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HOUSE BILL 633

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

Hector H. Balderas

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; CREATING THE THREE-YEAR CIMARRON
ONLINE SCHOOL PILOT PROJECT TO DETERMINE THE EFFICACY OF
PROVIDING ONLINE CLASSES TO HOME-SCHOOLED AND NONTRADITIONAL
STUDENTS IN GRADES KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELVE; PROVIDING FOR
PILOT PROJECT STAFFING, EQUIPMENT, CURRICULUM AND EVALUATION;
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. CIMARRON ONLINE SCHOOL--PILOT PROJECT.--

A. The "Cimarron online school" pilot project is
created as a three-year program to provide Cimarron municipal
school district-approved curriculum and developed course work
as online classes for grades kindergarten through twelve to
home-schooled and nontraditional students. The purpose of
Cimarron online school is to provide classes and programs to

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1 students statewide who would not otherwise have access to these
2 classes and programs and at a cost that is less than schooling
3 at traditional "brick and mortar" school facilities. For the
4 purposes of this section, "nontraditional students" include
5 school-age parents, working students, students under expulsion
6 or suspension and students with medical conditions that prevent
7 them from attending regular school.

8 B. The pilot project shall be administered by the
9 Cimarron municipal school district and shall provide funding
10 for online classes for forty students from the Cimarron
11 municipal school district or from other parts of the state, two
12 part-time online teachers, a part-time online education
13 coordinator, computers, printers, internet access and
14 educational software.

15 C. The Cimarron municipal school district shall
16 provide in-kind services, including online registration, an
17 online counselor, technical support, administrative support,
18 partial internet access costs, computer virus protection and
19 other internet security protocols, server costs and computer
20 hardware for the teachers, the coordinator and for student
21 placement or level testing.

22 D. The part-time teachers shall be online with each
23 student at scheduled class times, provide weekly parent
24 conferences by telephone and identify and organize existing
25 software and curriculum into a standards-based educational

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1 program, including student level placement. The teachers shall
2 hold appropriate licenses to teach. The part-time coordinator
3 shall coordinate the teachers, conduct student placement
4 evaluation and testing and identify world wide web software
5 vendors.

6 E. Students participating in the Cimarron online
7 school shall be provided with an educational program aligned
8 with New Mexico educational standards and benchmarks and shall
9 take state-mandated accountability tests. Online students
10 shall participate in placement testing and be appropriately
11 placed. The Cimarron municipal school district shall loan to
12 each student in the pilot project a computer, monitor and
13 printer and shall reimburse each student up to twenty-five
14 dollars (\$25.00) a month for an internet access service.
15 Students may be part time or full time and shall attend the
16 online school during the school calendar approved for the
17 Cimarron municipal school district.

18 F. The Cimarron municipal school district shall
19 establish reporting and evaluation requirements to determine
20 whether students in the Cimarron online school have achieved
21 the mastery of subject matter appropriate to their grade level
22 and the cost per student of operating the online school. The
23 district shall provide interim and final reports annually to
24 the legislature, the public education department and the
25 governor on the efficacy of the pilot project.

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