

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

## NEW MEXICO SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION

### **46th Annual School Law Conference**

June 5 – June 7, 2025 Embassy Suites Hotel

1000 Woodward Place NE, Albuquerque, NM

### **CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

	O OTT ETTE TO GIVENT	
Thursday, June 5, 202	25	
9:00 – 11:30 a.m.	NMSBA Executive Board Meeting	Sage Boardroom
12:00 – 3:00 p.m.	Early Registration	Conference Lobby
1:00-5:00  p.m.	Veteran Board Member Training	Ocotillo I-II
1	Effective Governance & Supporting Superintendents	Dr. Kurt Steinhaus, CES
1:00 - 5:00 p.m.	New Board Member Training	Sandia I-II-III
•	Building Strong Board-Superintendent Relations	LeAnne Gandy, CES
3:00-5:00 p.m.	NMSBA Board of Directors Meeting	La Ventana
3:00-5:00  p.m.	Exhibitor Set-Up	Conference Lobby
T. 1. T		
Friday, June 6, 2025		
7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Registration	Conference Lobby
7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Exhibit Area Open	Conference Lobby
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Sandia V-VIII
	Sponsors: CES and Stifel	
	<b>GENERAL SESSION</b>	Sandia Ballroom
8:00 - 8:30 a.m.	Call to Order	Pauline Jaramillo
		NMSBA President
	Presentation of Colors	High School
	rescritation of Colors	JROTC (tba)
	701 1 (2.41)	, ,
	Pledge of Allegiance	Marvyn Jaramillo
		NMSBA President-Elect
	Salute to the New Mexico Flag	Terry O'Brain
		NMSBA Vice-President
	Welcome and Introductions	Pauline Jaramillo
	Region Meeting Attendance Awards	NMSBA President
	Category 1- Laws & Policies	
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.	Legislative, Judicial & Regulatory Update	Patricia Salazar Ives
6.30 – 9.30 a.m.	Legislative, Judicial & Regulatory Opdate	Carlos J. Padilla
		Carl J. Waldhart
9:30-10:30 a.m.	What's on the Horizon for New Mexico Students	The Honorable Howie Morales
	in This Digital World	NM Lieutenant Governor
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Break	
	Courtesy of NMSBA and Cuddy & McCarthy	
10:45 - 11:15 a.m.	PED's General Perspective and Annual School	Mariana D. Padilla, Secretary
	and District Accreditation	NM Public Education Department
11:15 – 12:00 p.m.	Bringing Open Meeting Act Policies to Life	M. Karen Kilgore
11.10 12.00 p.m.	and Other Adventures in Policy Governance	Amelia Adair
	and the second s	

Sandia V-VIII

NMSBA Scholarship Announcement Luncheon

## **BREAK-OUT SESSIONS I**

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	I. II.	Student Achievement Data and School Designations Artificial Intelligence in Education: Legal and Ethical Considerations	Sandia II/III Sierra III			
	III.	School Budgeting101	Ocotillo I			
	IV.	Immigration Enforcement in Public Schools	Sierra I/II			
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.		NM Superintendents Association Meeting	Sandia IV			
2:30 – 2:45 p.m.		Break Courtesy of NMSBA and Cuddy & McCarthy	Conference Lobby			
BREAK-OUT SESSIONS II						
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	V.	Fraud in Capital Outlay in Ethics Case Study Pt. 1	Sandia II/III			
2.43 3.43 р.ш.	VI.	Employment/ADA/FLMA	Sierra III			
	VII.	Backpacks, Lockers, and the Law: Search and Seizure	Ocotillo I			
		behind the Schoolhouse Gate				
	VIII.	Dodgeball: Avoid Custody Disputes and Protect Your Team	Sierra I/II			
		BREAK-OUT SESSIONS III				
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	IX.	Fraud in Capital Outlay in Ethics Case Study Pt. 2	Sandia II/III			
F	X.	Capital Outlay and Transportation 101	Sierra III			
	XI.	The Cood The Dod and The Hely Meetings, Het Ting	Ocotillo I			
	Λ1.	The Good, The Bad and The Ugly Meetings: Hot Tips for Board Governance Techniques to Improve Your	Ocouno 1			
		Meetings				
	XII.	Supporting Students at the School Level: a primer to the	Sierra I/II			
		regalia bill (SB 163) and the CROWN Act (HB 29)				
5:00 6:30 p.m.		School Law Conference Reception	Sandia V-VIII			
ever ever pinn		Courtesy of NMSBA and Cuddy & McCarthy				
Saturday, June 7, 2	<u> 2025</u>	·				
7:00 – 10:00 a.m.		Registration	Conference Lobby			
7:00 – Noon		Exhibit Area Open				
7:00 - 8:30  a.m.		Breakfast	Sandia V-VIII			
		Sponsors: Jaramillo Accounting Group & Singleton Schreiber				
		BREAK-OUT SESSIONS I				
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.	XIII.	Open Records, Open Questions: Demystifying the	Sierra I/II			
0.50 7.50 <b>u</b>	71111.	New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act				
	XIV.	Market and Legislative Changes Affecting Capital	Sierra III			
	****	Project Financing and School Elections	0 ''' ''			
0.20 0.45 m m	XV.	Tribal Consultation Break	Ocotillo II			
9:30 – 9:45 p.m.		Courtesy of NMSBA and Cuddy & McCarthy	Conference Lobby			
		BREAK-OUT SESSIONS II				
			G: 7.77			
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.	XVI.	Social Media Issues in Schools - Legal Update	Sierra I/II			
	XVII.	Special Education: State Responsibility for General Supervision	Sierra III			
	XVIII	•	Ocotillo II			
		Modern Student				
BREAK-OUT SESSIONS III						
11:00 – 12 Noon	XIX.	Stump the Lawyers	Sandia I-IV			
12:00 Noon		School Law Conference Adjourns				
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# **46th Annual** 2025 School Law Conference

<u>Breakout Session Grid</u> Friday – June 6, 2025 Embassy Suites Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Room	<u>Session I</u> 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	<u>Session II</u> 2:45 PM – 3:45 PM	<u>Session III</u> 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Sandia II/III (Seats 160)	Student Achievement Data and School Designations  5. Student Achievement	Fraud in Capital Outlay in Ethics Case Study Pt. 1  2. Budget & Finance	Fraud in Capital Outlay in Ethics Case Study Pt. 2  2. Budget & Finance
	I	V	IX
Sierra III (Seats 80)	Artificial Intelligence in Education: Legal and Ethical Considerations  1. Laws & Policies 5. Student Achievement	Employment/ADA/FLMA  1. Laws & Policies 3. Legal Concepts	Capital Outlay and Transportation 101  2. Budget & Finance
	II	VI	X
Ocotillo I (Seats 65)	School Budgeting101  2. Budget & Finance	Backpacks, Lockers, and the Law: Search and Seizure behind the Schoolhouse Gate  1. Laws & Policies	The Good, The Bad and The Ugly Meetings: Hot Tips for Board Governance Techniques to Improve Your Meetings
	III	VII	<ul><li>3. Legal Concepts</li><li>4. Governance &amp; Support XI</li></ul>
Sierra I/II (Seats 160)	Immigration Enforcement in Public Schools	Dodgeball: Avoid Custody Disputes and Protect Your Team	Supporting Students at the School Level: a primer to the regalia bill (SB 163) and the CROWN Act (HB 29)
	<ol> <li>Laws &amp; Policies</li> <li>Legal Concepts</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Laws &amp; Policies</li> <li>Safety &amp; Learning</li> </ol>	1. Laws & Policies
	IV	VIII	XII

## **46th Annual** 2025 School Law Conference

<u>Breakout Session Grid</u>
Saturday – June 7, 2025
Embassy Suites Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico

ROOM	<u>Session</u> I 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM	<u>Session II</u> 9:45 AM – 10:45 AM	Session III 11:00AM – 12 Noon
Sierra I/II	Open Records, Open Questions:	Social Media Issues in Schools -	
(Seats 160)	Demystifying the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act	Legal Update	
	1 Y 0 D 11 1	1. Laws & Policies	
	<ol> <li>Laws &amp; Policies</li> <li>Legal Concepts</li> </ol>	6. Safety & Learning	C4 Tile I
	XIII	XVI	Stump The Lawyer
Sierra III	Market and Legislative Changes	Special Education: State	
(Seats 80)	Affecting Capital Project	Responsibility for General	All Cuddy Lawyers
	Financing and School Elections	Supervision	
	<ul><li>2. Budget &amp; Finance</li><li>4. Governance &amp; Support</li></ul>	5. Student Achievement	XIX
	XIV	XVII	Sandia IV
Ocotillo II			1. Laws & Policies
(Seats 85)	Tribal Consultation	T-Shirts, Tweets, and Talk: Free	
	1. Laws & Policies	Speech and the Modern Student	
		1. Laws & Policies	
	XV	XVIII	

#### **BREAK-OUT SESSIONS**

June 5 – June 7, 2025

#### PRE-CONFERENCE BREAKOUT SESSIONS

#### **Veteran Board Member Training**

**Effective Governance and Supporting Superintendents** 

Ocotillo I/II - Thursday, June 5, 2025, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Presenter: Dr. Kurt Steinhaus, CES Consultant

Student growth starts with data-informed governance and caring support. This essential training is designed for school board members committed to excellence, collaboration, and impactful leadership. In this dynamic and interactive session, participants will explore proven strategies for building a high-functioning board-superintendent team, clarifying roles and responsibilities, and aligning governance practices with student success.

What You'll Gain:

- Additional understanding of governance roles compared to management roles
- Practical frameworks for supporting superintendents
- Tools to strengthen communication, trust, and accountability
- Real-world scenarios and strategies that drive student outcomes

This is an opportunity to elevate your governance skills and make a lasting impact on your school community.

Category: 4 Governance and Support

### **New Board Member Training**

**Building Strong Board-Superintendent Relations** 

Sandia I/II - Thursday, June 5, 2025, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Presenter: LeAnn Gandy, Director of Leadership Development, CES

Effective governance starts with a strong, collaborative relationship between the school board and the superintendent. This training is designed specifically for new school board members to establish a foundation of trust, clarity, and shared purpose with their superintendent. Participants will explore roles and responsibilities, communication protocols, and best practices for navigating challenges while maintaining a unified focus on student achievement and district success. Through interactive discussion and real-world scenarios, board members will gain tools to build and sustain a high-functioning governance team that leads with transparency, mutual respect, and strategic alignment.

Category: 4 Governance and Support

#### CONFERENCE BREAKOUT SESSIONS

#### I. Student Achievement Data and School Designations

Sandia II/III – Friday, June 6, 2025, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Presenters: M. Karen Kilgore of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP and Lynn Vasquez and Elisabeth Peterson of the Public Education Department

NM Vistas, developed by the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED), serves as a public reporting data website that showcases student achievement and school performance aligned to the 2015 federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)—a U.S. Department of Education mandate. ESSA requires state education agencies to implement a system of annual school identification and to disseminate report cards that provide information on State, district/state charter schools, and school performance and progress. PED's public reporting aims to help families, communities, policymakers, and stakeholders identify schools that are doing well and schools that may need extra support to improve. This session will provide an overview of the data published on NM Vistas and how struggling schools are supported.

Category: 5 Student Achievement

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level & District Administrators and School Board Members

#### II. Artificial Intelligence in Education: Legal and Ethical Considerations

Sierra III – Friday, June 6, 2025, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Presenters: Carl J. Waldhart of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP

This session will discuss the legal challenges which generative artificial intelligence tools like ChatGPT pose to all levels of school administration. The presentation will focus on what administrators can do to maintain academic integrity, ensure student safety, secure confidential student information, and comply with legal requirements governing special education.

Categories: 1 & 5 Laws & Policies, Student Achievement

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level & District Administrators and School Board Members

#### III. School Budgeting 101

Ocotillo I - Friday, June 6, 2025, 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

# Presenters: Carlos J. Padilla of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP and Sara Cordova, Director of School Budget Bureau

The presentation walks through the entire PED School Budget Bureau calendar—from drafting the initial operating budget in early spring to closing the books after fiscal year-end. It:

- anchors every step to its statutory or rule citation
- spells out the key deadlines such as budget due date and quarterly / monthly financial reports.
- highlights forms and signatures required such as membership (40-, 80-, 120-day) and SEG reports that drive funding
- flags common audit findings and the cash-flow realities around SEG distributions and RFRs In short, it is a deadline-driven roadmap that ties statutory budget authority, reporting obligations and cash-management practices into one year-long timeline.

Category: 2 Budget & Finance

Presentation of special interest to: School Board Members and District Administrators

#### **IV.** Immigration Enforcement in Public Schools

Sierra I/II – Friday, June 6, 2025, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Presenters: Patricia Salazar Ives of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP and Van Snow, Deputy Solicitor General, Criminal Appeals Bureau

Recent changes in federal immigration policy have significantly impacted schools. The New Mexico Department of Justice will provide crucial information for New Mexico school districts on how to protect students' rights and maintain safe learning environments. We will go over practical, actionable steps to prepare for and respond to immigration enforcement actions. We will examine recent federal policy changes, discuss legal protections, response protocols for ICE inquiries, and practical steps for staff training, communication, and planning.

Categories: 1 & 3 Laws & Policies, Legal Concepts

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level & District Administrators and School Board Members

### V. Fraud in Capital Outlay – an Ethics Case Study (Two Session Presentation)

Sandia II/III – Friday, June 6, 2025, 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Presenters: Heather Travis Boone of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP and Audrey Jaramillo, Managing Partner, Jaramillo Accounting Group, LLC

A discussion of one of the largest local government frauds in American history. Interactive analysis of the case highlighting fraud risks, red flags, and preventative and detective internal controls. Learn what to look and ask for to prevent and detect capital outlay (or any expenses) fraud in your district or school.

Category 2 Budget & Finance

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level & District Administrators and School Board Members

#### VI. Employment/ADA/FLMA

Sierra III – Friday, June 6, 2025, 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Presenters: Elizabeth Heaphy of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP

When an employee requests leave from work due to a disability, a school district must consider the overlapping obligations potentially imposed under the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the New Mexico Human Rights Act. Depending on the circumstances, other legal requirements may also come into play. This presentation will provide a primer on several laws which affect an employee's right to take disability leave and will identify common issues which arise in handling leave requests.

Categories: 1 & 3 Laws & Policies, Legal Concepts

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level & District Administrators and School Board Members

# VII. Backpacks, Lockers, and the Law: Search and Seizure Behind the Schoolhouse Gate *Ocotillo I – Friday, June 6, 2025, 2:45 p.m.-3:45 p.m.*

Presenters: Carlos J. Padilla of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP

This session will explore legal and practical considerations of student and employee searches and what qualifies as reasonable suspicion under the law as well as administrators' duties under federal and state law. These concepts will be discussed in the context of real-world cases involving searches that adhered to or violated the law.

Category: 1 Laws & Policies

Presentation of special interest to: School Board Members, Administrators and School Board Officials

#### VIII. Dodgeball: Avoid Custody Disputes and Protect Your Team

Sierra I/II – Friday, June 6, 2025, 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Presenters: Julie Wittenberger of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP

This session will address the rights of parents, grandparents, guardians, and others who bring their custody disputes to school and best practices for school boards and administrators to protect themselves and their students.

Categories: 1 & 6 Laws & Policies, Safety & Learning

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level & District Administrators and School Board Members

#### IX. Fraud in Capital Outlay – an Ethics Case Study (Two Session Presentation)

Sandia II/III – Friday, June 6, 2025, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Presenters: Heather Travis Boone of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP and Audrey Jaramillo, Managing Partner, Jaramillo Accounting Group, LLC

A discussion of one of the largest local government frauds in American history. Interactive analysis of the case highlighting fraud risks, red flags, and preventative and detective internal controls. Learn what to look and ask for to prevent and detect capital outlay (or any expenses) fraud in your district or school.

Category: 2 Budget & Finance

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level & District Administrators and School Board Members

#### X. Capital Outlay and Transportation 101

Sierra III – Friday, June 6, 2025, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Presenters: Carl J. Waldhart of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP and Amanda Lupardis of the Public Education Department

This session will provide an overview of accessing capital outlay and transportation funds that are administered by the Public Education Department.

Category: 2 Budget & Finance

Presentation of special interest to: School Board Members, Administrators and School Business Officials

# XI. The Good, The Bad and The Ugly Meetings: Hot Tips for Board Governance Techniques to Improve Your Meetings

Ocotillo I - Friday, June 6, 2025, 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Presenters: M. Karen Kilgore and Amelia Adair of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP

A fun, interactive discussion about how to upgrade the quality, and lower the stress level, of Board meetings and other open meetings. We'll provide and discuss how to use simple and effective board policies and a toolkit of forms you can implement to improve your next meeting, including scripts, minutes checklists, upgraded agendas, and conduct of meetings policies. Plus insider tips on how to use effective policy governance to handle common "bad meeting habits" like disruptive public comment, debate that goes on too long, and making too many, or too few, board level decisions.

Categories: 3 & 4 Legal Concepts, Governance & Support

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level Administrators, Superintendents and School Board Members

# XII. Supporting Students at the School Level: a primer to the regalia bill (SB 163) and the CROWN Act (HB 29)

Sierra I/II – Friday, June 6, 2025, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Presenters: Patricia Salazar Ives of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP; Katie Ann Juanico of the Public Education Department

This session will highlight New Mexico Senate Bill 163 Tribal Regalia at Public School Events and House Bill 29 The CROWN Act—two landmark laws that uplift and celebrate cultural identity in schools. Participants will receive guidance on supporting students' rights to wear tribal regalia and protective hairstyles, ensuring school policies honor and reflect cultural expression. The session will also offer practical steps and best practices for implementation, fostering equity, inclusivity, and respect across school communities.

Category: 1 Laws & Policies

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level & District Administrators and School Board Members

# XIII. Open Records, Open Questions: Demystifying the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act

Sierra I/II – Saturday, June 7, 2025, 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Presenters: Carl J. Waldhart of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP

This session will focus upon New Mexico's principal right-to-know law, the Inspection of Public Records Act (IPRA). With public schools and administrators facing intensified scrutiny, learn how to properly respond to public information requests while avoiding costly pitfalls and ensuring the greatest possible level of transparency.

Categories 1 & 3 Laws & Policies, Legal Concepts

Presentation of special interest to: School Board Members, Administrators and School Board Officials

XIV. Market and Legislative Changes Affecting Capital Project Financing and School Elections Sierra III – Saturday, June 7, 2025, 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Presenters: Heather Travis Boone and Carlos J. Padilla of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP, Erik Harrigan of RBC Capital Markets, LLC and Brad Angst and Nick Caine of Stifel Nicolaus & Company, Inc.

How do changes in capital project financing, legislation and market conditions affect district capital projects? The panel will discuss the impact of market instability on the school bond sales, federal proposals relating to tax exemption, state property tax changes, state program changes and school election issues.

Categories: 2 & 4 Budget & Finance, Governance & Support

Presentation of special interest to: District Administrators and School Board Members

#### XV. Tribal Consultation

Ocotillo II - Saturday, June 7, 2025, 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Presenters: Patricia Salazar Ives of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP and Katie Ann Juanico of the Public Education Department

This session will explore the legal obligations and best practices for tribal consultation as outlined in the Indian Education Act (IEA). Participants will gain insights into the IEA's mandates for school districts and charter schools, including the development of needs assessments, the creation of Tribal Education Status Reports (TESRs), and the implementation of culturally responsive educational programs. The presentation will also highlight the New Mexico Public Education Department's (NMPED) Tribal Consultation Guidance, offering practical tools and strategies to foster meaningful collaboration with tribal communities. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in discussions on effective consultation practices and share experiences to enhance educational outcomes for Native American students.

Category: 1 Laws & Policies

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level & District Administrators and School Board Members

XVI. Social Media in Schools – Legal Update

Sierra I/II – Saturday, June 7, 2025, 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Presenters: M. Karen Kilgore of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP and Brian Colón, Managing Partner of Singleton Schreiber

An update on Social Media's impact on schools and a discussion on school district social media litigation.

Categories: 1 Laws & Policies & 6 Safety and Learning

Presentation of special interest to: School Board Members, Administrators and School Board Officials

XVII. Special Education: State Responsibility for General Supervision

Sierra III – Saturday, June 7, 2025, 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Presenters: Patricia Salazar Ives of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP, Deputy General Counsel Miguel Lorenzo and Chief Counsel Special Education Natalie Campbell

Deputy General Counsel, Miguel Lozano and Chief Counsel for Special Education Natalie Campbell will present on the "Correction of Child-Specific Noncompliance" as part of its General Supervision Responsibilities under Part B of the IDEA. Counsel will present data from 2024-2025 Dispute Resolution processes with specific case information, corrective action plans and trends these processes identify. The goals of dispute resolution processes are twofold: (1) to make the affected Student whole (e.g. compensatory services) and (2) to facilitate continued growth in properly serving students with disabilities under IDEA Part B (e.g. proper identification of a pattern of placement changes requiring a manifest determination review). The presentation will include time for questions and hypothetical scenarios.

Category 5 Student Achievement

Presentation of special interest to: All School Administrators and School Board Members

XVIII. T-Shirts, Tweets, and Talk: Free Speech and the Modern Student

Ocotillo II – Saturday, June 7, 2025, 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Presenters: Carlos J. Padilla of Cuddy & McCarthy, LLP

As a public debate over the meaning of free speech rages on, public schools are more and more faced with the challenge of maintaining a balance between fostering free expression and providing an unobstructed learning environment. This session will address the free speech rights and limitations school boards and administrators must consider while maintaining this balance.

Category: 1 Laws & Policies

Presentation of special interest to: Site-Level & District Administrators and School Board Members

XIX. Stump the Lawyer

Sandia IV - Saturday, June 7, 2025, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon

Presenters: All Cuddy & McCarthy Attorneys

Stump the lawyer description: In this session, school attorneys with the Cuddy & McCarthy law firm answer (or attempt to answer) legal questions on any school related topic raised by members of the audience. This is the opportunity to 1) get answers to legal questions you have been wanting to ask, regardless of whether they relate to the topics covered at the conference, or 2) "stump the lawyer."

Category: 1 Laws & Policies

Presentation of special interest to: All School Administrators and School Board Members