# New Mexico School for the Arts Head of School Report: March 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

- At our February assembly, we had an NMSA-style "pep assembly" with an academic student presentation and recognitions:
  - Cesca-Maria Segarra Quantum Biology Presentation
  - Recognitions (each group was asked to stand for applause)
    - Peer tutors
    - Natural helpers
    - Excellent attendance
    - Scholastic Awards
      - Writing
      - Visual Arts Gold Keys Lex Morris-Wright for Portfolio; Tess Heneghan for Drawing
    - Auditions for college or summer programs
    - NMPED Student Leadership Network Zoe Colfax
    - Music: Recent and upcoming recitals and staged show
    - Dance: Spring Into Dance @ NDI next week
    - Theater: Cast of Lysistrata, great reviews in the *Reporter* and *New Mexican*
    - Visual Arts: New Media Festival; March 15 freshman show @SFAI
    - Graduating on time May 22
    - College acceptances
    - If today is your 18th birthday
    - Hakim Bellamy- Presentation of checks for NMSA writing award
    - Mikahla Beutler Quincy Brave Conway Scholarship Representative awarding scholarship to Kudra Hernandez to support summer travel to Africa.

#### **Graduation Rate**

NMPED released the 2017 cohort graduation rate; NMSA's graduation rate was 96.23%, one of the highest in the state and up from 95% last year.

#### **Charter Renewal**

Dr. Michael Kaplan, Cindy Montoya, Chelamia Quintana, and Eric Crites met with charter renewal consultant Karen Ehlert on February 16. Karen and Eric attended the NMPED Charter Schools Division charter renewal training on March 2. They and Dr. Kaplan will attend two more of these trainings, in April and May.

Eric, Chelamia, and Cecile Hemez will be meeting with CSD representatives on March 9 to review current processes for identifying English Learners ahead of the annual CSD visit (April 3).

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#### CSD Annual Site Visit

The NMPED Charter Schools Division annual site visit is scheduled for April 3.

## Sanbusco - Permanent Campus Groundbreaking

The groundbreaking event is scheduled for Friday, March 16.

#### Assessment Update

Students in grade 11 took the SBA Science assessment on March 6. Students in grades 9-11 will take the PARCC math and English language arts assessments on five days during a two-week window, starting April 17. Academic Seminar classes are in the midst test preparation curriculum for PARCC.

## **Teacher Evaluations**

Round 2 NMTeach observations are in progress.

## **Staffing Update**

Anna Tarnoff has been hired as the new part-time clinical counselor. Anna previously worked with NMSA in her capacity as a Mesa Vista Wellness therapist. She is at NMSA on Tuesdays and Thursdays and is hard at work implementing trainings for students around consent and social media.

## **Facility Updates**

The archdiocese is proceeding with setting up necessary roof repairs.