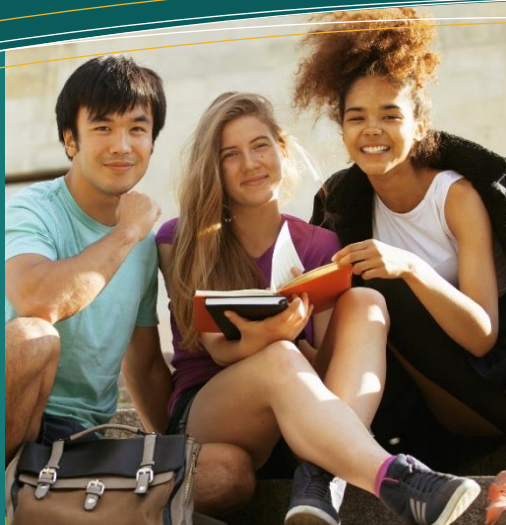


ISSUE
SEPTEMBER
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NEW MEXICO
SCHOOL COUNSELORS'
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

COUNSELOR CONNECTION

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NM School Counselors'
Community of Best Practice

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Health Leadership High School (HLHS), an Albuquerque Public Schools charter school, had some history when current Executive Director/Principal Leticia Archuleta took the helm in 2019.

The history showed a struggling, fledgling, and floundering state charter. Archuleta says she saw potential, and took the challenge head-on. The school became an Albuquerque Public Schools district charter in 2015 and that was the start of something positive. Then, just as the school's newly created mission and vision were being implemented for the more than 220 students, Covid-19 struck.

"That was perhaps the scariest part of this whole journey so far," Archuleta says. "We built a great team, knew how to get the health science pathways out in front for our students, and then we were all back at home and trying to figure out how to deliver the education."

Archuleta said that's when she realized that her staff, parents, and especially the students did not want to

fail. They committed to doing whatever they could to build health sciences pathways from the ground up. She found a strong partner in Central New Mexico Community College, got her staff behind the idea of making sure students were not there simply to make up credits and graduate. She looked into their eyes and also their futures.

"Most importantly, my teachers, social workers, and student advocates got behind our vision," Archuleta says. "We couldn't have done it without them, especially the students."

Instead of giving up on experience-based learning, Health Leadership students worked with UNM Health to make calls and helped check on people who received their Covid-19 vaccines.

The school's focus soon turned into the school's mission statement: *developing well-rounded, confident, responsible, and skilled individuals who aspire to achieve their full potential.*

ACTE WEBINAR SERIES

ACTE has a series of live and on-demand webinars designed for career and technical education teachers and administrators. These webinars focus on professional development, classroom innovations and real-world discussions. You do not have to be an ACTE member to participate in most of these webinars.

One upcoming webinar is “Making CTE Classrooms More Inclusive for LGBTQ+ Students.” This webinar will be at 1:00 p.m. (MT) on September 8, 2021.

Several recent webinars were recorded and can be watched “on demand.”

Recent webinars include:

- Ensuring your classroom is providing equity for all CTE Students
- Driving Student Ownership in the Classroom Through Entrepreneurship, Teamwork, and Cross-Curricular Collaboration
- Anytime, Anywhere, Anyplace: Recruiting and Marketing CTE in a Virtual World

Click [HERE](#) to learn more and view webinars.

HEALTH LEADERSHIP HIGH SCHOOL'S COMMITMENT TO STUDENTS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

HLHS strongest program to date is the Community Health Worker (CHW) program with CNM. Instructors from CNM come to Health Leadership to provide a full certificate program over two semesters—which includes CPR/first aid and safety certification and a 45-hour practicum.

The program allowed students to work directly on certifications without leaving the Health Leadership campus. Once students complete the dual credit coursework, they receive a CHW certificate from CNM. While they can practice their career with this certificate, it also qualifies them to apply for two more state certifications.

Archuleta says the health sciences programs are so successful that students often graduate with more than 12 health-related industry certifications.

CNM is not the only strong partnership for Health Leadership. The charter school has nearly 50 partners in the Health Sciences industry, allowing health professionals to visit and work with students directly in the classroom.

HLHS caters to bilingual students. They offer both the Spanish bilingual seal, as well as the seal for American Sign Language, something near and dear to Archuleta, a trained ASL instructor.

“When they come here, the opportunities allow them to better understand themselves so they go from ‘I can’t’ to ‘I can.’”

“A lot of our students say they’ve never seen a health provider (who) looks like them. They’re stepping up in places they didn’t think they could. It gives me chills thinking about it,” Archuleta said.

She said all the support staff, especially those at the school who give career guidance, are vital to the success of the school. With a dedicated teacher and school guidance model, HLHS is poised to provide not only a top-notch relevant education to students, but also to show them the future is quite bright for their skills.

The Health Science career cluster is expected to include the greatest number of new jobs in New Mexico over the next 1 years and about one-third of the state’s hot jobs. Here are some statistics to consider:

Most annual average openings:

- Registered nurses (1,243 jobs)
- Medical and Health Services Managers (180 jobs)
- Informatics Nurse Specialists (156 jobs)

Highest median annual wage jobs:

- Medical and Health Services Managers (\$126,820)
- Pharmacists (\$126,120)

Top jobs for middle education (associate degree, associate certification):

- Registered nurses (\$57,440 entry annual wage)
- Dental hygienists (\$48,4880 entry annual wage)
- Respiratory therapists (\$45,490 entry annual wage)

You can find more information on core skills, pathways, certifications, and more by reading our [Career Cluster Guide Book](#). You can view the digital version or order free books for your schools.

COMMUNITY VOICES TELL CAREER STORIES

The New Mexico Public Education Department would like to share the story of your career journey. The **Community Voices** project is collecting videos to share with high school students all over the state. Students will learn about real jobs in New Mexico, find purpose in school, and connect with a role model who inspires them.

If you know someone, or would like to share your own story as a school counselor, please go to: <https://careers2communities.com/story/>.

Interviews take about 45 minutes, and include questions about your community, your job, and the experiences in school that helped you get where you are today. The edited videos are featured on our webpage, but some of them will also be embedded in four new applied math courses that the PED is developing. Go to <https://careers2communities.com/story/> to see a sample of the interviews and sign up to share your own story or send to someone who would make a great role model. For more information contact Breezy.gutierrez@state.nm.us.

THE PATHWAY2CAREERS DASHBOARD IS A GREAT RESOURCE FOR SCHOOL COUNSELORS

The NM Pathway2Careers (P2C) Dashboard is a free tool for New Mexico educators, including school counselors, to explore detailed information about their local school districts, labor markets and career clusters. Organized by workforce region, this labor market exploration tool offers valuable resources such as overviews, research, and analyses by region, to assist counselors working with students in career guidance.

You can also access free professional development and learning opportunities

that support the application of labor market data. Methods for identifying and connecting students with local high-value careers are also presented.

To access the P2C Dashboard, visit the New Mexico School Counselors' Community of Best Practice resource site and click the P2C Dashboard button or go directly to the site at <https://careerpathways-nm.com/>

To view the overview video of careerpathways-nm.com created by Dr. Danielle Tallent, click [HERE](#).

NEW MEXICO GRADUATION EQUITY INITIATIVE

The New Mexico Graduation Equity Initiative (NMGEI) is a collaborative effort between the NMPED and Future Focused Education to define and pilot a new project-based graduation pathway as an alternative to traditional graduation options such as testing.

To help educators, especially counselors, and administrators better understand the initiative, NMGEI is offering a blog catalog. This month, you can read two different articles: [How New Mexico Is Working to Decolonize Curriculum](#) by Alexis Alvarez and [Why New Mexico Needs Senior Capstones Now](#) by Mary Parr-Sanchez, President of National Education Association New Mexico, and Rachel Padilla, Grant Writer for the NEA-NM Center for Community Schools. To read previous blogs, you can visit the [Future Focused Education blog page](#).

THIS MONTH'S TECHNOLOGY TIP

Searching for a program and want to find one that's really free?

A: Instead of searching for "free," search for "open source." This avoids any free trials, advertisements, and malware.



NEAR-PEER TUTORING PAYS STUDENTS

Counselors who are looking for internship opportunities for their students may want to learn more about PED's Near-Peer Tutoring Program. The PED is launching the program this school year, designed to help build the teacher pipeline while also providing high school students with a valuable, paid, work-based learning experience. The PED is making \$2 million available from federal ESSER funds to support local education agencies in implementing this program.

Recipients will provide paid internships to high school students to tutor reading and mathematics for middle and/or elementary school students. Funding provides wage compensation to high school student tutors, and covers program costs, including training tutors in the basics of teaching as a career. To participate in this program, applications must be submitted electronically by September 30, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. To learn more about the Near-Peer Tutoring Program, please visit the [Request for Application \(RfA\)](#) here. For questions, please reach out to the College and Career Readiness Bureau's Special Projects Manager, Marc Duske by email at marc.duske@state.nm.us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 8 - 10, 2021

- 2021 NMACTE Hybrid Conference – [Learn More](#)

SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

- **3:00 p.m. - NM School Counselors' Monthly Meeting** – Leslie Kelly, Behavioral Health Coordinator at PED, will be sharing with us this month. Meetings will be on the third Wednesday of every month. Register now and add the meetings to your calendar. [Learn More](#)

NCPN'S CAREER PATHWAYS LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATION INSTITUTES ARE BACK!

If you are involved in career technical education, adult education, counseling, corrections, or workforce development and your duties include Career Pathways, The National Career Pathways Network (NCPN) invites you and your team to attend the Oct 7–8 Career Pathways Leadership (CPL) Certification Institutes in Nashville, TN. CPL I (Introduction to Career Pathways) will help you assess where you are and what your next steps should be. CPL II (Deep Dive into Career Pathways) will help you gain strategies for making your existing pathways even better.

CPL I and II are both two-day events covering the following topics:

- Need for Career Pathways Partnerships
- Sector Identification and Employer Engagement
- Program Design and Delivery
- Funding
- Academic Achievement
- Career Planning
- Professional Development
- Beginning with the End in Mind

Sessions will be held at the Sonesta Nashville (TN) Airport Marriott.

If you have questions regarding the institutes, please reach out to workshops@cord.org.



[More Info/Register](#)

JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION NEWS

College Scholarship Program - The Cooke College Scholarship Program is an undergraduate scholarship program available to high-achieving high school seniors with financial need who seek to attend and graduate from the nation's best four-year colleges and universities.

- The College Scholarship application launched this week. Students can access the application [here](#) starting Wednesday, September 1 until November 18.
- High school juniors can sign up [here](#) to receive notifications about the application for next year.

JACK KENT COOKE
FOUNDATION

Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship

- The 2021-2022 Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship application will open October 1, 2021, and close on January 10, 2022.
- To receive a notification when the application launches, click [here](#).

Young Scholars Program

- The newest cohort of Cooke Young Scholars will be notified in September!
- The 2021-2022 application will open on February 7, 2022, and close on May 9, 2022. Receive notifications about the application [here](#).
- Contact us at scholarships@jkcf.org with any questions about our scholarship applications or selection processes.

HELP A COLLEAGUE NEW TO YOUR SCHOOL

With the start of a new school year, there may be counselors new to your school who aren't receiving the newsletter or emails from us. We would like your help ensuring your colleagues have the opportunity to receive emails, newsletters, and become involved in the School Counselors' Community of Best Practice.

Please forward this newsletter to them and ask them to email [Kelly Kennedy](mailto:Kelly.Kennedy@state.nm.us) to be added to the email and newsletter distribution lists. You could also ask if they would like you to send their contact information to Kelly on their behalf.

Thank you!

SUBSCRIBE TO NEWSLETTER

You can also access previous issues of the *Counselor Connection* on the resources website or by clicking [HERE](#).

CONTACT US

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CLICK [HERE](#) TO VISIT WEBSITE

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[NM SCHOOL COUNSELORS COMMUNITY RESOURCE SITE](#)