

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL 177

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; CREATING A REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP
SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION PROJECT; CREATING A FUND; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION.

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

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

"~~NEW MATERIAL~~ REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION
PROJECT CREATED--REPORTING AND EVALUATION--FUND CREATED.--

A. As used in this section:

(1) "demonstration project" means the regional
partnership school demonstration project;

(2) "elementary education" means fourth
through eighth grades;

(3) "residency program" means a pre-service

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1 clinical teacher candidate residency program in the
2 demonstration project whereby selected teacher candidates serve
3 a two-year teaching residency in elementary education,
4 including mentoring by experienced teachers and other informal
5 and formal professional development; and

6 (4) "teacher candidates" means undergraduate
7 juniors and seniors in the school of education at New Mexico
8 highlands university who are participating in the residency
9 program.

10 B. The "regional partnership school demonstration
11 project" is created as a five-year demonstration project
12 involving a partnership among the Pojoaque Valley public school
13 district, New Mexico highlands university school of education
14 and Los Alamos national laboratory, beginning in the summer of
15 2020 and ending at the end of fiscal year 2025. The purpose of
16 the demonstration project is to show that comprehensive,
17 coordinated and concentrated efforts will positively affect
18 student achievement as well as teacher recruitment and
19 professional satisfaction, leading to greater retention and
20 fewer teaching vacancies, by:

21 (1) assisting undergraduates in colleges and
22 schools of education and licensed teachers to improve their
23 teaching skills;

24 (2) providing targeted core subject extended
25 learning opportunities for elementary students; and

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1 (3) providing supports for parents and
2 families of students.

3 C. The primary component of the demonstration
4 project is the establishment of a "pre-service clinical teacher
5 candidate residency program" for teacher candidates who will
6 serve their residency in the Pojoaque Valley public school
7 district teaching in one or more grades in elementary
8 education. The purpose of this project is to demonstrate that
9 immersing teacher candidates in a highly innovative,
10 comprehensive and systemic approach to teacher training will
11 result in:

12 (1) more undergraduates interested in the
13 teaching profession;

14 (2) beginning teachers better prepared for the
15 rigors of classroom teaching;

16 (3) beginning teachers who are able to advance
17 from level one to level two licensure earlier than normal; and

18 (4) teachers who will make a long-term
19 commitment to public education.

20 D. The residency program costs may include tuition
21 scholarships and residency stipends for participating teaching
22 candidates, training and stipends for teacher mentors and
23 instructional materials.

24 E. Other components of the demonstration project
25 include:

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1 (1) the "professional development program",
2 which will concentrate on integrated, coordinated professional
3 development for licensed teachers in fourth through eighth
4 grades, and for licensed teachers in other grades if funding
5 allows. The intent of this program is to demonstrate that
6 providing intensive informal and formal professional
7 development for classroom teachers will improve teaching
8 quality and mitigate teacher burn-out. The program costs may
9 include salaries for instructional coaches; substitute
10 teachers; funds for experts to lead summer and school-year
11 professional development sessions; per diem and mileage for
12 off-site professional development attendees, if necessary; and
13 instructional materials;

14 (2) the "core subject enrichment program" for
15 elementary education students that includes month-long mindset
16 mathematics summer camps and other topical summer camps and
17 after-school core subject development sessions. The intent of
18 this program is to demonstrate that providing extended learning
19 time, particularly in mathematics and language arts, through
20 after-school and summer programs will instill core subject
21 skills, improve learning habits and strategies and mitigate the
22 educational loss that normally occurs over summer vacation.
23 The program costs may include salaries for licensed teachers
24 who elect to work beyond their regular school-year contracts to
25 plan, prepare and implement one or more summer camps or after-

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1 school core subject development sessions; student
2 transportation, if necessary; and instructional materials and
3 supplies; and

4 (3) the "family engagement program" will be
5 targeted toward providing ways to engage and support parents
6 and families of elementary education students. The intent of
7 this program is to demonstrate that family engagement and
8 support will result in increased student achievement and
9 satisfaction and, more importantly for the long term, foster a
10 cultural shift toward valuing education not just within a
11 family, but within the community.

12 F. The demonstration project partners shall submit
13 project design and implementation plans to the department for
14 its review.

15 G. Elementary education students participating in
16 the demonstration project shall be evaluated at the beginning
17 of the project and their progress shall be evaluated each year,
18 which shall include both quantitative and qualitative
19 indicators of improvement.

20 H. The demonstration project shall include external
21 evaluation of the programs and overall project over the life of
22 the project, including a study of the effect of the
23 demonstration project on the school district as a whole.
24 Periodic reports shall be provided to the department and the
25 legislature, and a final report shall be provided to the

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1 department, the governor and the legislature.

2 I. The "regional partnership school demonstration
3 project fund" is created as a nonreverting fund in the state
4 treasury during the life of the demonstration project. The
5 fund consists of appropriations, gifts, grants and donations
6 and any other money credited to the fund. The fund shall be
7 administered by the department of finance and administration.
8 Money in the fund is appropriated to the department of finance
9 and administration and shall be expended to pay the expenses of
10 the demonstration project, subject to limitations of the
11 appropriation. Expenditures from the fund shall be on warrant
12 of the secretary of finance and administration pursuant to
13 vouchers signed by the superintendent of the Pojoaque Valley
14 public school district or the superintendent's authorized
15 representative. Money remaining in the fund at the end of
16 fiscal year 2025 shall revert to the general fund."

17 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.--Three million three hundred
18 thirty-five thousand dollars (\$3,335,000) is appropriated from
19 the general fund to the regional partnership school
20 demonstration project fund for expenditure in fiscal years 2020
21 through 2025 to design, implement and evaluate the regional
22 partnership school demonstration project. Any unexpended or
23 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2025
24 shall revert to the general fund.