

NMPMSE

New Mexico Public Education Department, Santa Fe, New Mexico

February 7, 2005 – 10:15 – 12:00

A short summary of the way that the legislature works:

- More available for education
- RETA project for example was funded last year but this was not mentioned specifically..
- Lobbying does not end at the last day of the legislature
- Governor must sign the bills; he looks at all recommendations;
- Memorial bills go very quickly and they may not really follow the agenda

Introductions of all present: 25 people present/ over 50% from NMSU

Bills before the House and Senate:

- Go before the Education Committee; some never are heard; some get a DO PASS; some are Tabled, or sent to the Senate Finance Committee to be heard;
- Senate Finance Committee; Die or be put in House Bill 2 and passed and go to the Governor;
- Appropriations: powerful people in the House and Senate will decide depending upon their interest and money available
- Money 1/3 = Senate; 1/3 = House; and 1/3 = Governor's
- 450 million in non-recurring money available
- recurring = money from the general fund it can be considered a recurring cost; but in projects testimony who say only start-up funds it is still recurring
- Some bills that should be noticed because of their impact on education: Pre kindergarten Act; 4th grade reading proficiency required; SB69 every high school in the state required to have Honors English courses; Flexibility in the use of instructional materials; standardizing the curriculum across the grades – vertical and horizontal; Dream Act – Colleges do not admit children of undocumented workers, but SB 582 coincides with federal mandates that indicate that the children are eligible for a lottery scholarship in our universities and become NM residents;
- Higher Education Bills: EPSCOR HB 184 goes to all universities in the state matching NSF funds; K-12 education, professional development for teachers; SB331 1% for research to write the grant proposals and pull together all of the partners for these multimillion dollar awards;
- We need a unified vision with all of these bills. What about professional development for teachers??? The MSP is an effort that is providing professional development for math teachers across the state.....
- Higher education Committee for a Secretary of CHE = Department of Higher Ed, doctorate, experience in HE; and higher; SB 161 = common lower-division division college course numbers , can use their own coding system plus must add the common college course number;

Equity issue between our schools and school districts

- Hard to get math and science teachers in some schools and areas
- Could not find certified teachers
- No Child Left Behind = must have a certified teacher for each child to teach the subject
- Look systematically and get the people in the classroom and then look at professional development
- Loan will be re-paid by the government if they teach in a Title I school

Kurt's Comments about the Legislature:

- Education Commission of the States that refers to science and math - handout

MSP: Mathematically Connected Communities (MC2)

- True collaboration between mathematicians in the Department of Mathematical Sciences, math education, and school districts
- Professional development for the teachers
- Dr. Doug Kurtz discusses the mathematical sciences department's contribution; summer program for teachers; teaching are asked what are the difficulties your students are having in math education – then problems are developed by the mathematicians = more math content plus a different relationship to math; teachers learn the way the students should be learning in the actual middle school math classrooms, model for a contract with the GISD to provide a masters program for the entire district; NMSU, Carlsbad, northern alliance; new RFP's with new areas of our state will join MC2; have five field specialists that provide monthly workshops in rural NM and urban NM; this grant is connecting our math educators across the state; online courses respond needs to be bigger; maybe a pre-assessment could be provided online for the teachers to determine their content in mathematics;
- Alignment across NM; federal requirement is that the STEM faculty must be directly involved; NM chose middle school level; other states have difficulty with getting the mathematicians involved while NM is zooming forward with a very collaborative effort; standards, assessment aligned with the standards, and the instruction aligned with the standards;
- New RFP's are out and more districts will be involved
- MC2 is also working with GISD to design exit exams in mathematics at different levels
- We need ways to use this successful model in all corners of our state and even beyond. Our organization needs to be able to "toot our horn" about the success.

Town Hall:

- NASSMC has money for the state summit committee; use the Town Hall process
- NM First uses this Town Hall process to put on a Town Hall on STEM education in NM -

- Steve Sanchez and Rick Scott will put the research paper together to look at policies and procedures to improve math and science education for the past two years
- Glorieta reasonably priced for rooms and food than commercial hotels
- Have the summit in late September, early October, or even November
- Write an Action Plan that might include a bill for the legislature process
- 120 people needed for the Town Hall process
- Math conference in the first week of November;
- Research paper will help direct the Action Plan...having this research paper will really speed up the process;
- Please send any documents to Rick or Steve that may be relevant to the research paper
- Town Hall – total census; therefore could be a brutal process; builds a knowledgeable unit of individuals and a smaller unit will become very passionate and will be advocates for the finished product nmfirst.org has information

Linking Leaders:

- Jack, Rick, and Barbara B. will be returning to a Linking leaders reunion to determine what we can do to continue the process and the work

Next Meeting: April 22, 2005 in Las Cruces, NM adjourned to meet for lunch together and continue discussions.