

**New Mexico School for the Arts
Head of School Report: June 2018
Report by Eric Crites**

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.

Kudos

- Lex Morris-Wright (Visual Arts Class of 2018) was awarded the NMSA Spirit Award during graduation for her outstanding extracurricular contributions to NMSA and to her local and state community.

Graduation

Thank you to Governing Council members for joining the graduation celebration. Our 54 graduates were offered a combined total of \$6 million in scholarships. 48 have been accepted to and plan on attending a four- or two-year college in the fall; one plans to enroll in college in fall of 2019; one will attend a professional school; one will join a performing arts company; and three will be working next year (and are qualified to gain admission to a four-year college if/when they choose to).

Charter Schools Division

- The letter of intent to renew NMSA's charter with the Public Education Commission was submitted to Charter Schools Division.
- The CSD's evaluation of the May 2018 Governing Council Meeting (which was observed by CSD's Megan Shannon) was received; there were no concerns noted and the council's excellent work was highlighted in the June CSD Charter Schools Newsletter.
- Requested follow-up documents following our annual CSD site visit were uploaded to Web-EPSS by the May 11 deadline. Additional year-end documents will be added in June (end of year student arts achievement data; audit committee documentation; etc.) and in August (financial performance framework end-of-year self-evaluation).
- The annual PEC report is being submitted in June.

Charter Renewal

Michael Kaplan, Eric Crites, Cindy Montoya, and Karen Ehlert will next meet on June 14.

Legal Representation Contract

The legal representation contract has been renewed with Matthews+Fox for the 2018-2019 school year. An informational packet for Governing Council members is attached.

Summer Math Programming

Assistant Principal Chelamia Quintana is working with Denise Hinson and John Pawlak to implement the blended-model math boot camp for incoming 9th graders this summer. The program is funded by a grant from the Santa Fe Community Foundation.

Staffing Update

We have hired a new math teacher, John Pawlak, for 2018-2019. Denise Hinson has been rehired to teach 9th Grade Academy, Creative Writing, and to provide online course coordinator services.

New Mexico School for the Arts
Head of School Report: June 2018
Report by Eric Crites

We are currently recruiting for a second math teacher; a teacher of the visually impaired; a PE/health teacher; a curriculum specialist/testing coordinator; and a part-time clinical counselor.

Wellness Update

The clinical counselor, Anna Tarnoff, developed and presented to staff a plan to move into year two of our implementation of the mindfulness program. During the first year, staff received training in and developed their own mindfulness practice. Next year, teachers will implement mindfulness strategies in their classrooms with students.

Facility Updates

- The archdiocese is in process getting bids for the roof repairs. New heating units will be installed in two classrooms during June.
- The lease extension has been completed for 2018-2019; the application for lease reimbursement was submitted to PSCOC by the June 8 deadline.