

HOUSE BILL 477

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

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AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; REQUIRING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVES TO INCLUDE AN INDEPENDENTLY EVALUATED, EVIDENCE-BASED OR RESULTS-BASED COMMUNITY SCHOOLS MODEL DESIGNED TO IMPROVE ACADEMIC OUTCOMES, INCREASE ATTENDANCE AND STRENGTHEN BEHAVIOR FOR ALL STUDENTS; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

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

SECTION 1. Section 22-32-1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2013, Chapter 16, Section 1) is amended to read:

"22-32-1. SHORT TITLE.--~~[This act]~~ Chapter 22, Article 32 NMSA 1978 may be cited as the "Community Schools Act"."

SECTION 2. Section 22-32-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2013, Chapter 16, Section 3) is amended to read:

"22-32-3. COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVES--SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FUNCTIONS--REQUIREMENTS.--

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1 A. A community schools initiative may be created in
2 any public school in the state.

3 B. A community schools initiative shall include
4 ~~[but not be limited to]~~ the following core set of strategies
5 and opportunities to strengthen behavior for all students:

6 (1) extended learning programs, including
7 ~~[before and]~~ after-school programs ~~[as well as]~~ and summer
8 programs;

9 (2) school-based or school-linked health care;
10 ~~[and~~

11 ~~(3) family engagement and support services]~~

12 (3) opportunities for families to acquire
13 skills to promote early learning and childhood development;

14 (4) school and community-resource partnerships
15 with an integrated focus on academics and other social, health
16 and familial support;

17 (5) social, health, nutrition and mental
18 health services and support for children, family members and
19 community members; and

20 (6) case management for students in need of
21 comprehensive support in academics, attendance and behavior.

22 C. A community schools initiative shall include the
23 following:

24 (1) a lead partner agency, including ~~[but not~~
25 ~~limited to]~~ a public or private agency or community-based

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1 organization, to help coordinate programs and services;

2 (2) an assessment of community resources
3 informed by students, families and community and school leaders
4 that relates to the effective delivery of core services on
5 site; and

6 (3) the [~~establishment of an evaluation~~
7 ~~process that measures both the quality and quantity of~~
8 ~~outcomes~~] implementation of an independently evaluated,
9 evidence-based or results-based model of integrated student
10 services and comprehensive supports that is proven to increase
11 student achievement."

12 SECTION 3. Section 22-32-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2013,
13 Chapter 16, Section 4) is amended to read:

14 "22-32-4. COMMUNITY SCHOOLS INITIATIVES--ADMINISTRATIVE
15 COSTS--GRANTS--SCHOOL DISTRICT, GROUP OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS OR
16 PUBLIC SCHOOL DUTIES--REQUIREMENTS.--

17 A. A school district shall bear any administrative
18 costs associated with the establishment and implementation of a
19 community school within the school district.

20 B. Subject to the availability of funding, grants
21 for community schools initiatives are available to a school
22 district, a group of public schools or a public school that has
23 demonstrated partnerships with any lead agency and local,
24 private and public agencies for the purpose of establishing,
25 operating and sustaining community schools and that meets

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1 department eligibility requirements.

2 C. Applications for grants for community schools
3 initiatives shall be in the form prescribed by the department
4 and shall include the following information:

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

8 (2) goals and expected outcomes of the
9 initiative;

10 (3) services and activities to be provided by
11 the initiative;

12 (4) written agreements for the provision of
13 services by public and private agencies, community groups and
14 other parties;

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

18 (6) days and hours of operation;

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

21 (8) training and professional development
22 plans;

23 (9) letters of endorsement and commitment from
24 community agencies and organizations and local governments; and

25 (10) any other information the department

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1 requires.

2 D. A school district, a group of public schools or
3 a public school that uses funds under this section to transform
4 a school into a research- and evidence-based community schools
5 initiative shall:

6 (1) use rigorous, transparent, ~~[and]~~ equitable
7 and evidence-based evaluation systems to assess the
8 effectiveness of the implementation of the community schools
9 initiative;

10 (2) provide ongoing, high-quality professional
11 development to staff that:

12 (a) aligns with the school's
13 instructional program;

14 (b) facilitates effective teaching and
15 learning; and

16 (c) supports the implementation of
17 school reform strategies; and

18 (3) give the school sufficient operational
19 flexibility in programming, staffing, budgeting and scheduling
20 so that the school can fully implement a comprehensive strategy
21 designed to focus on improving school climate, student
22 achievement and growth in reading and mathematics, attendance,
23 behavior, parental engagement and, for high schools, graduation
24 rates and readiness for college or a career."

25 SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION.--Four hundred thousand dollars
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1 (\$400,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the public
2 education department for expenditure in fiscal year 2018 to
3 implement the Community Schools Act. Any unexpended or
4 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2018
5 shall revert to the general fund.

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