

New Mexico School for the Arts
Head of School Report: May 2023
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

- Congratulations to Bernadette Peña, Fernando Ramos, Lucilene de Geus, Alejandra Avila, and the entire dance department on the spring dance performance, Somos Más. Their work was electrifying, both technically and artistically, and demonstrated the effectiveness of the curriculum and instruction in the department.
- Congratulations to our seniors in every department for their stunning senior exhibitions and performances, and for their 600+ college acceptances.
- Senior prank:



School Year Update

- All juniors except one completed the NM-ASR (science) on May 3.
- Graduation will be held Thursday, May 25, 12-1:00 p.m. at the Santa Fe Community Convention Center. Our keynote speaker is Brian Egolf.
- We will hold our QuintArts and department celebrations at the Railyard Park on the last day of school, May 26.

PED/PEC/CSD

- The school received notification from Santa Fe Public Schools of an upcoming bond and tax levy election in November 2023. Eric will send the letter stating NMSA's intention to participate in that election.
- The PED Charter Schools Conference is July 24-26 at Tamaya Resort. Registration and lodging are provide by PED.
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-charter-school-conference-celebrating-innovation-tickets-559062520047>
- The Education Plan was submitted in NM DASH on the due date of May 10. Eric will respond to feedback that was received back from PED.

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- The draft final report from the Charter Schools Division FY22 site visit was received February 10. Our overall rating was listed as Meets Standard (the only overall ratings are Meets Standard or Does Not Meet Standard). We reviewed the data for accuracy and provided corrections to Charter Schools Division ahead of the February 24 deadline. We have not received the final version of the report yet. There was a meeting with Secretary Romero this week at which it was announced that the NM Vistas reports from 21-22 will be released sometime in the next two weeks.
- The Charter Schools Division's annual monitoring site visit occurred April 26, 2023. The site visit and preliminary report were positive overall.
- We have gathered sufficient signatures of support from staff and families for the charter renewal.

Culturally & Linguistically Responsive Instruction/Equity

- The Equity Council gave feedback that was used to revise our standard teacher job description—that new job descriptions has been used in recent postings on our careers page. At the May Equity Council meeting, the PED compliance items were reviewed in SharePoint and the drop boxes for CLR resources by subject area were reviewed.
- Jolene Vigil attended a train-the-trainer workshop this spring, which will allow us to deliver DEI trainings in-house starting with our August inservice.
- Sativa Cruz and Jolene Vigil led an outdoor equity grant field trip on May 5, in partnership with the Tewa Roots organization.

Staffing

- We currently have the following openings for 2023-2034 posted: Principal, Assistant Business Manager, SPED/Gifted Teacher, Social Studies Teacher, Science Teacher, Math Teacher, Residential Director, Visual Arts/Digital Teacher (Art Institute).