

New Mexico Teacher's Supply Program

Report to the Legislative Education Study Committee

Representative Dennis J. Roch, Chairman

Senator John M. Sapien, Vice-Chairman

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PED
Item 18



Hanna Skandera
Secretary of Education

New Mexico Teacher's Supply Program

- The single greatest request received from teachers by the Secretary as she has traveled the state is to provide more support for classroom materials.
- The Governor included a request for \$2.3 million to distribute a \$100 debit card to each classroom teacher.
- \$2 million was funded by the Legislature

New Mexico Teacher's Supply Program

- **Program Selected: Expense Visa Prepaid Card (One-time issue or funding)**
- **Features: Welcomed everywhere Visa is accepted**

Filter spending to select merchants for added security and accountability

Customized options such as: Carrier, Envelope, Website

Expiration date

Shipping direct to District or Charter

Cardholder Support

New Mexico Teacher's Supply Program

- **Communication and documentation sent to Districts and Charter Schools**
 - On September 2, 2015 a memo was emailed to all Superintendents, Charter School Leaders and Business Managers providing an overview of the program.
- **The memo also included information on the dates cards were available for use, and when they expire**
 - Cards available for use September 3, 2015
 - Cards expire January 31, 2016

New Mexico Teacher's Supply Program

- **All cards were to be distributed by September 18, 2015**
 - **Extensions granted to APS and Las Cruces through October 31, 2015**
- **Additional cards were requested by Hobbs School District, The International School at Mesa del Sol and New Mexico School for the Arts. The additional cards have been mailed out to these schools.**

New Mexico Teacher's Supply Program

- **The program was developed to have as low an impact as possible to teachers, and school districts.**
- **As part of program oversight each district and charter school appointed at least one Program Coordinator to oversee the program**
- **Teachers receiving the debit cards agreed to the terms and conditions of the program including safeguarding receipts**

Auditing and Accountability of the Teacher's Supply Program

- **PED will conduct an audit of 5% of all cards that are used**
- **PED auditing staff will contact the designated program coordinator to submit copies of all receipts for review and audit**
- **PED staff will conduct a desk audit to reduce costs associated with travel**

New Mexico Teacher's Supply Program

Feedback from the Field

- **Teachers are thankful for the opportunity**
- **Get what they need**
- **This has been a morale booster**
- **May not have been made available from their districts if flowed through the SEG**

Suggestions for improvement

- **Provide a list of vendors in advance**
- **Address the tax exempt issue early**