

Minutes from NMPMSE Meeting
September 26, 2003
Governor's Office, Santa Fe, New Mexico

- Francis Maestas from the Legislative Education Study Committee presented on the nature of the Committee and current initiatives. The handouts she gave can be retrieved from the following links, the first of which is the LESC home page.
<http://legis.state.nm.us/lescdefault.asp>,
<http://legis.state.nm.us/lescdocs/2003workplan.pdf>
- The recent special election was discussed. Amendment 1 passed, and Alan Morgan will be the Interim Superintendent until November 1, 2003. A 31-member committee will be appointed by the Governor to choose the new Education Secretary.
- Claudia Ahlstrom, SDE, briefed the group on the status of the State MSP Request for Proposals. The RFP is due out in October. There will be two to three awards given and each should target middle school mathematics.
- Rick Scott shared with the group the reviewers' comments from the "old" MSP, finally in after these 10 months. The general comment was that it was lacking in specifics, particularly in the research and evaluation design, the K-12 implementation plan, and results from prior funding. There was a feeling that NSF and/or the reviewers did not "buy" a statewide effort of this nature, probably due to their lack of understanding of New Mexico.
- Barbara Kimball has organized a meeting with staff from the NSF ESIE division, and the Dean's of Colleges of Education. The meeting is to be held on October 13th and 14th in either Albuquerque or Santa Fe.
- Tom Gruszka, on a conference call line from Western NMU, offered to be an active partner in the state and NSF MSP proposals.
- Kurt Steinhaus then talked about ways in which the group could influence the upcoming legislative session. Barbara Kimball suggested that partnering with others on concept paper dealing with NM water issues would be productive, since this was one of the main priorities for the Governor this session. Cathy Kinzer offered the idea of sending an email briefing of NMPMSE meetings and current activities to legislators. Wanda Guzman then suggested that the Partnership develop a concept paper on the math and science instruction for New Mexico to present to the Governor. It was decided that these be made an agenda item for the December meeting.
- Kurt Steinhaus informed the group that a new NMPMSE webpage was under development and should be viewable soon.
- Rick Scott and Vicente Llamas informed the group about the Triangle Coalition (<http://www.triangle-coalition.org/index.htm>). They suggested that NMPMSE join the Coalition, that the benefits would be similar to that of NASSMC, and that the dues were \$100. Rick said he would be ready with all the info on membership for the December meeting.
- Rick Scott also spoke briefly about the SEDL Little Rock meeting, and shared that the SEDL/SCIMAST Spring Forum would highlight the Achievement

Gap. The group was unanimous in their desire to have the NMPMSE cosponsor the Spring Forum in Albuquerque next spring sometime.

- Vicente Llamas enlightened the group that NASA was one of the major funders of NASSMC, and that NASA currently has money to support rural and underserved students' math and science educational needs.
- Cindy Chapman then shared the wonderful things she's doing with the NCTM TODOS organization. Navajo (school) is the very 1st TODOS school in the country. They are partnering with Laguna and Acoma Sky City schools in the implementation of the MathLand curriculum. Teachers from these schools are meeting 6 times throughout the year to participate in study groups and model teaching experiences. Debbie Scruggs of the Pueblo RSI is providing the financial support for this collaboration, and both she and Cindy discussed some funding needs. It was recommended that a formal list of funding needs for this project be presented at the December meeting.
- Others in the group suggested that the TODOS group would be ideal to partner with SEDL for the spring forum. It was also suggested that a concept paper of what math and science for all students in New Mexico should "look like" be developed for presentation to the Governor and Legislators.
- Claudia Ahlstrom gave a report on the math leadership retreat in Ruidoso on September 4th & 5th, 2003. Attending were 57 teachers from 28 districts in New Mexico. The teachers reported that the newly formed Math Leadership Network left them feeling empowered and connected. Their self-generated list of next steps included maintaining and strengthening the network, using videoconferencing in the future, and a professional focus that could, for example, provide resources on leadership in math instruction.
- A "formal written motion" that the Partnership thank all those at the SDE involved in developing the new science standards was presented. The motion met with resounding agreement and applause.
- The date and time of the next NMPMSE meeting were announced. Rick Scott has been gracious enough to offer his home as the next meeting place on December 4th, 2003, from 6:00pm until Rick kicks us all out. A map and directions to 806 Canterbury Arc will be emailed soon.
- Paula Morgan from KNME gave an enthusiastic briefing to the group about the new TeacherLine math and science courses offered through the station. These are offered in Albuquerque and Bernalillo, are free of charge this year due to an external grant she's received, and are targeted toward teachers getting an MS degree. Paula asked the Partnership for some suggestions on getting the word out to administrators.
- Claudia Ahlstrom informed us that the Item Assessment Review for the new math assessments were upcoming. Enough teachers had already signed up for the English version (October 13th-17th, 2003) but the Spanish version was DESPERATE for native Spanish speakers to help with the review (October 20th-24th). She asked the Partnership for help in getting the word out.
- Kurt Steinhaus then mentioned a \$1.6 million dollar initiative to provide 7th graders with laptop computers that they could use and keep until 12th grade.

Bids have been received from four companies and a pilot group of 7th graders will receive the laptops soon.