community Schools Statute, CH. 22, ART. 32 NMSA 1978

<https://nmlegis.gov/Sessions/19%20Regular/final/HB0589.pdf>

“New Mexico Community Schools Report”, LPI

<https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/product/new-mexico-community-schools-report>

“Community Schools Evidence”, LPI

https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/sites/default/files/productfiles/Community_Schools_Evidence_Based_Strategy_BRIEF.pdf

“Technical Assistance for Community Schools: Enabling Strong Implementation,” LPI

<https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/product/technical-assistance-community-schools-brief>

“Community Schools Playbook”, Partnership for the Future of Learning;

<https://communityschools.futureforlearning.org/>

“Community Schools Essentials”, LPI, report

Supplemental Materials

LESC Presentation

Nov. 15th

WHERE HAVE WE BEEN?

National research finds that, when well designed and fully implemented, community schools increase student success and reduce gaps in both opportunity and achievement (LPI)

Source: LPI, Partnership for the Future of Learning

Community School Strategy

A community school is a locally driven school transformation strategy that promotes student flourishing. Community schools leverage and coordinate the resources of the whole community to build a thriving school by and for students, families, school staff (including educators), and community partners.

1

INTEGRATED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT

Dedicated staff and community partners offer programs and services to address out-of-school learning barriers, including supports for mental and physical health.

2

EXPANDED, ENRICHED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Essential opportunities that support equal access to enriching activities, support students' learning, and supports student growth socially, emotionally, and physically.

3

EMPOWERING STUDENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Foster relationships of trust and respect, build the capacity of all stakeholders and the school, create empowered decision-making processes, and leverage local resources and expertise to address educational inequities.

4

COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP, SHARED POWER AND VOICE

Shared power & voice through the development of shared governance structures, strategic community partnerships, sustainable resources, professional learning opportunities.

5

RIGOROUS COMMUNITY-CONNECTED CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

Teaching and learning in the content areas emphasize real-world learning and community problem solving, reflecting students' identity and experience.

6

CULTURE OF BELONGING, SAFETY AND CARE

The school climate inspires feelings of trust. Conflicts are proactively addressed by building healthy relationships and a sense of community.

Community School Strategy In Action

“Community schools are not static entities, instead, they are constantly adapting and setting priorities based on intentionally collected, actionable data (LPI, Community Schools Essentials)”

1

INTEGRATED SYSTEMS OF SUPPORTS

- School-based & School Linked Health Care
- Food Pantry
- Case Management
- Housing Support
- Clothing Support
- Early Warning Systems

2

EXPANDED, ENRICHED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Genius Hour
- Out of School Time Clubs
- Sports
- STEAM
- e-Sports
- Tutoring or Homework Help

3

EMPOWERING STUDENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Workforce Development
- ESL courses
- Family events and activities
- Adult Basic Ed
- Financial Literacy

4

COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP, SHARED POWER AND VOICE

- Cross Sector Site Based Leadership Teams
- Shared Governance Structures
- Shared Power/Voice

5

RIGOROUS COMMUNITY-CONNECTED CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

- Equity lens
- Project Based Learning
- Capstone Graduation Pathway
- Supportive Professional Development

6

CULTURE OF BELONGING, SAFETY AND CARE

- Student Voice Reflected In all Aspects of the School
- Daily Check-ins with Students
- Clear System for Conflict Resolution

data collection & continuous improvement



WHERE WE ARE NOW

Evaluation of community schools per the NM state statute



02

By statute, New Mexico Community Schools utilize rigorous evaluation systems and leverage data-informed continuous improvement.

Evaluation in NM Statute Requires:

"Evaluation system Professional Development Aligns with CS instructional program Continuous improvement" (CS Statute)

Community Schools in NM currently need the capacity and sustainability to fully implement the evaluation of CS.

For this strategy to be effective and sustainable, a system-level support infrastructure needs to be in place. This includes, but is not limited to, the development of shared governance structures, strategic community partnerships, sustainable resources, professional learning opportunities, and data systems. These can be provided in part by local, state, and federal policies, ongoing technical assistance, and private and public investments.

(LPI, Community schools essentials)