

NEW MEXICO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

"Serving New Mexico's School Boards for over 60 Years"

2020 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



NMSBA's top priorities are focused on providing the best education possible for students, increasing achievement and implementing quality learning programs and best practices.

1. **SEG SUFFICIENCY FUNDING:** NMSBA supports increased funding, resources, flexibility and the accountability necessary to comply with the Martinez/Yazzie Court Ruling which calls on public schools to remedy identified deficiencies and create positive educational experiences and improved outcomes for all students.
2. **EARLY CHILDHOOD/PRE-K FUNDING:** NMSBA fully understands the need for and supports a comprehensive, well-aligned education system that begins with early childhood education and prepares students for success in higher education or in a career pathway. NMSBA supports full funding for all day pre-school, half-day pre-school for 3-year olds and K-5 Plus initiatives including operations, facility and transportation costs.
3. **TEACHER RECRUITMENT, RETENTION AND PREPARATION:** NMSBA supports legislation to increase salaries for teachers and public school employees as well as allowing retiring teachers to return to work immediately without penalty in order to address shortages. NMSBA also supports initiatives to expand and improve teacher preparation programs including grow your own initiatives.
4. **SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY:** NMSBA supports funding for improved school safety and security personnel including capital improvements and equipment; staff training; behavioral, emotional and mental health services; counseling; student and staff well-being; restorative justice programs; and improved cybersecurity in our schools.
5. **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION:** NMSBA supports funding and legislation to establish career and technical pathways in our schools as well as financial assistance and job opportunities that lead to high-skill, high-wage and in-demand careers for our students.