

COUNSELING CONNECTION

New Mexico School Counselors' Newsletter



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IT'S A WRAP! THE 2021 SCHOOL COUNSELORS' CONFERENCE *PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE FUTURE OF WORK*

Over 400 people participated in the 2021 School Counselors' Conference, held virtually on Thursday, February 25, 2021.

We want to thank our many speakers for sharing their time and expertise with us. There were so many great sessions, it was difficult to choose!

We also appreciate those of you who completed the post-conference survey as your feedback will guide the planning of future conferences. To date, over 90% ranked the conference as "very good" or "excellent." If you attended the conference and have not completed the online survey, we encourage you to do so by clicking [HERE](#).

For those of you unable to attend, who may have missed a session, or wanted to share a session with others in your school or district, session recordings, slides and other materials have been posted on the [resource website](#).

We are grateful for the tremendous support you provide your students, families and school communities around the state and PED and NS4ed values the opportunity to support you in your efforts!

HELPING DORA, NM STUDENTS FIND THEIR FUTURES



Like many teachers in rural and small school districts, Mike Daugherty wears many educational hats. Among the hats is advising students on career pathways and programs of study. He says he relies heavily on his district's counselors.

"If I can make a kid a productive citizen, I'd be happy with what I've done," he said. "Our counselors want the same thing for our students."

Daugherty has been teaching science, agriculture and welding courses for 18 years in both Colorado (8 years) and in New Mexico. His career advising often reaches beyond his own background, however.

He looks at the labor market needs of the community in and around Dora, which is in the eastern part of New Mexico near the Texas border. The rural community is in Roosevelt County.

Agriculture programs tend to be the most common Career Technical Education (CTE) programs at Dora High School. It's what the labor market needs and wants, said Daugherty. "I got lucky at Dora because they were hungry for a new program," he said.

So, in addition to welding, Daugherty decided to expand. While Dora Consolidated Schools is one of the smaller districts in the state, it is still making the most use of federal and state funding. He worked with district leadership and CCRB coach JoAnn Beuerle to purchase equipment like an iron worker, an iron hydraulic bender, and a dust collection system and to beef up his greenhouse activities for students.

"Most of our stuff was broken," Daugherty said. "But it's important that we have working equipment so kids are able to find a career. Not every kid is going to college. I think we'd be doing our kids a disservice if we didn't show them how to work."

Daugherty expects the equipment will help his students make oak and log furniture. Down the line, he also hopes it will help his students work with industries. Before the coronavirus, his classes would partner with a local business to build gates for its goats. The business would purchase all of the supplies and the students would put the gates together, giving them valuable real-world experience.

He hopes the students stay engaged and that the administration continues to support his courses. Daugherty has the support of his counselors.

"Mike works hard to keep our students engaged," said Dora Counselor Kendra Messick. "As career specialists and counselors, we want our students to find careers that align to their strengths and passions. We all play a unique and critical role in our schools and organizations to advocate for all students to have access to high-quality CTE programming and career development activities."

Both Messick and Daugherty said their jobs are to empower our students to become effective managers of their educational and career goals by building their aspirations at all levels of their school years, assessing their aptitudes and interests in middle school and then connecting them with internships and career mentors in high school and beyond.

CONTACT US

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CLICK [HERE](#) TO VISIT WEBSITE


CollegeBoard **BIG FUTURE DAYS**

There has been a great deal of interest from students and educators in the CollegeBoard's first-ever virtual BigFuture™ Days college fairs, so they rescheduled them for later this spring to ensure a positive and successful experience for all attendees.

The new dates are listed below.

- [BigFuture Day Northeast](#) is on **Sunday, March 7** (no date change)
- [BigFuture Day West + Southwest](#) is on **Tuesday, March 30**
- [BigFuture Day Midwest](#) is on **Sunday, April 18**
- [BigFuture Day Southeast](#) is on **Thursday, April 29**

If you or your students are already registered for these events, you don't need to do anything to update registration.

If your students haven't registered yet, you still have time. They created [this toolkit](#), so you can share these events with your students.

Students can register by going to the CollegeBoard's [Registration Page](#).



FEBRUARY WINNER!

Congratulations to a counselor from Sandia High School (Albuquerque Public Schools)! The counselor was the winner of a \$50 gift certificate for participating in the Community Forum on schoolcounselors-nm.com.

Each Wednesday, we will be sending out an email with a new Community Forum activity.

Participate to be entered in the drawing!

(Entries for the monthly drawing are limited to one per counselor per week. Only New Mexico school counselors are eligible to win. Remember, you must [register](#) to access and participate in the Community Forum.)

Eh...What's up Doc?
Do you love Career Technical Education?

Then, **SAVE THE DATE** for
"Spring Into CTE!"

March 19, 2021
8am-2:30pm

We'll focus on "Why CTE is Essential" today and into the future.

Registration information and Agenda coming very soon!

See you then, Doc!



VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

PED will host the 4th Annual Town Hall to Support Young Parents and their Children in early April with keynotes, plenary sessions by young parents, workshops and roundtable discussions -- all held virtually. The event will be offered twice -- noon to 4 p.m. on April 28 and May 5. We hope you will share this [save-the-date flier](#) with your school community.



You are Invited!

The NM Public Education Department will be hosting the

4th Annual Virtual Town Hall Meeting

to support young parents and their children

April 28, 2021 | 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

and May 5, 2021 | 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm



You're invited to attend and help us build on the success of the past Town Hall meetings. Young parents are active partners in planning and implementing this event.

Featuring:

- Opportunities to meet young parents across the state
- Keynote and plenary presentations by young parents
- Workshops and roundtable discussions on topics such as pandemic parenting, mental health, wellness practices, child care, and healthy relationships



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 8

- NMSCA Virtual PD with Carolyn Stone – “Negotiating the Legal and Ethical Landscape of Schools” 7:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. – Earn 6 CEUs

March 9

- 9:00 a.m. – Bringing Careers into Focus PLC - Session One with Cindy Black

March 17

- 3:00 p.m. - New Mexico School Counselors' Update Meeting

March 30

- 9:00 a.m. – Bringing Careers into Focus PLC - Session Two with José Villarreal

For additional information and to register for the above meetings, see the “Upcoming Events” section or the Events Calendar on the home page of the counselor website: schoolcounselors-nm.com/



VIRTUAL
NATIONAL SUMMIT FOR EDUCATIONAL EQUITY

Advocates for Equity

April 26-29, 2021

Preconference: April 20-22, 2021



Summit offers 40 Breakout Sessions

Take advantage of early bird rates by March 1!

Too good to miss!
Early bird rates –
\$99 members,
\$149 nonmembers.

Attend the Summit virtually. Hear Dr. Gail Christopher address Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation. Choose from 40 breakout sessions covering a range of equity strategies.

See <https://nsee.info/agenda/> for a list of breakout sessions.

[REGISTER FOR THE SUMMIT](#)



“UNDER THE BIG TOP” ANNUAL CONFERENCE FOR ADMISSIONS COUNSELORS SET

The Rocky Mountain Association for College Admissions Counseling (RMACAC), has announced it will be part of the annual national conference online, April 11-13, 2021.

Make plans to join online and learn more about the evolving college and career counselor profession. The conference will have workshops to develop your professional resume, and to network virtually with others from across the country. The conference incorporates TACAC, GPACAC, and RMACAC. We can't wait to host you at the Greatest Conference on Earth!

- Online Conference - \$150
- There will be no in-person events. All aspects will be delivered online.

To view more information, see the tentative schedule and register for the “Under the Big Top” themed conference, click [HERE](#).