

American Graduate Community Meeting  
Monday, August 20, 10 AM to 11:30 AM  
United Way of Central New Mexico

**Introduction, Welcome, and Today's Goals by Laurel Wyckoff**

**Attendees:**

Amy Schilling of New Options  
Jamai Blivin of Innovate+Educate  
Sharon Tenorio of Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Randy Woodcock of United Way  
Vernon Butler of Families United for Education  
Suzan Reagan of NMDWS  
Marvin Johnson of District Attorney's Office  
Melissa Harris of Generation Justice  
Dan Frampton of Media Arts Charter School  
Hanh Nguyen  
Rachael Cutrufello of The National Museum of Nuclear Science & History  
Jeanette Miller of The National Museum of Nuclear Science & History  
Renata Witte of New Mexico PTA  
Carlotta A. Garcia of Albuquerque Public Schools  
Matt Oppenheimer of Prout Research Institute  
Jane Bluestein of Instructional Support Services, Inc  
Kay Provolt of JAG New Mexico - Rio Grande HS  
Valerie Lopez of CYFD Juvenile Probation/Prevention & Intervention  
Liz Davis of Lautman Economic Architecture  
Krista Martinez of Junior Achievement of New Mexico  
Rick Albright of RAES  
Adai Tefera of UNM-Center for Education Policy Research  
Leah Rhule of New Mexico Business Leadership Network  
Kristin Johansson of Albuquerque Teachers Federation  
David Cox of Horizon Academy West  
Vi Florez of UNM College of Education  
Michael Kamins, Executive Producer New Mexico PBS  
Rose M. Poston Outreach Coordinator New Mexico PBS  
Hollie Lovely early Childhood Coordinator New Mexico PBS

### **What is Public Media Doing Now?**

Stories developed by and with community partners. Upcoming profiles in post production include Dual Language Education New Mexico and Native American Community Academy (NACA). New television content is airing Thursday at 7:00pm on Public Square: *The impact of the arts and at-risk youth*. In this month's Public Square, young people, arts professionals and legislators talk about how the participation in the arts helps keep kids engaged in education, and how to continue to offer such opportunities to New Mexico's youth.

**Viewed Big Brothers Big Sisters spot with Liz Davis.** Responding to our community input that identifies mentoring as a solution to keep kids on the path to graduation. These spots will be aired on New Mexico PBS and also on various Comcast channels and KASA Fox channel 2. These can be viewed again at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wde74eegb2o&feature=youtu.be> and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=695tOwreeH0>

### **Viewed New Mexico in Focus segment on the AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program at APS.**

The video sparked a lively conversation among partners. Sample comments included : "It was interesting because I was a student at Manzano where this was filmed. This would have helped a lot when I attended" and "This is a very expensive program. APS bought this and it's an elective, so most kids don't know about it." "Why don't all classrooms look like this?" "Teachers are trained this way and they are capable of teaching in this kind of student-centered small group environment." "When new teachers enter the classroom they find that the structure in the school district does not allow for this kind of flexibility. This means that many teachers are discouraged and leave the profession after only a year or two."

### **New Mexico Business Leadership Network presented by Leah Rhule:**

- Works with Federal, Public and Private Sectors
- Employee resource groups at different organizations
- MentorABILITY New Mexico program beginning in tenth grade, school-to-work transition-outreach services for high school students with disabilities
- Various components including: job development services, professional development of transition staff, referral assistance, career planning and skill building seminars, career fairs and discovery expos, employer site visits, mentoring, internships

### **Innovate Educate project NewOptions presented by Jamai Blivin:**

- National non-profit funded by W.K. Kellogg Foundation NewOptions working with employers across the New Mexico
- WorkKeys, developed by ACT is a skills assessment of employee based skills and a job matching system

- New Options is working on a research project with high school juniors in Las Cruces and Santa Fe Public Schools to skill up: students receive refillable gas card as part to determine if this will help to motivate students
- Partnering with Monster.com there is a website where students and job seekers can enter WorkKeys points and a portal takes them to jobs available based on their skills. It identifies gaps where their skills need to be improved in order to qualify for a job that's available.

**Laurel proposed to change the time to allow teachers and families to attend.**

Consensus was that the Monday morning time works fine for those present. It was suggested that separate convenings of teachers, employers and families/youth would encourage important community input.

Next meeting will be announced soon.

Thanks to everyone for your time and willingness to partner with New Mexico PBS.

Your input is vital to our work in public media

\*\*\*\*\*Meeting concluded\*\*\*\*\*