

NMPMSE Meeting – Minutes
October 29, 2004, 1-4PM
Sevilleta Reserve

Attendees: Claudia Ahlstrom, Barbara Austin, Pleddie Baker, Susan Brown, Rockford Burris, Mary Jo Daniel, Gordon DeSpain, Doug Earick, Mary Earick, Michael Garcia, Tom Gruszka, Michael Hallock, Elwyn Hulett, Jack Jekowski, Barbara Kimbell, Richard Nygren, Vanetta Perry, Richard Reif, Rick Scott, Kurt Steinhaus, Robin Troup

1. **Welcome by Kurt Steinhaus** and a thank you to Barbara Kimbell and Vanetta Perry for the wonderful accommodations at the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge. A ranger gave us a short talk about the refuge and encourages us to come for educational tours, etc...Introductions around the group....
2. **NASSMC Report and State STEM summit: Rick Scott** – Secretary Science Summit; we need to have state science, math, tech, and engineering summits in each member state; we should get \$20,000 for a NM Summit and maybe a few more thousand
 - a. Education policy and business - all three must be part of the summit
 - b. Linking Leaders reunion – funding for three from our group can attend (one from education, policy, and business)
 - c. Ideas – maybe in the summer to get faculty and teachers to participate; leverage more money from the PED or other business sources; possible EPSCOR funding to contribute
3. **Secretary’s Mathematics Action Plan: Claudia Ahlstrom** – Started in March of 2004; purpose to raise expectations in math; close the achievement gap; to prepare our NM students for life and careers in the 21st century – minimum course requirements within the courses and the courses themselves in that Algebra I can no longer be the last course taken for graduation from high school.; we need to get people together to determine the implementation; determine successful models for successful implementation; revise the math standards; having the math and science consultants are a PLUS for the state of NM and our partnership appreciates their efforts; \$500,000 for end of the course exit exams and curriculum development; this is a hot topic with superintendents in two groups pro and con....lively discussion emerged:
 - a. If they start early Algebra I in middle school; they run out of math to take and then no math in their senior level; therefore they are not ready in college
 - b. We need data to find out how many students graduate with Algebra I & II and Geometry from NM – we need a survey from school districts for this data
 - c. Initially the results from the exit exams would have a high failure rate; another movement to have the exit exams developed
 - d. Must have professional development for the teachers in order to apply mathematical concepts to the real world; vertical alignment is very important

- e. E-mail Claudia to keep the discussion continuing....hope to get money from the legislature this Jan., 2005
4. **NM MSP Update – Rick Scott (NMSU) & UNM – Money for two years statewide; but NM was not funded; now the money goes to the state levels**
 One million last year and one and one half million next year
 NMSU: No child left behind – graduating teachers must have 24 credit hours in math or science – in service teachers - rules have changed in that if you have 5 years of experience and the last two years evaluation are good only need 18 hours; review team only 12 hours; two subjects less hours; developed programs to deal with this
- Mathematically Connected Communities (NMSU): math content problems and working with students applying inquiry based lessons using sound teaching strategies. Summer institutes in Las Cruces and Carlsbad; winter institute for Ruidoso, next summer institute in Silver City, and one in northern NM
 - UNM – NM Math Teachers modeled after a Vermont model. Elementary teachers work on a content heavy masters in teaching mathematics; following this group through the process; designed for a problem solving approach to mathematics; next school year there will be a lesson study approach using the 32 teachers working in their own school environments
 - New round of MSP funding – preparing the RFP for this year (1.5 million dollars) PED is planning for the RFP out around Thanksgiving, a “must attend” meeting for planning to write a proposal; proposals due the end of the first week in January;
 - Math Plus website for a clearinghouse of what is happening in the world of math
5. **Virtual Dissection Report –Richard Reif –Froggie Bill...PED conduct a study of the effectiveness of a virtual dissection; a variety of resources for data gathering – surveys (science teachers & other science consultants – just two examples of a list!)**
- a. Standards: dissection not in the NM standards; dissection more rote answers
 - b. Data support live dissections, but readily use other alternatives
 - c. Teachers must be sensitive to students feelings about dissection
 - d. Research does not support real or virtual dissection as being better for the grasp of knowledge
 - e. Virtual before real dissection increases achievement; the new virtual dissection software is very interactive
 - f. A report was handed out that Richard has compiled summarizing the research
 - g. We need to define “lab science” in order for school districts to meet the state requirements
6. **Support of FEA Chapters in NM Middle – Pleddie Baker**
- a. We need more math and science teachers...FEA will help!
 - b. Noted that fifth graders applying for the science magnet indicated an interest in helping others in science

- c. Future Educators of America started chapters in all middle schools and 3 high schools in Las Cruces
 - d. FEA = recruitment possibilities
 - e. Education classes in the high school that would be credit for college classes; school district pays for books
 - f. Chapters are found in Albuquerque, Las Cruces, Pecos, Clovis, Portales,
 - g. FEA College of Santa Fe, November 19th, 2004
7. **NASA Explorer School Grant – Susan Brown – Good NEWS! The NASA Explorer Team from Vista Middle School has been selected to fly in the KC 135 from a group of proposals received from other NASA Explorer Schools across the nation. Thanks to Mike Hallack, who is the education liaison from NASA White Sands Facility for our guidance throughout the proposal process!**
 The New Mexico Explorer Schools received a \$20,000 grant from the National Alliance for State Science and Math Coalitions/NSTA/NASA to build sustainability and parental involvement in our NM Explorer Schools. Our NM chapter of the partnership will act in an advisory capacity for both schools.
8. **NSF Center for Learning and Teaching grant entitled Center for the Mathematics Education of Latino/as – Rick Kitchen**
- a. Look into the research that Rick Kitchen has compiled documenting high performing schools – wonderful document!
9. **Math Tech High School – Robin Troupe**
- a. Charter School will be started in the Fall of 2005
 - b. Support from a national organization
 - c. Teaming approach 4 years of math & science; two engineering courses, donations are always welcome
 - d. Start with 90 students
 - e. Hi Tech adult world connection; connects to issues in the community and world
 - f. No location found yet
 - g. Lottery system in question; disadvantaged students' name put in twice; maybe 5% can be simply selected; methods being studied to pick the 90 students
10. **Items for the Floor**
11. **Schedule next meeting – Santa Fe, NM as a group go to a education committee meeting; legislative appointments with senators and representatives; Kurt will let us know!**