

New Mexico School for the Arts  
Head of School Report: March  
Report by Cindy Montoya

*NMSA provides access to a rigorous mastery arts and academic high school education for youth with passion and aptitude in the arts, leading to post-secondary learning, careers in the arts, and lives that contribute to society.*

**Charter School Site Visit**

CSD will be conducting their site visit on April 27, 2016. NMSA staff is working to begin collecting the appropriate documentation to share.

**Health and Safety Visit**

NMSA had a small problem with rodents (mice) and cockroaches during the months of January and February. We have increased the number of service call from the pest control provider and increased the intensity of the treatments. Additionally we have asked for a quote for them to come in and seal all possible holes by which mice enter. Joey is also replacing a weather strip on one of the cafeteria doors in order to eliminate the space between the door and the floor. The inspector left a report and felt that we had sufficiently addressed the problem. We will forward pictures of the repairs and copies of invoices to the inspector as evidenced that we have and continue to address all problems.

During her visit, lunch was delivered. She had concerns about the lunch provider's approval to deliver hot lunches. Mr. Garcia was called to the school to address the concerns immediately in order to avoid a shutting down of the operations.

We have also made the following changes to our procedures to ensure the best possible kitchen services. A light bulb was replaced, a service call has been placed to the dishwasher vendor so that the rinse cycle is automatic rather than manual, PH strips have been ordered, a rinse cycle ph log has been created, and a food temperature log has been created. NMSA will monitor the ph level several times throughout the week and food temperature almost daily to show that we are following all procedures. The logs will be scanned and forwarded to the inspector as evidenced that we have processes in place to ensure food safety requirements are met.

**Sick Leave Bank**

Cecile has developed a policy that we will discuss at the meeting as the details require GC input.

## **PARCC**

NMSA will begin PARCC testing during the week of April 11<sup>th</sup> and end testing on April 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **Lake Flato Visit**

LF's design team will be scheduling March and April design team meetings. Information and invitations to the Governing Council after the Friday, 3/11, Lake Flato meeting.

## **Edutopia**

We are proud to share that NMSA will be featured in Edutopia's *Schools that Work* series. Edutopia is the George Lucas Educational Foundation website dedicated to improving education and can be found at [Edutopia.org](http://Edutopia.org).

Edutopia's Vision: "Our vision of a new world of learning based on the compelling truth that improving education is the key to the survival of the human race."

We are both honored and humbled that Edutopia wants to share our school's innovative and successful practices with other educators.

A film crew will be at NMSA on March 21, 22 and 23, to capture the day. Only students whose families have completed a release form can be included in the videos that will appear on the website.

## **Blue Ribbon**

NMSA has been nominated for the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program is a United States government program created in 1982 to honor **schools** which have achieved high levels of performance or made significant improvements in closing the achievement gap in **schools** where at least 40% of the student population is classified as disadvantaged. We are New Mexico's 2016 high school nomination.

## **Facilities Issues**

The roof above the Small Rehearsal Hall (SRH) is in need of repair. Because pumice has been found, the building code requires a replacement. A repair is not allowed. The estimate is \$27,000.00. Additionally the stucco in that area needs to be repaired. That estimate is not available. Finally a plumbing problem in the boy's restroom requires attention. The estimate is \$1500.00. For any incident that cannot be linked to a prior problem, NMSA will need to pay the first \$4000.00 for every incident