

Legislative Education Study Committee: Roadmap

July 25, 2024



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LESC Initial Roadmap

October 2022

Symptoms of an Ineffectual System

- Low academic proficiency and persistent achievement gaps
- Struggling educator workforce including difficult to ascertain educator quality
- Significant, concerning metrics related to student well-being
- Lack of cohesion among metrics, expected outcomes, and supportive data systems

Themes from Stakeholders

- Culturally Relevant and Rigorous Instruction
- CTE, High School Revision
- Investing in Workforce
- Behavioral Health and Community Schools
- Prioritizing Languages – both early literacy and multi-literacy
- Leadership
- Correct Funding



Hearing Brief

Date: October 13, 2022
Prepared By: Patsa Warriment
Witness: Owen Pera Warriment, Director, Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC), John Sena, Deputy Director, LESG, Daniel Estupinan, Fiscal Analyst, LESG
Expected Outcome: Alignment among policy and budget considerations and the Martinez and Yazzie v. State of New Mexico consolidated lawsuit.

Martinez and Yazzie v. State of New Mexico: A Legislative Roadmap

Overview

It has been four years since the 1st Judicial District Court issued a Decision and Order, finding the state of New Mexico had violated the Education Clause, the Equal Protection Clause, and the Due Process Clause of the New Mexico Constitution, failing to provide a uniform, statewide system of free public schools sufficient for all students.

Importantly, in reflecting on the violation of each of these clauses, the court declared the state specifically violated the rights of at-risk students in three distinct ways:

- The state has failed to provide programs and services necessary to make students college or career ready;
- Funding has not been sufficient to provide such programs and services, particularly examining the needs of all school districts and charter schools; and
- The Public Education Department (PED) has failed to meet its supervisory and audit functions to assure that money is spent efficiently and effectively by school districts, charter schools, and schools, and ensure at-risk students have the programs and services needed for them to obtain an adequate education.

Critical to these findings was an inherent definition of a sufficient education declared as a right by the New Mexico Constitution. Judge Singleton used case law to examine varied approaches for how educational adequacy is defined. Markedly, she determined the New Mexico Legislature had already defined adequacy in the form of existing statutory provisions that include both statements and educational goals. She cited Section 22-1-1.2 NMSA 1978 that reads:

A. *The Legislature finds that no education system can be sufficient for the education of all children unless it is founded on the sound principle that every child can learn and succeed and that the system must meet the needs of all children by recognizing that student success for every child is the fundamental goal.*

Key Takeaways

Judge Singleton determined the New Mexico Legislature had defined educational adequacy, located in existing statutory provisions in Section 22-2-1.2 NMSA 1978. Page 1

New Mexico has five symptoms of an uncoordinated education system that may contribute to the inability to fully realize the definition of sufficiency in statute. Pages 2 - 3

Education stakeholders in New Mexico have identified shared concern and interest in seven major areas the Legislature can address. Pages 5 - 7

Policy considerations could address accountability, use of data, governance, educator development, and the state's allocation of education funds. Pages 8 - 9

LESC Hearing Brief: Martinez and Yazzie v. State of New Mexico: A Legislative Roadmap, October 13, 2022




LESC Initial Roadmap

Core research leveraged

- International and National Frameworks:
 - Aspen Institute: [We Are What We Teach](#)
 - Learning Policy Institute: [Whole Child Policy Toolkit](#)
 - National Council of State Legislatures: [No Time to Lose](#) Report
 - John Hattie: [On the Politics of Collaborative Expertise](#)

Policy Considerations in 2022

1. Establish a Commission
2. Invest in the Educator Profession and Adults Who Serve Students
3. Invest in Data, Information, and Accountability
4. Review the Funding Formula and How Targeted Supports are Allocated



Legislative
EDUCATION
Study Committee

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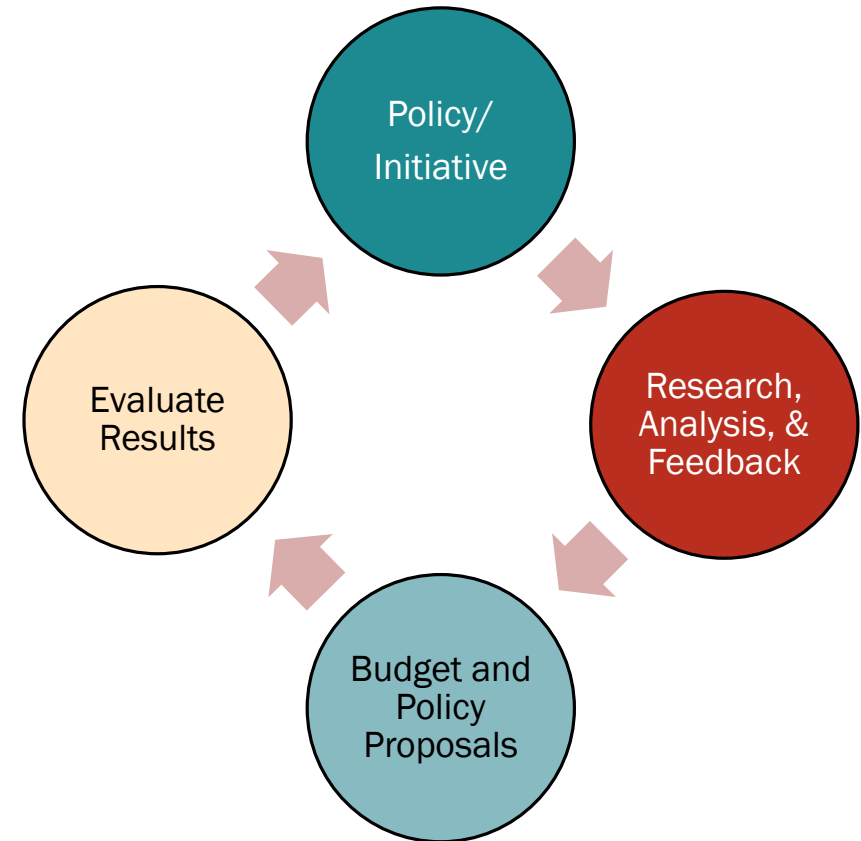
2024 LES C Roadmap

Educator Ecosystem

- Educator Recruitment – Diverse Workforce
- Educator Preparation
- Educator Retention and Rewarding Career Ladders
- School Leadership
- Professional Development, Planning Time
- Ancillary support staff

Academic Design

- Early Literacy and Numeracy
- STEM and Social Studies/ Civics Education
- Career Technical Education, Secondary Innovation, and Work-Based Learning
- Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Education
- Bilingual/Multilingual Education



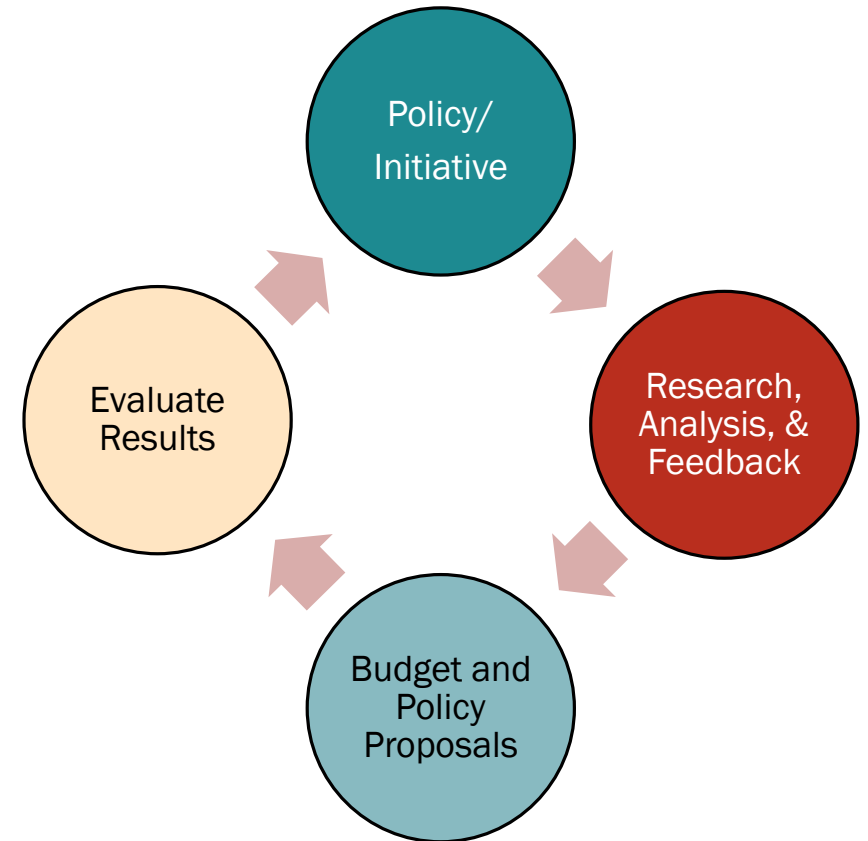
2024 LE SC Roadmap

Whole Child Education

- Social and Emotional Learning and Behavioral Health
- At-Risk Student Supports
- Community Schools
- Fine and Performing Arts
- Physical and Health Education
- Guidance Counselors, Career and Postsecondary Supports

Overarching Systems

- Data and Accountability
- Finance and Funding Formula
- School District and State Governance
- Capital Outlay and Transportation
- Broadband and Technology





How Work Aligns with Progress

GOAL: Relevant and effective legislation, including both education policy and budget

Process for staff

1. Researching needs, gaps, incompleteness, or ineffectiveness identified by understanding the layers within education – importantly, gathering stakeholder input in the process
2. Providing support for policy considerations, initiatives, and priorities of the members
3. *Policy/Initiative begins*
4. Tracking implementation and outcomes, based on a well-developed theory of change
5. Providing information for members regarding iterating on policy, adjusting budget, or scaling initiatives

Possible Policy Considerations

1. Chronic Absenteeism
 - Student engagement
 - Rigorous instruction
 - Student wellbeing
2. Sustaining the Workforce
 - Fulfilling careers
 - Honoring professional work time
 - Innovative staffing models
 - Brave, focused leadership
 - Prioritizing diversity
3. Pervasive Gaps
 - Targeted supports
 - Tutoring; Summer programming, extended learning
 - Languages
4. Uncoordinated System
 - Statewide commission
 - Explicit expectations/shared goals
 - Data systems
 - Transportation



FY26 Preliminary Budget Considerations

- Trends to Keep in Mind:
 - *What does declining enrollment mean?*
 - *SB26*
- Funding Formula Revision
- GRO, Below-the-line

