



## New Mexico School Boards Association

300 Galisteo Street, Suite 204  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501  
Phone: (505) 983-5041 □ Fax: (505) 983-2450

# NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Joe Guillen (505) 983-5041  
jguillen@nmsba.org

## EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The New Mexico School Boards Association (NMSBA) announced recipients of the 2026 Excellence in Student Achievement Awards. The awards, sponsored by NMSBA, are presented to individuals selected by local boards of education throughout New Mexico who have played an important role in improving student achievement in their local school district. Sixty-eight (68) New Mexico school boards participated in this year's program and a record two hundred thirteen (213) award recipients were selected. Recipients are listed below and will be honored at local school board meetings throughout New Mexico over the next few weeks. For specific information about award recipients, please contact the local school district. For additional information on the Excellence in Student Achievement Award Program contact Joe Guillen, NMSBA Executive Director.

<b><u>District</u></b>	<b><u>Recipient</u></b>	<b><u>Category</u></b>
Alamogordo	Bob Flotte	Community Member
Albuquerque	Jenna Blutworth Michelle Candelaria Chelsea Darrall Jennifer Hart George Melini Enrique Ochoa Santana Torrez	Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member
Artesia	Lindsey Chase David Coddling Myra Deans Lindsay Gibb Felicia Velasquez	Science Consultant Science Consultant Science Consultant Science Consultant Science Consultant
Aztec	Koogler Middle School	Administrators
Belen	Jennifer Herschberger Raquel Silva	Administrator Staff Member
Bernalillo	Genevieve Sosa	Administrator
Capitan	J. Vance Lee DuWayne Shaver	Administrator Staff Member
Carrizozo	George Verdugo	Staff Member
Central	Tim Kercher	Staff Member

Chama	Caitlin Cleary Ruby Mestas Margaret Robinson Isaac Royston Melinda Salazar Angela Vigil	Staff Member Community Member Staff Member Staff Member Parent Staff Member
Cloudcroft	Maria Crump	Staff Member
Clovis	James "Jay" Brady	Administrator
Cobre	Commons Center for Food Security & Sustainability Freeport – McMoRan Hurley Elementary School Kiwanis Club of Silver City San Lorenzo Elementary School	Community Member Community Member Staff Community Member Staff
Cuba	Victoria Dominguez	Staff Member
Deming	Joe Adcock Teri Knipps Charlotte Sandoval Charles Turner	Administrator Administrator Administrator Administrator
Des Moines	Dorothy Sisneros	Staff Member
Dexter	Norma Munoz	Staff Member
Dora	Annette Roehr	Staff Member
Dulce	Shawna Garcia James Montoya, Sr.	Staff Member Staff Member
Espanola	Mark Martinez Vanessa Trujillo	Staff Member Administrator
Estancia	Teresa Brasher Araceli Cuevas Bianca Soto	Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member
Farmington	Milo McMinn Elizabeth Galvan Geizi Dejka	Administrator Staff Staff
Gadsden	Guillermo Carmona Mary Lou Delgado Letty Gross Nancy Guzman Shamay Romero	Administrator Staff Member Staff Member Teacher Teacher



Los Alamos	Christa Saenz Jovita Mowrer	Staff Member Staff Member
Los Lunas	JROTC Jaguar Battalion JROTC Tiger Battalion LLHS Student Council	Student Group Student Group Student Group
Loving	Loving Elementary Staff	Staff Members
Lovington	Jessie Van Hooshier	Administrator
Magdalena	Jennifer Keller	Staff Member
Maxwell	Alexia McElhinney Shannon Pierce	Staff Member Staff Member
Melrose	Drew Hatley	Staff Member
Mesa Vista	Senator Leo Jaramillo Victor Jaramillo Sonny Lucero Connie Lujan Renee Pena Andres Valdez	Community Member Staff Member Student Staff Member Staff Member Student
Mora	Nick Branch Rebecca Gold	Staff Member Staff Member
Moriarty-Edgewood	Joe Anaya Kristine Armijo Julie Jones MESD Transportation Dept. Natalie Romero Edgewood-Moriarty Rotary Club	Athletic Director Administrator Teacher Department Administrator Community Members
Mosquero	Amanda Culbertson	Former School Board Member
Pecos	Johnathon Garcia Rose Marie Gonzales Charles Vigil	Staff Member Community Member Community Member
Penasco	Janice Duran Lauralee Martinez Michael Noll	Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member
Pojoaque	Maria Carmona Elizabeth Pacheco Jenny Talache Raquel Turner	Staff Member Administrator Staff Member Staff Member

Portales	Chris Bachicha Kathy (Buffy) Jones Laura Marquez	Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member
Quemado	Mary Guthridge Fran Hood Kelcie Hutton Cindy Waldron	Teacher Coach Teacher CTE Coordinator
Questa	Jeremy Troy Amos Martinez Charlie Martinez Gabriel Quintana Beverly Rivera Erasto Rivera Edward Segura	Teacher Bus Driver Bus Driver Bus Driver Bus Driver Bus Driver Bus Driver
Raton	Darren Craig Connie Shields Lynette Simpson	Staff Member Community Member Staff Member
Reserve	Camden Radvillas	Staff Member
Rio Rancho	Tosha Young	Staff Member
Ruidoso	Marsha Baca Nicole Beach Ashley Beatty David Brownrigg Dan Carey Stacie Fuchs Sherridan Liangco Trina Lubbe	Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member
San Jon	Michael Kandel Sharla Rusk	Staff Member Administrator
Santa Fe	Myrna Barbee-Lee Holly Call Christopher Eadie Loretta Fernandez Jessica Garcia Joshua Granata Michael Hagele Kelly Phillips Ana Raquel Plaza Nicholas D. Salazar Brian Smith	Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member Staff Member
Santa Rosa	Timothy Dodge	Staff Member

Silver	Norma Coker	Staff Member
	Aysh Heneghan	Staff Member
	Lt. Gov. Howie Morales	Community Member
	Analysia Salcido	Staff Member
	Dean Thompson	Community Member
Socorro	Dawn Apodaca	Administrator
	Azza Ezzat	Staff Member
	Joyce Gormley	Administrator
	Julie Romero	Administrator
	Transportation Drivers	Staff Members
Springer	Abigail Eppler	Student
T or C	Mark Hedge	School Board Member
Taos	Juan Castillo-Bolanos	Staff Member
	Meghan Oates	Staff Member
	Erika De La Ossa	Staff Member
Tatum	Marco Flores	Community Member
Tularosa	Joanne Gronewold	Staff Member
	Andrew Perea	Coach
	Adrienne Salas	Tutor
Vaughn	Michelle Abriol	Staff Member
	Aspen Achen	Staff Member
	Delia Aragon	School Board Member
	Ricardo Berumen	Coach
	Kylie Crist	Staff Member
	Raquel Cuevas	Staff Member
	Katia Lopez	Staff Member
	Danette Madrid	Staff Member
	Mariah Madrid	Staff Member
	Antonio Martinez-Sanchez	School Board Member
	Christopher Matson	School Board Member
	Victoria Munoz	Staff Member
Erica Padilla	Staff Member	
Kimberlee Smith	Staff Member	
Wagon Mound	Benito Armijo	Student
	Kathryn Denise Baca	Staff Member
	Eldie Cruz	School Board Member
	Josiah Vasquez	Student
West Las Vegas	John Baca	Staff Member
	James Bonney	Staff Member
	Agnes Estrada	Staff Member
	Jerry Lopez	Staff Member
	Leon Trujillo	Staff Member