

1 SENATE BILL 179

2 **51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Cisco McSorley

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9  
10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; ENACTING THE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS  
12 ACT.

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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

15 SECTION 1. A new section of the Public School Code is  
16 enacted to read:

17 "[NEW MATERIAL] SHORT TITLE.--This act may be cited as the  
18 "Community Schools Act".

19 SECTION 2. A new section of the Public School Code is  
20 enacted to read:

21 "[NEW MATERIAL] PURPOSE.--The Community Schools Act is  
22 enacted to provide a strategy to organize the resources of a  
23 community to ensure student success while addressing the needs  
24 of the whole student; to partner federal, state and local  
25 entities with private community-based organizations to improve

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1 the coordination, delivery, effectiveness and efficiency of  
2 services provided to children and families, including wide-  
3 ranging school-based health care, extended learning hours and  
4 family engagement and support services and to coordinate  
5 resources, helping to align and leverage community resources  
6 and integrate funding streams."

7 SECTION 3. A new section of the Public School Code is  
8 enacted to read:

9 "[NEW MATERIAL] COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVES--SCHOOL  
10 IMPROVEMENT FUNCTIONS--REQUIREMENTS.--

11 A. A community schools initiative may be created in  
12 any public school in the state.

13 B. A community schools initiative shall include the  
14 following core set of services on site:

15 (1) extended learning programs, including  
16 before- and after-school programs as well as summer programs;

17 (2) school-based or school-linked health care;  
18 and

19 (3) family engagement and support services.

20 C. A community schools initiative shall include the  
21 following:

22 (1) a lead partner agency, including but not  
23 limited to a public or private agency or community-based  
24 organization, to help coordinate programs and services;

25 (2) an assessment of community resources

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1 informed by students, families and community and school leaders  
2 that relates to the effective delivery of core services on  
3 site; and

4 (3) the establishment of an evaluation process  
5 that measures both the quality and quantity of outcomes."

6 SECTION 4. A new section of the Public School Code is  
7 enacted to read:

8 "[NEW MATERIAL] COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVES--GRANTS--  
9 SCHOOL DISTRICT, GROUP OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR PUBLIC SCHOOL  
10 DUTIES--REQUIREMENTS.--

11 A. Subject to the availability of funding, grants  
12 for community schools initiatives are available to a school  
13 district, a group of public schools or a public school that  
14 meets department eligibility requirements.

15 B. Applications for grants for community schools  
16 initiatives shall be in the form prescribed by the department  
17 and shall include the following information:

18 (1) a statement of need, including demographic  
19 and socioeconomic information about the area to be served by  
20 the community schools initiative;

21 (2) goals and expected outcomes of the  
22 initiative;

23 (3) services and activities to be provided by  
24 the initiative;

25 (4) written agreements for the provision of

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1 services by public and private agencies, community groups and  
2 other parties;

3 (5) a work plan and budget for the initiative,  
4 including staffing requirements and the expected availability  
5 of staff;

6 (6) days and hours of operation;

7 (7) strategies for dissemination of  
8 information about the initiative to potential users;

9 (8) training and professional development  
10 plans;

11 (9) letters of endorsement and commitment from  
12 community agencies and organizations and local governments; and

13 (10) any other information the department  
14 requires.

15 C. A school district, a group of public schools or  
16 a public school that uses funds under this section to transform  
17 a school into a research- and evidence-based community schools  
18 initiative shall:

19 (1) use rigorous, transparent and equitable  
20 evaluation systems to assess the effectiveness of the  
21 implementation of the community schools initiative;

22 (2) provide ongoing, high-quality professional  
23 development to staff that:

24 (a) aligns with the school's  
25 instructional program;

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1 (b) facilitates effective teaching and  
2 learning; and

3 (c) supports the implementation of  
4 school reform strategies; and

5 (3) give the school sufficient operational  
6 flexibility in programming, staffing, budgeting and scheduling  
7 so that the school can fully implement a comprehensive strategy  
8 designed to focus on improving school climate, student  
9 achievement and growth in reading and mathematics, attendance,  
10 behavior, parental engagement and, for high schools, graduation  
11 rates and readiness for college or a career."