

# Transforming New Mexico's Public Education System

New Mexico's education system has failed generations of our children. For decades, the state has starved our schools of resources and programs needed to successfully teach our kids.

## It's time to give all of our students an equal opportunity to succeed

New Mexico has a historic opportunity to transform its public education system so that all of our children graduate ready to enter college or start a career. A recent district court ruling found the state is violating the constitutional rights of students by not providing a sufficient education that is culturally and linguistically relevant.

### Platform for Action

Based on the court order and evidence, a broad coalition of parents, educators, tribal leaders, local experts, community groups and the plaintiffs in the lawsuit have developed a comprehensive policy platform to transform our schools.

At the heart of the platform is a **multicultural and equitable foundation** for students to receive a cultural and linguistically responsive education that embraces their diverse cultures, identities and heritage.

In addition, the court ordered that schools must have adequate **funding and support systems** to ensure the education system is equitable, especially for low-income, Native American, Hispanic, English language learner and special needs students.



### Other critical elements of the platform include:



**Teachers** –providing higher pay and development opportunities while ensuring the pipeline for future bilingual teachers is supported.



**Instruction** – providing culturally and linguistically relevant materials, access to technology, career-technical education, smaller classes, and extended learning opportunities.



**Pre-K** –investing in early learning so ALL children have access to quality pre-school instruction.



**Social Services** – Provide access to nurses, counselors and social workers to enable all students to come to school ready to learn and grow.

The status quo is not acceptable. Small fixes that tinker around the edges are not enough. A complete description of the platform can be found at [nmpoertylaw.org](http://nmpoertylaw.org).