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About the Association

The Regional Education Cooperatives Association (RECA) is composed of nine Regional Education Cooperatives that are located throughout New Mexico supporting 59 rural school districts and state-supported schools.

The RECA envisions a system of regional and statewide collaboration that ensures all New Mexico children, families, schools, and communities receive high-quality and comprehensive education and health services.

RECA was organized in 1997 by the Executive Directors of the regional education cooperatives.

RECA is affiliated with the NM Coalition of School Administrators, Association of Educational Service Agencies (AESA), Association of School Business Officials (ASBO), Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), and National Staff Development Council.

For more information on RECs or RECA, please visit: www.NMRECA.org

New Mexico’s Regional Education Cooperatives...

... educational service agencies collaborating as partners in support of the educational mission for all New Mexico children.

New Mexico Regional Education Cooperative Association

2010-2011
Quality, Proximity, Capacity, Accessibility: Keys to RECs Success

New Mexico’s nine RECs are geographically distributed across the state and serve 58 rural school districts and state-supported schools. RECs have a unique understanding of the strengths and challenges of their member districts. RECs use these insights to provide responsive, quality support and services to improve student outcomes, and meet local district’s needs. RECs also play a vital role in the delivery and implementation of core services and major statewide education initiatives.

“Economies of scale through (RECs) allow districts to leverage limited resources into targeted support for multiple schools and to share costs with other school districts. (RECs) must also be accountable to their customers, react to the marketplace, and act as entrepreneurs, and respond to federal, state, and local district needs.”
- Rod Paige, Past-U.S. Secretary of Education

RECs: Making a Difference

RECs are a vital and necessary component of New Mexico’s education system and will continue to serve as a conduit and delivery system for New Mexico’s school improvement and transformation.

- New Mexico RECs serve 58 of the 89 schools districts statewide with over 40,478 student membership (K-12).
- Over 12,140 educators, 3,819 students, and 510 parents participated in REC sponsored professional development activities during the 2009-2010 school year.
- 44% of schools served by RECs met AYP for 2009, as compared to the state average of 31.7%.
- 66.25% percent of schools served by RECs were ranked as “Meets Requirements” for the State Performance Plan Indicators.
- Overall, RECs employ over 165 professionals.
- 224 children were provided Even Start or Head Start programs through RECs.
- 191 children, Birth to Three, were provided services through RECs.
- Approximately 293 students participate in REC Workforce Development programs.
- Annually, about 2,370 children participated in REC sponsored Child Find activities, designed to screen students who may have special needs.
- There are currently 12 school-based health centers within REC service areas.
- 787 students within the RECs took online courses through IDEAL-NM.
- 77% of students within the RECs graduated from High School (2008-09 Cohort).

About the Cooperatives

In 1984, the New Mexico State Board of Education established Regional Center Cooperatives (RCCs) under SBE Regulation No. 84.6. In 1993, the New Mexico State Legislature created Regional Education Cooperatives, Act 22-28-1 to 22-28-6, NMSA, 1978, as “state agencies administratively attached to the Public Education Department.” Unlike educational service agencies in other states, Regional Education Cooperatives (RECs) receive minimal direct, state funding to support their program and services. Their existence and success depends upon providing programs and services that would otherwise be cost prohibitive to their member districts. The RECs depend upon revenues from contracted delivery of services to districts, grants, inter-governmental agreements, and joint-powers agreements.

Regional Education Cooperatives... Serving the needs of New Mexico's education community since 1984

RECs Services: A Snapshot

The following are just some of the many services provided by RECs in New Mexico:

- Bus Driver Training
- Career Readiness and Work Study Programs
- Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act
- Charter Schools Support and Training
- Child Find Activities
- Coordinate School-Reform Initiatives for NMPEO
- Cooperative School Nurse Services and Related Services
- Distance Education Videoconferencing
- DOH: Substance Abuse Prevention/Character Education
- Drop Out Prevention
- Education Data Collection & Analysis
- E-Rate
- PSFA: Facilities Management
- Fiscal Agency and Business Management Services
- Instructional Materials
- Interactive Technology Training and Coaching
- Lending Library: Instructional Materials/Equipment
- Medicaid School-Based Health Services
- Migrant Education
- Parent Training
- PE-MOSAA (Medicaid/Presumptive Eligibility) Enrollment
- Principal Mentoring
- Professional Development
- PSFA: Facilities Management
- School and District Strategic Planning
- School-Based Health Centers
- School Board Training
- Special Education Technical Assistance
- Standards-Based/Data-Based Instruction Facilitation
- Staff and Board of Director’s Retreat Facilitation
- STARS: Technical Assistance
- Technology Assistance and Maintenance
- Three-Tiered Licensure Training and Support
- Title I: Program Administration
- Title II: High Quality Teachers & Principals
- Title III: English Language Acquisition