



Equity Council

Equity Councils will help inform the actions of district and charter schools in response to the *Martinez and Yazzie* consolidated lawsuit. We are embracing the opportunity to work toward serving New Mexico students by building an equitable, excellent, and relevant educational system that draws upon the experiences and strengths of our communities. We are excited to engage families and stakeholders across the state in the first phase of this process by establishing an Executive Director's Equity Council.

Purpose of Executive Director's Equity Council

Specifically, the Equity Council established for Technology Leadership High School (TECH) will address the educational inequities that exist within Bilingual Education, Indian Education and Special Education, and supported by the ruling in the *Martinez/Yazzie Lawsuit in 2018*. The mission of the Council is to ensure TECH engages students in the highest quality learning, prepares students for responsible, productive citizenship, and inspires students to be college and career ready regardless of ethnicity and socioeconomic status. Racial equity is a critical component to raise the achievement of each and every student.

The work is complex and often uncomfortable, but TECH is committed to eliminating the achievement gaps between the highest and lowest performing students and eliminating the racial predictability or disproportionality of our student groups that occupy the highest and lowest achievement categories.

Membership Composition (as per NMPED Requirement)

- Executive Director's Equity Council membership shall include representatives from school leadership, school staff, students, parents and family members, community members, and members of Nations, Tribes or Pueblos.
- At least half of the total membership must represent the student groups identified in the Court's ruling in the Yazzie/Martinez case — students with disabilities, Native American students, students who are English learners, and economically disadvantaged students.
- If a school district or charter school is identified as serving a significant population of Native American students, the Executive Director's Equity Council shall include at least one member from each Nation, Tribe or Pueblo represented in that population.
- School districts and charter schools must establish a fair and transparent process for the selection of the Executive Director's Equity Council members and shall post an explanation of that process on the school district's or charter school's website by December 20, 2019, along with the names of the selected council members.

Key Goals to be Accomplished by Executive Director's Equity Council

Executive Director's Equity Councils are responsible for creating strategies to implement and track the progress of and to fulfill the following key goals:

- By February 3, 2020, the completion of the required Martinez/Yazzie Readiness Assessment. The template for the Assessment will be provided to school districts and charter schools by early January 2020;
- By April 1, 2020, based on the completed Martinez/Yazzie Readiness Assessment, the creation of a district- or charter-level Equity Plan to support school transformation to align with the Department's goals in implementing the court's decision. A template for the Equity Plan will be provided to school districts and charter schools by early January 2020;
- by June 30, 2020, the creation and implementation of a culturally and linguistically responsive (CLR) framework for schools, based on the October 22, 2019 letter (attached) and additional information to be provided to school districts and charter schools in early 2020;
- By July 15, 2020, a report describing the school district's or charter school's system for, and tracking of, funding and uses of funding, to improve outcomes for at-risk students, Native American students, students with disabilities, students who are English learners, and economically disadvantaged students;
- Reaching out to NMPED, as needed, for additional guidance on measures necessary to align with the Department's Martinez/Yazzie initiatives, including the school district's or charter school's ongoing implementation of and compliance with the New Mexico Indian Education, Hispanic Education, and Bilingual Multicultural Education Acts, federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and federal Office for Civil Rights requirements for serving English learners.

Members of the Executive Director's Equity Council

1. Kara Cortazzo, Executive Director
2. Cynthia Ramirez, Director of Student Support
3. Velina Chavez, Director of Community Engagement
4. Sahra Saedi, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
5. Matt Buchanan, Lead Special Education Coordinator
6. Valerie Valles-Pedroza, Community Member
7. Shawna Fromme, Parent
8. Paula Rodriguez, Guardian
9. Esther Hyatt, Parent
10. Mikeah Merry, Student
11. Makenzie Merry, Student

If you are interested in serving, please contact Mrs. Cynthia Ramirez @ (505) 338-2266 for further questions.

All Applications must be submitted by December 13, 2019