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AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; PROVIDING FOR A COMMUNITY SCHOOL
FRAMEWORK; INCLUDING EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES AND VOLUNTARY
PUBLIC PRE-KINDERGARTEN; ADJUSTING COMMUNITY SCHOOL
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS; CREATING A FUND.

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

SECTION 1. Section 22-32-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2013,
Chapter 16, Section 2) is amended to read:

"22-32-2. PURPOSE.--The Community Schools Act is
enacted to provide a strategy to organize the resources of a
community to ensure student success while addressing the
needs, including cultural and linguistic needs, of the whole
student from early childhood programs and voluntary public
pre-kindergarten through high school graduation; to partner
federal, state and local and tribal governments with
community-based organizations to improve the coordination,
delivery, effectiveness and efficiency of services provided
to students and families; and to coordinate resources, in
order to align and leverage community resources and integrate
funding streams."

SECTION 2. A new section of the Community Schools Act
is enacted to read:

"DEFINITIONS.--As used in the Community Schools Act:

A. "community school" means a public school that

1 partners with families and the community, including tribal
2 partners, nonprofit community-based organizations and local
3 businesses, to provide well-rounded educational opportunities
4 and supports for student success through the implementation
5 of a community school framework;

6 B. "community school coordinator" means a
7 full-time person employed by the lead partner agency who
8 works within a community school as part of the site-based
9 leadership team;

10 C. "community school framework" means a set of
11 strategies implemented in a community school that include
12 culturally and linguistically responsive instruction,
13 programs and services and restorative practices that focus on
14 building and maintaining relationships;

15 D. "community schools initiative" means the
16 implementation of the community school framework to provide
17 comprehensive or targeted support and improvement activities
18 pursuant to the federal Every Student Succeeds Act;

19 E. "elementary school" may include early childhood
20 services and pre-kindergarten;

21 F. "lead partner agency" means the agency that
22 employs the community school coordinator and works
23 collaboratively with the community school coordinator, the
24 school principal and the site-based leadership team to
25 assess, plan and carry out the community school framework;

1 G. "site-based leadership team" means an
2 interdisciplinary, school-based leadership team that includes
3 the school principal, the community school coordinator,
4 teachers, other school employees, families, community
5 partners, tribal partners, nonprofit organizations, unions
6 and neighboring community residents that guides collaborative
7 planning, implementation and oversight; and

8 H. "statewide coalition" means a group of
9 community schools, members of their site-based leadership
10 teams, foundations, businesses and other organizations,
11 including unions, cultural and linguistic experts and tribal
12 leaders, who have joined together to advocate for and support
13 the development of community schools across New Mexico in
14 alignment with an evidence-based community school framework."

15 **SECTION 3.** A new section of the Community Schools Act
16 is enacted to read:

17 "COMMUNITY SCHOOL FRAMEWORK--COMMUNITY SCHOOL
18 COORDINATOR.--

19 A. The community school framework shall ensure the
20 use of research- and evidence-based strategies and best
21 practices that support students, families and communities in
22 ensuring student success and shall include:

23 (1) integrated student supports that address
24 non-academic and out-of-school barriers to learning through
25 partnerships with social and health service agencies and

1 providers that may include school-based or school-linked
2 health care, case management services and family stability
3 supports coordinated by a community school coordinator and
4 that are culturally and linguistically responsive to the
5 needs of students and their families;

6 (2) expanded and enriched learning time and
7 opportunities, including before-school, after-school,
8 weekend, summer and year-round programs, that provide
9 additional academic support, enrichment activities and other
10 programs that may be offered in partnership with community-
11 based organizations to enhance academic learning, social
12 skills, emotional skills and life skills and are aligned with
13 the school's curriculum;

14 (3) active family and community engagement
15 that:

16 (a) values the experiences of people
17 from diverse backgrounds as empowered partners in decision
18 making and encourages partnerships with parents or caregivers
19 to develop and promote a vision for student success;

20 (b) offers courses, activities and
21 services for parents or caregivers and community members; and

22 (c) creates structures and
23 opportunities for shared leadership; and

24 (4) collaborative leadership and practices
25 that build a culture of professional learning, collective

1 trust and shared responsibility using strategies that at a
2 minimum include a site-based leadership team and a community
3 school coordinator.

4 B. The community school framework may include:

5 (1) broader use of public school facilities
6 in which school buildings become hubs for neighborhood
7 events, activities, advocacy and civic life;

8 (2) community-based curriculum in which the
9 content of instruction is centered on local knowledge,
10 service learning and problem-solving around community issues;
11 and

12 (3) public pre-kindergarten and other state
13 and federally funded early childhood services that:

14 (a) support working families and help
15 ensure that children come to kindergarten ready to learn;

16 (b) provide students and working
17 parents or caregivers with full-day and after-school child
18 care;

19 (c) provide high-quality pre-
20 kindergarten programs that are aligned to early childhood
21 professional and curricular early learning standards;

22 (d) provide health, vision, dental and
23 other supports and services to children before school age;
24 and

25 (e) include strong partnerships and

1 alignment with early learning centers and child care
2 providers that may include transportation or coordination to
3 meet the broader early childhood community needs.

4 C. The lead partner agency shall employ a
5 community school coordinator to:

- 6 (1) implement the community school
7 framework;
- 8 (2) lead the needs and assets assessment;
- 9 (3) facilitate communication between
10 partners as a stakeholder- and community-driven approach to
11 problem-solving;
- 12 (4) guide data-informed continuous
13 improvement;
- 14 (5) manage data collection; and
- 15 (6) align, leverage and coordinate resources
16 for student and family success."

17 **SECTION 4.** Section 22-32-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2013,
18 Chapter 16, Section 3, as amended) is amended to read:

19 "22-32-3. COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVES--SCHOOL
20 IMPROVEMENT FUNCTIONS--REQUIREMENTS.--

21 A. A community schools initiative may be created
22 in any public school in the state and may be created as a
23 consortium of public schools.

24 B. A community schools initiative shall include
25 the following:

1 (1) a lead partner agency, including a
2 public or private agency or community-based organization, to
3 help coordinate programs and services;

4 (2) an annual assessment that is a
5 meaningful and collaborative inquiry process to develop a
6 comprehensive understanding of local needs and assets and of
7 community resources that is conducted by the community school
8 coordinator and informed by the site-based leadership team
9 and that relates to the effective alignment and delivery of
10 programs and services within the community school; and

11 (3) the community school framework.

12 C. A lead partner agency for more than three
13 public schools shall provide a full-time position that
14 supports the community school coordinators at those public
15 schools.

16 D. Where early childhood services and supports are
17 indicated as a need, a community school site-based leadership
18 team shall prioritize strong partnerships and integration
19 with early childhood providers located both on and off the
20 public school campus, including transportation to meet
21 community needs."

22 SECTION 5. Section 22-32-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2013,
23 Chapter 16, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

24 "22-32-4. COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVES--INDIRECT
25 COSTS--GRANTS--SCHOOL DISTRICT, GROUP OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR

1 PUBLIC SCHOOL DUTIES--REQUIREMENTS.--

2 A. A school district shall bear any indirect costs
3 associated with the establishment and implementation of a
4 community school within the school district.

5 B. Subject to the availability of funding, grants
6 for community schools initiatives are available to a school
7 district, a group of public schools or a single public school
8 that has demonstrated partnerships with the local community
9 to establish, operate and sustain the community school
10 framework and that meets department eligibility requirements.

11 C. The department shall promulgate rules and
12 procedures to distribute funds through a competitive grant
13 program developed and designed in partnership with the
14 coalition for community schools.

15 D. Applications for grants for community schools
16 initiatives shall be in the form prescribed by the department
17 to support a continuum of community school development.

18 E. A school district, a group of public schools or
19 a single public school that uses funds under this section to
20 transform a public school into an evidence-based community
21 schools initiative shall:

22 (1) use rigorous, transparent, equitable and
23 evidence-based evaluation systems to assess the effectiveness
24 of the implementation of the community schools initiative;

25 (2) provide ongoing, high-quality

1 professional development that:

2 (a) aligns with the community school's
3 instructional program;

4 (b) facilitates effective teaching and
5 learning; and

6 (c) supports the implementation of
7 school reform strategies; and

8 (3) give the community school sufficient
9 operational flexibility in programming, curriculum, staffing,
10 budgeting and scheduling so that the community school can
11 fully implement a comprehensive community school framework
12 designed to focus on improving the community school climate,
13 student academic achievement, attendance, behavior, family
14 engagement and, for high schools, graduation rates and
15 readiness for college or a career.

16 F. If a grantee receives funding to implement the
17 community schools initiative at three or more public school
18 sites, the school district shall employ a community schools
19 director or manager to oversee and coordinate implementation
20 across all of the covered school sites and ensure the
21 employment of a community school coordinator by the lead
22 partner agency at each school site.

23 G. A school district or public school may use
24 Title 1 funds for its community schools initiative and the
25 department may use Title 1 funds to invest in community

1 schools statewide.

2 H. The department is authorized to provide
3 planning, implementation and renewal grants to eligible
4 applicants as follows:

5 (1) a one-year, one-time planning grant of
6 up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for each eligible
7 public school to conduct an initial school and community
8 needs assessment, identify community supports and services
9 through asset mapping and establish a site-based leadership
10 team; and

11 (2) annual implementation grants of one
12 hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) each year for a
13 period of three years for each eligible school; and

14 (3) at the conclusion of the initial
15 three-year grant period, applicants may apply for a renewal
16 grant for one year in an amount determined by the department.

17 I. Eligible applicants shall provide satisfactory
18 documentation required by the department that the applicant
19 intends to apply for an implementation grant within six
20 months of receiving a planning grant.

21 J. Eligible applicants shall submit an application
22 for an implementation or renewal grant to the department for
23 each eligible community school through the grant
24 authorization process."

25 SECTION 6. A new section of the Community Schools Act

1 is enacted to read:

2 "COALITION FOR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS.--The department shall
3 appoint a "coalition for community schools" that is a
4 statewide coalition of community school participants, which
5 shall include local community school content experts,
6 culturally responsive content experts and tribal leaders.
7 The coalition shall provide advocacy, capacity building and
8 technical assistance to ensure equitable distribution of
9 resources to all school districts in New Mexico. The
10 coalition shall assist the department in reviewing
11 applications for grants and making recommendations for
12 awards."

13 SECTION 7. A new section of the Community Schools Act
14 is enacted to read:

15 "COMMUNITY SCHOOLS FUND--CREATED--ACCOUNTABILITY.--

16 A. The "community schools fund" is created as a
17 nonreverting fund in the state treasury. The fund consists
18 of appropriations, gifts, grants and donations. The
19 department shall administer the fund, and money in the fund
20 is appropriated to the department to distribute grant awards
21 to support the development and implementation of community
22 schools initiatives.

23 B. The department shall ensure that the money
24 expended from the community schools fund is used for the
25 purposes stated in the Community Schools Act and shall not be

