



New Mexico School for the Deaf

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Dr. Ronald J. Stern
Superintendent

New Mexico Task Force
Education for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children and Youth
Language, learning, and development: Equity and Access
Fact Sheet Prepared for the LFC December 9, 2014

Purpose:

It is time to evaluate the progress our state has made in ensuring equity and access to education, learning, and development for children and youth cradle to career in response to the recommendations put forth by the 2003 Task Force and the 2004 NM Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children's Educational Bill of Rights.

Progress:

- A partnership has been formed between NMSD, DOH, and PED Special Education Bureau to facilitate the work of the Task Force.
- A first meeting was convened on December 1, 2014 with 32 participants representing the following stakeholder groups: Public School Special Education Directors; Charter Schools; Private Schools; Deaf and Hard of Hearing Consumers; Legislature; Universities; Parent Advocates; REC's; State Special Schools; Native Programs; Early Intervention Programs.
- The UNM Center for Educational Policy and Research (CEPR) provided support in initial data collection and presentation to situate the work of the Task Force.
- An impressive number (20) of participants volunteered to serve on interim subcommittees to summarize the information garnered at the first Task Force meeting and other sources to develop a profile of the scope of services and data resources in NM.
- Timeline includes three one day meetings each in November 2014, April 2015 and September, 2015 and two subcommittee meetings with a final report with recommendations completed by June, 2016.

For more information please contact:

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Vision: Deaf/hard of hearing children and students in New Mexico will become lifelong learners and contributing, confident, and successful citizens via communication-based instruction, high expectations, and active participation in all aspects of the learning environment.