

**MINUTES  
of the  
FOURTH MEETING  
of the  
INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**September 7-9, 2022  
Central Consolidated School District  
Bond Wilson Technical Center  
40 Road 6580  
Kirtland**

The joint meeting of the Indian Affairs Committee (IAC) and the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) was called to order by Senator Shannon D. Pinto, co-chair, IAC, on September 7, 2022 at 9:14 a.m. at the Bond Wilson Technical Center in Kirtland.

**Present**

Rep. D. Wonda Johnson, Co-Chair  
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto, Co-Chair  
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon  
Rep. Anthony Allison  
Rep. Derrick J. Lente (9/7, 9/8)  
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez (9/8, 9/9)  
Sen. William E. Sharer  
Sen. Benny Shendo, Jr.  
Rep. Martin R. Zamora

**Absent**

Rep. Zachary J. Cook  
Rep. Kelly K. Fajardo  
Sen. Leo Jaramillo  
Rep. Georgene Louis  
Sen. Brenda G. McKenna  
Sen. Cliff R. Pirtle  
Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero  
Sen. Joshua A. Sanchez

**Advisory Members**

Sen. William P. Soules  
Rep. Elizabeth "Liz" Thomson

Rep. Gail Chasey  
Rep. Doreen Y. Gallegos  
Rep. Harry Garcia  
Sen. Stuart Ingle  
Sen. Linda M. Lopez  
Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom  
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill  
Sen. Michael Padilla

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present for the entire meeting.)

**Staff**

Lenaya Montoya, Staff Attorney, Legislative Council Service (LCS)  
Sara Wiedmaier, Research Assistant, LCS  
Sheila Keleher, Research Assistant, LCS

**Guests**

The guest list is in the meeting file.

### **Handouts**

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

### **References to Webcast**

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at [www.nmlegis.gov](http://www.nmlegis.gov), under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

### **Wednesday, September 7**

#### **Welcome and Introductions (9:14 a.m.)**

Senator Pinto welcomed everyone and invited committee members, staff and the audience to introduce themselves.

#### **Community Welcome (9:25 a.m.)**

Lisa Marie Byrd, vice president, Upper Fruitland Chapter, Navajo Nation, and Dora Smith, secretary/treasurer, Upper Fruitland Chapter, Navajo Nation, welcomed everyone to Kirtland.

#### **Local Perspectives — Superintendents (9:30 a.m.)**

Steve Carlson, superintendent, Central Consolidated School District; Kim Mizell, Ph.D., superintendent, Bloomfield School District; Kevin Summers, superintendent, Aztec Municipal School District; and Cody Diehl, superintendent, Farmington Municipal School District, presented an overview of their districts and current challenges. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=ALESC&Date=9/7/2022&ItemNumber=3>.

#### **LESC Director's Report (12:31 p.m.)**

Dr. Gwen Perea Warniment, director, LESC, updated the committees on LESC policies and procedures, as well as the fiscal year (FY) 2024 budget.

#### **Work-Based Learning and Student Internships (12:50 p.m.)**

Jessica Hathaway, senior policy analyst, LESC; Tony Monfiletto, executive director, Future Focused Education; Mike May, director for workforce learning, Future Focused Education; Hilario "Larry" Chavez, superintendent, Santa Fe Public School District; Lutz Arnhold, managing director, Rosewood Inn of the Anasazi; Alvin Warren, vice president of career pathways and advocacy, Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation; and Jose Villarreal,

work-based learning coordinator, Santa Fe Public School District, summarized the economic importance of work-based learning and the overall value of student internships. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=ALESC&Date=9/7/2022&ItemNumber=4>.

#### **Public School Facilities Authority (PSFA) Issues (2:55 p.m.)**

Martica Casias, executive director, PSFA, and Alyce Ramos, programs manager, PSFA, presented an overview of the PSFA and the Public School Capital Outlay Council, as well as the funding programs and the award cycle. Tim Bedeaux, senior policy analyst, LESC, outlined the public school capital outlay and infrastructure priorities for FY 2023. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=ALESC&Date=9/7/2022&ItemNumber=5>.

#### **Tour of Kirtland Schools (4:00 p.m.)**

#### **Recess**

The committee recessed at 4:30 p.m.

### **Thursday, September 8**

#### **Reconvene**

Senator Pinto reconvened the meeting at 9:04 a.m. Senator Soules, chair, LESC, welcomed the committee members and audience.

#### **Approval of Minutes (9:05 a.m.)**

On a motion made by Senator Sharer, seconded by Representative Allison, and without objection, the minutes of the August 16-17, 2022 IAC meeting were approved.

#### ***Martinez and Yazzie Lawsuit Update (9:06 a.m.)***

John Sena, deputy director, LESC; Vickie Bannerman, Ed.D., deputy secretary of identity, equity and transformation, Public Education Department (PED); and Kurt Steinhaus, Ed.D., secretary, PED, summarized the initiatives that the state has taken to address the 2018 ruling in the *Martinez* and *Yazzie* lawsuit. Melissa Candelaria, education director, New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty (NMCLP); and Alisa Diehl, senior education attorney, NMCLP, presented an overview of the time line and rulings of the *Martinez* and *Yazzie* lawsuit, while addressing the shortcomings of the PED's initiatives to develop a collaborative, comprehensive and transformative plan to satisfy the court's ruling. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=ALESC&Date=9/7/2022&ItemNumber=7>.

### **Indian Education Update (11:24 a.m.)**

Mr. Sena and Daniel Estupiñan, senior policy analyst, LESC, presented an update on Indian education. Charles Wollmann, director, Communications, Legislative and Client Relations, State Investment Council (via Zoom), addressed the financial infrastructure of endowments and permanent funds. Rebecca Reyes, interim assistant secretary, Indian Education, PED, reviewed the Indian Education Act and its funding goals. Mark Mitchell, chair, All Pueblo Council of Governors and former governor, Pueblo of Tesuque; Representative Lente; and Regis Pecos, Santa Fe Indian School Leadership Institute, co-chair, Tribal Education Alliance and former governor, Pueblo of Cochiti, addressed the historic inequities of Native American students and the need to fully implement the Indian Education Act through the adoption of the Tribal Remedy Framework and the creation of a tribal education trust fund. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=ALESC&Date=9/7/2022&ItemNumber=8>.

### **FY 2023 and FY 2024 General Fund Revenue Estimates (2:07 p.m.)**

Stephanie Schardin Clarke, secretary, Taxation and Revenue Department (via Zoom); Leo Delgado, chief economist, Department of Finance and Administration (via Zoom); Ismael Torres, chief economist, Legislative Finance Committee; and Mr. Estupiñan, presented an overview of United States and New Mexico economic indicators and forecasts. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=ALESC&Date=9/7/2022&ItemNumber=9>.

### **Public Comment (3:34 p.m.)**

A list of individuals making public comment is available in the meeting file.

### **Tribally Authorized Charter Schools (3:50 p.m.)**

Ms. Montoya addressed tribal sovereignty and the Anti-Donation Clause of the Constitution of New Mexico. Kevin Shendo, director, Tribal Education, Pueblo of Jemez, presented a history of tribally authorized charter schools in New Mexico and the Pueblo of Jemez and outlined the importance of language and culture-based education in Native communities. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/ALESC%20090722%20Item%2010%20Tribally%20Authorized%20Charter%20Schools%20Brief%20Final.pdf>.

### **Friday, September 9**

**Reconvene**

Representative Johnson reconvened the meeting at 9:14 a.m.

**Student and Teacher Panel (9:14 a.m.)**

Holly Duffy, senior policy analyst, LESC, moderated the student and teacher panel. Guila Curley, coordinator, College and Career Readiness, Newcomb High School; Amanda Akers, teacher, Blanco Elementary School; Jarrell Botello, teacher, C.V. Koogler Middle School; and Yazzmine Lee, student, Farmington High School, presented an overview of their work and experiences in schools while emphasizing the value of preserving language and culture in education.

**Dream Diné and Navajo Preparatory School (Navajo Prep) Presentations (10:51 a.m.)**

Emily Hoxie, senior policy analyst, LESC, moderated the panel of educators and students. Andrea Thomas, reading interventionist, Dream Diné Charter School, and Stephanie Manning, vice president, Hummingbird Parent Advisory Committee, detailed the philosophy behind their community-based, experiential school. Shawna Becenti, head of school, Navajo Prep; Devin Lansing, also known as Mr. Atsa Hastin, cultural ambassador, Navajo Prep; Yitnazbah Wauneka-Yellowhorse, also known as Ms. Hozho Naasha, cultural ambassador, Navajo Prep; and Watson Whitford, student senate president, Navajo Prep, explained the importance of funding priorities, Indian self-determination and cultural advocacy at Navajo Prep.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.