

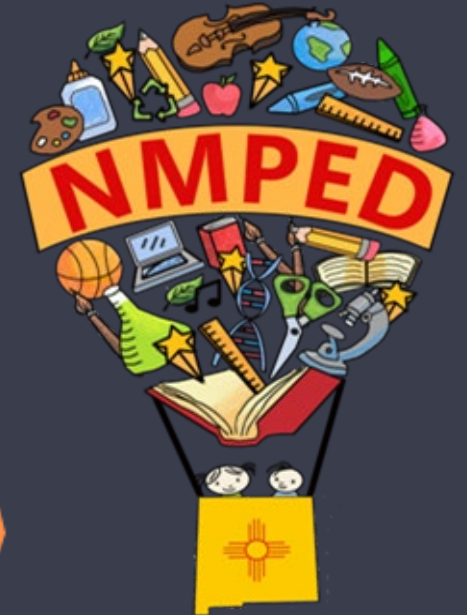
Presentation for the Legislative Education Study Committee

Public Education Department Agency Priorities

Arsenio Romero, Ph.D., Secretary of Public Education

July 25, 2024

Investing for tomorrow, delivering today.

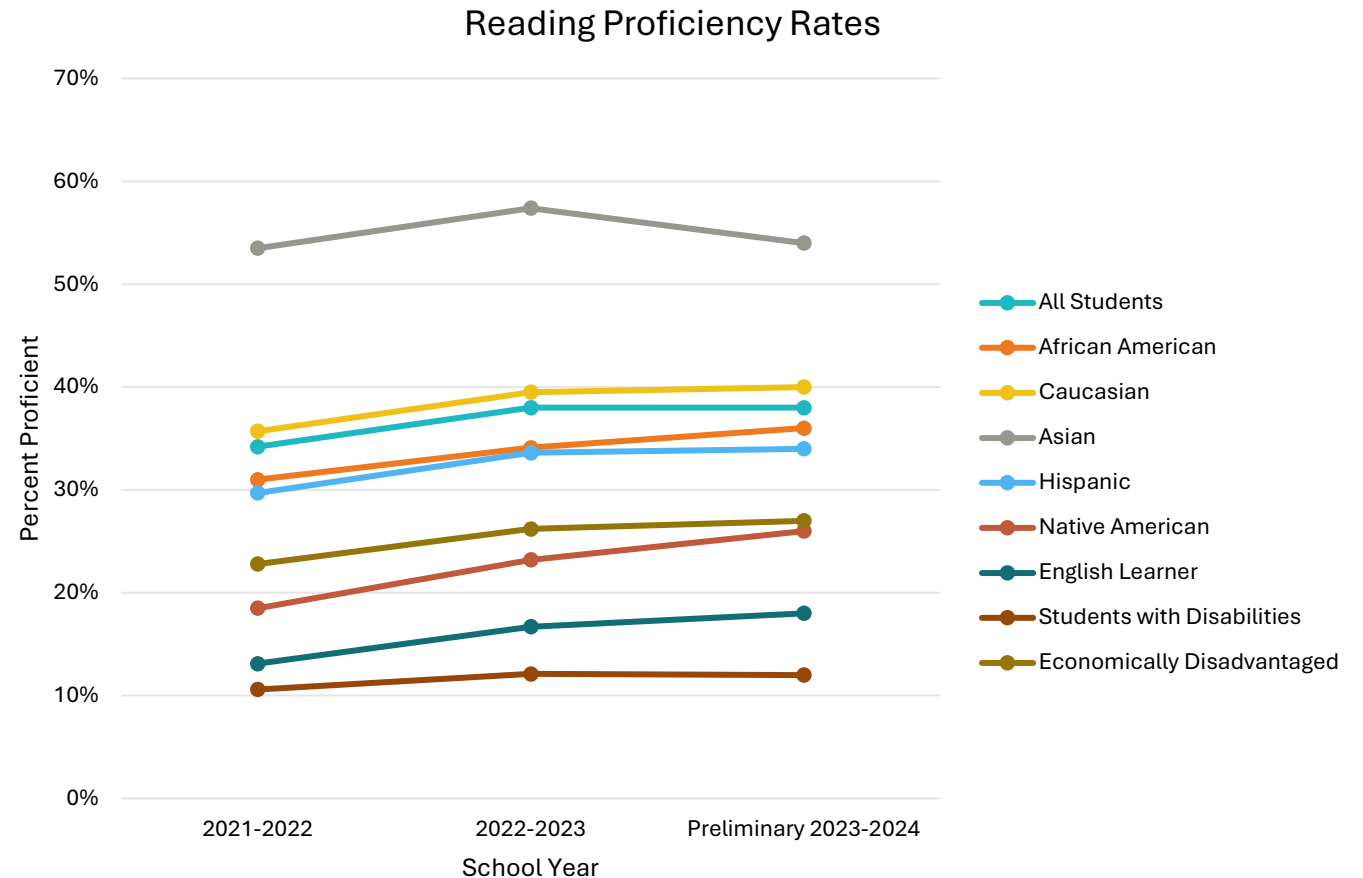


*A Presentation by the
New Mexico Public
Education Department*

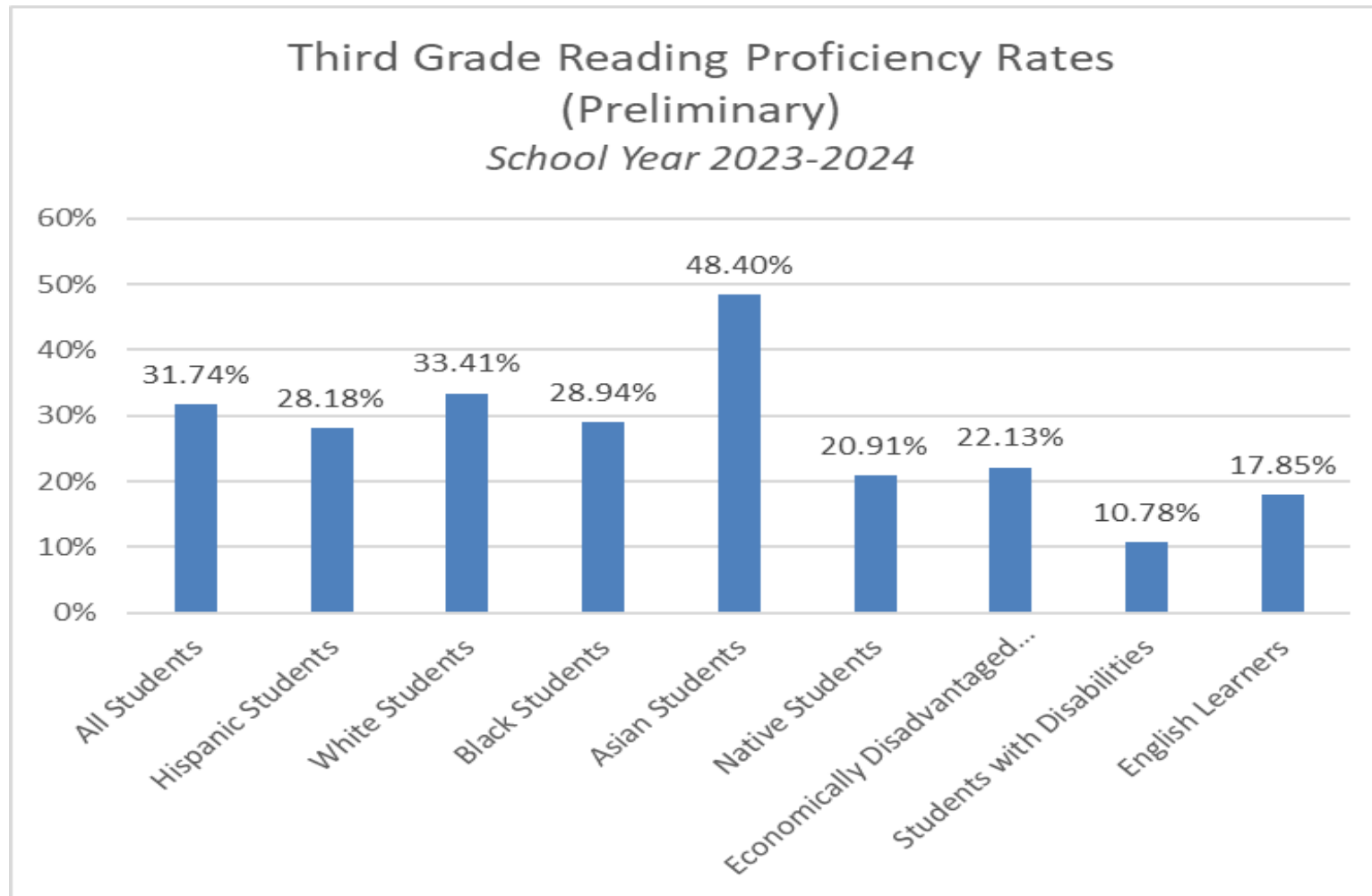
Academic Achievement – English Language Arts

English proficiency rates increase

- All groups
- Native American students
- English learners



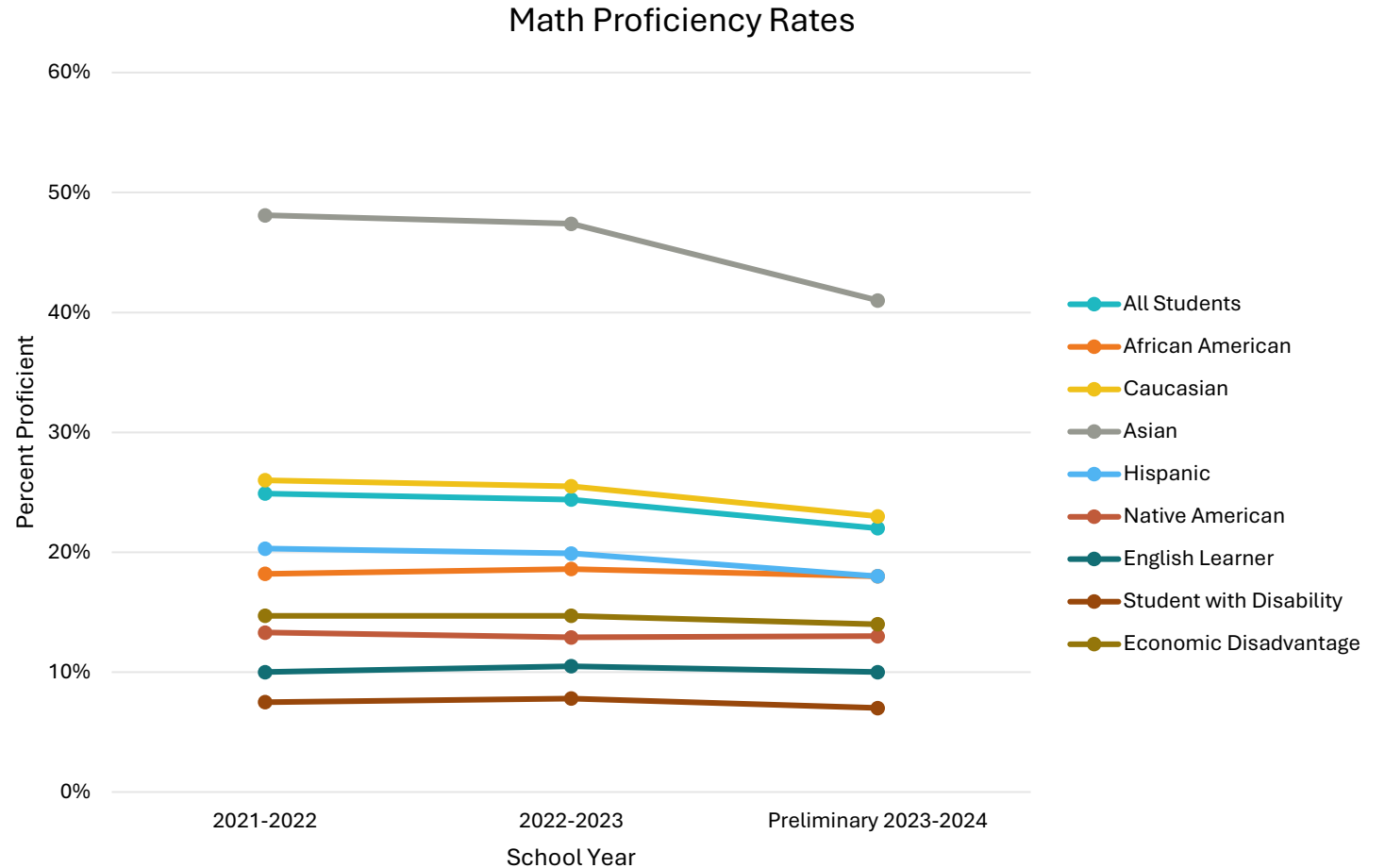
Academic Achievement – English Language Arts



Academic Achievement - Mathematics

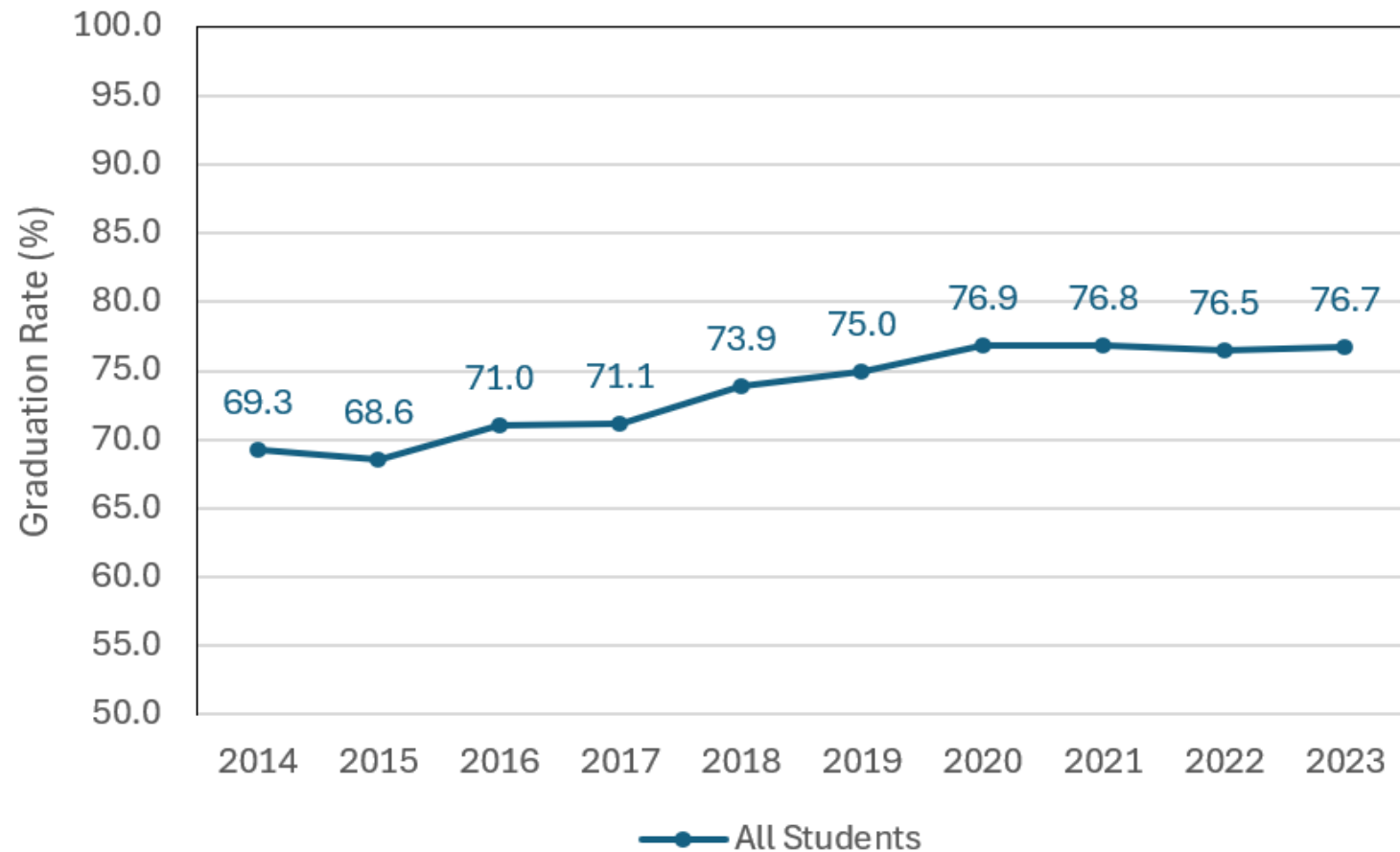
Math proficiency rates

- Little change overall



Graduation Rate

New Mexico 4 Year Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate, All Students



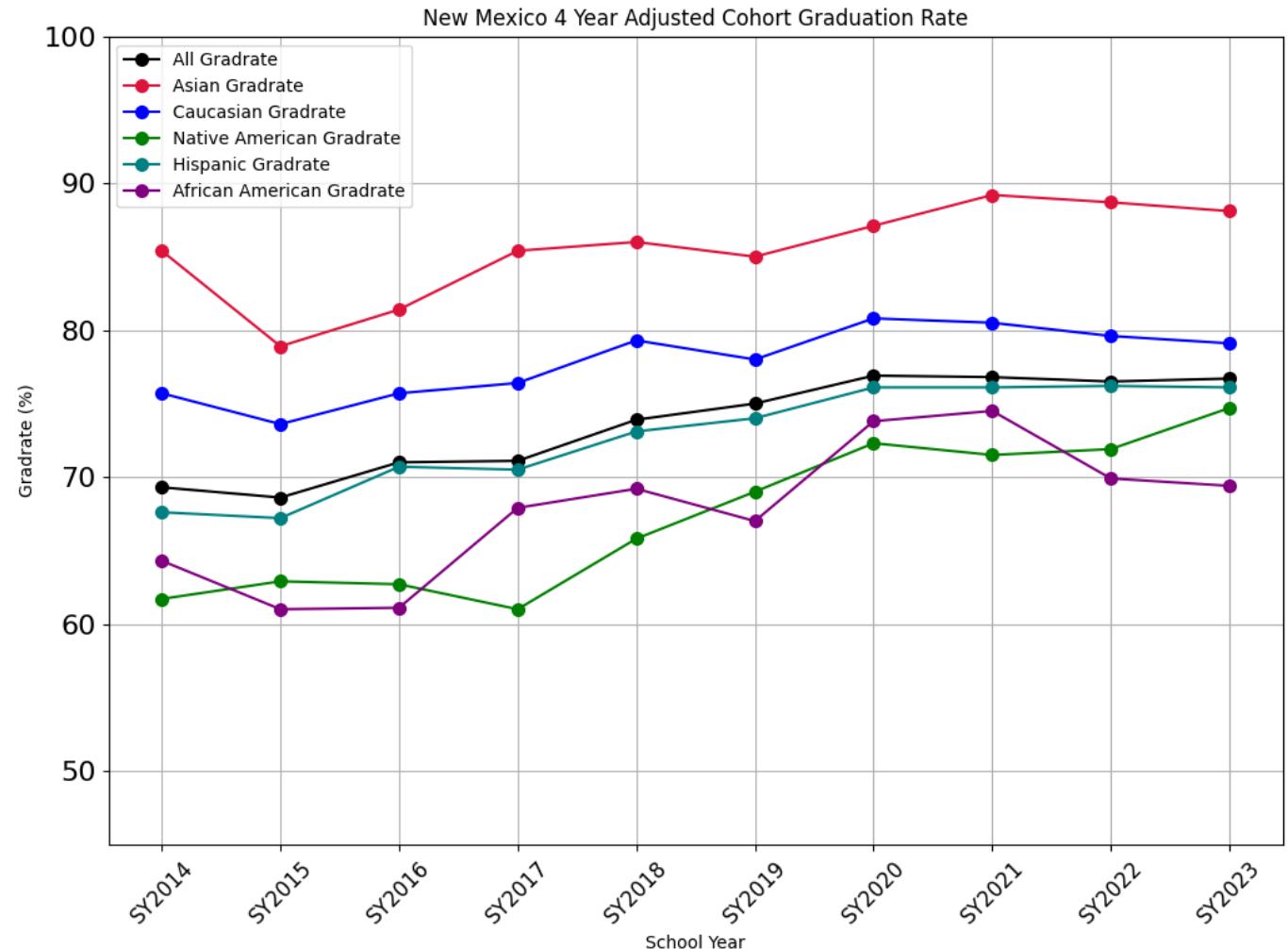
Graduation Rates – Race and Ethnicity

Closing the gap

- Native American students
- 10 years of steady improvement

Focus for improvement

- Continue to close gaps, particularly for African American students
- Build on 10 years of growth in rates of graduation



Agency Priorities

- Improving Student Outcomes
- Literacy Initiatives
- Supporting Educators
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM)
- Artificial Intelligence
- Career Technical Education (CTE)
- School Improvement and Transformation
- Attendance and Exclusionary Practices
- Behavioral Health

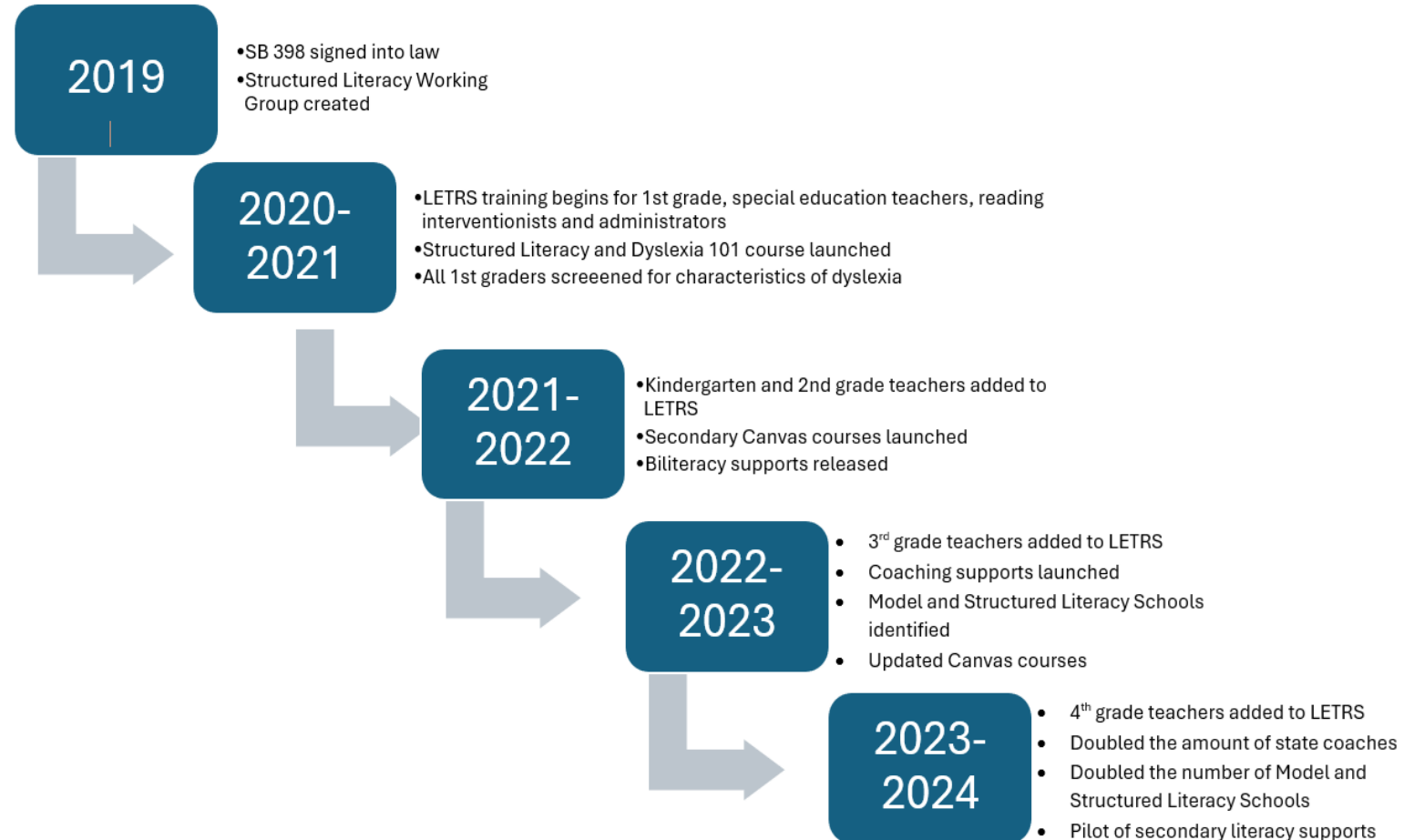
Improving Student Outcomes

- Improve evaluation efforts
 - Increase agency resources
 - Identify high-impact strategies that improve outcomes
- Support effective and proven initiatives and programs, such as:
 - Structured Literacy
 - STEM Initiatives
 - Career Technical Education

Literacy Initiatives

Structured Literacy

combines a proven effective system for teaching reading with what cognitive science tells us is happening in the brain as we learn to read – it involves a dynamic, multi-sensory approach to learning. Research shows structured literacy approaches benefit all students and are especially effective for students with learning disabilities such as dyslexia.



Summer Reading Program

The New Mexico Summer Reading Program is a statewide instruction and reading intervention program. The legislature appropriated \$30 million for the summer reading program and \$30 million in capital outlay funding for a building in a permanent location for this ongoing work.

New Mexico Summer Reading Program

Daily Enrollment Program Update



Number of Students Enrolled

9533

Number of Instructors Applied

2775

Number of Sites

117

Percentage towards goal
of 10,000

95%

Percentage towards goal
of 2500

111%

Participating Entities

(some have multiple sites)

**28 Districts, 15 Charter Schools,
16 Community Partners,
3 Colleges and Universities,
and 7 Tribal Schools**



Supporting Educators

Clinical Practice

- Paid student teaching
- Teacher residencies
- Principal residencies

Educator Fellows

Beginning Teacher Mentorship

- Lift, Launch

School Leader Support

- Lead, Thrive, Rise, Soar

Educator Preparation

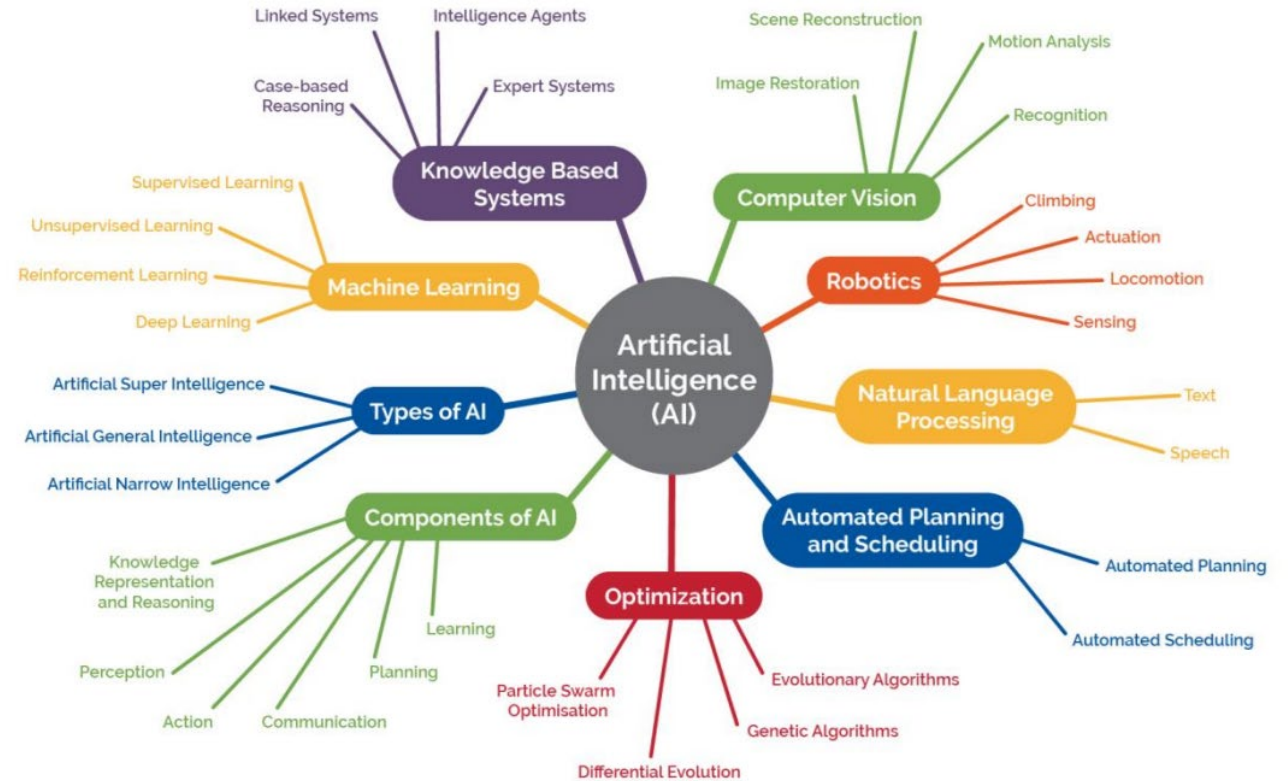
- Course code alignment
- Science of reading

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

- Update and implement the elementary science specialist endorsement
- Create a stipend for the elementary math specialist endorsement to ensure educators are well prepared and effective
- Professional learning that focuses on culturally and linguistically responsive education
- Hiring outdoor learning specialists and offering microgrants for constructing outdoor classrooms

Artificial Intelligence

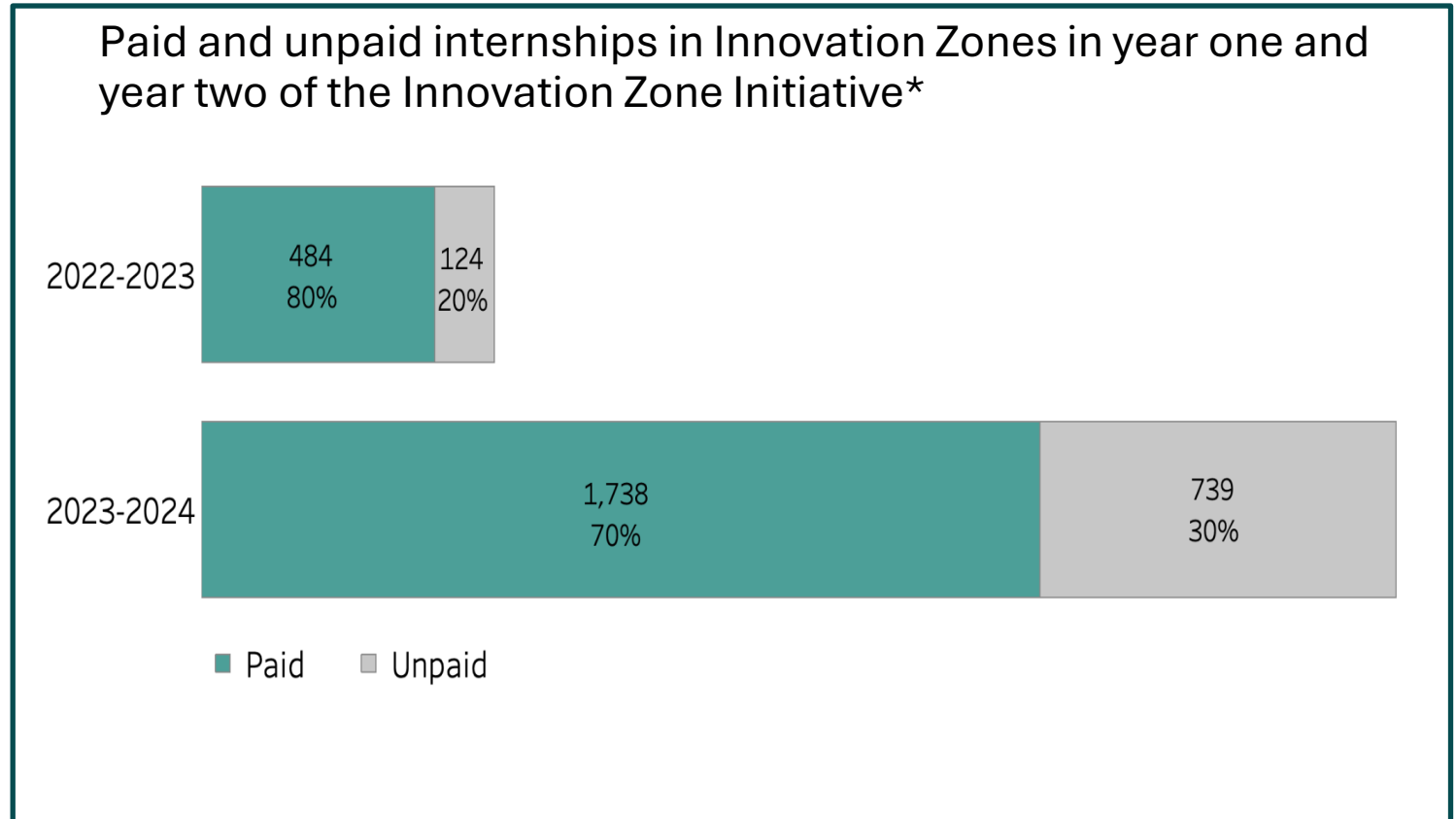
- Collaboration with New Mexico State University
- Policies and guidance
- Use cases



[From: Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Teaching and Learning](#)

Career Technical Education

- Summer Enrichment Internship Program
- Innovation Zones



School Improvement and Transformation

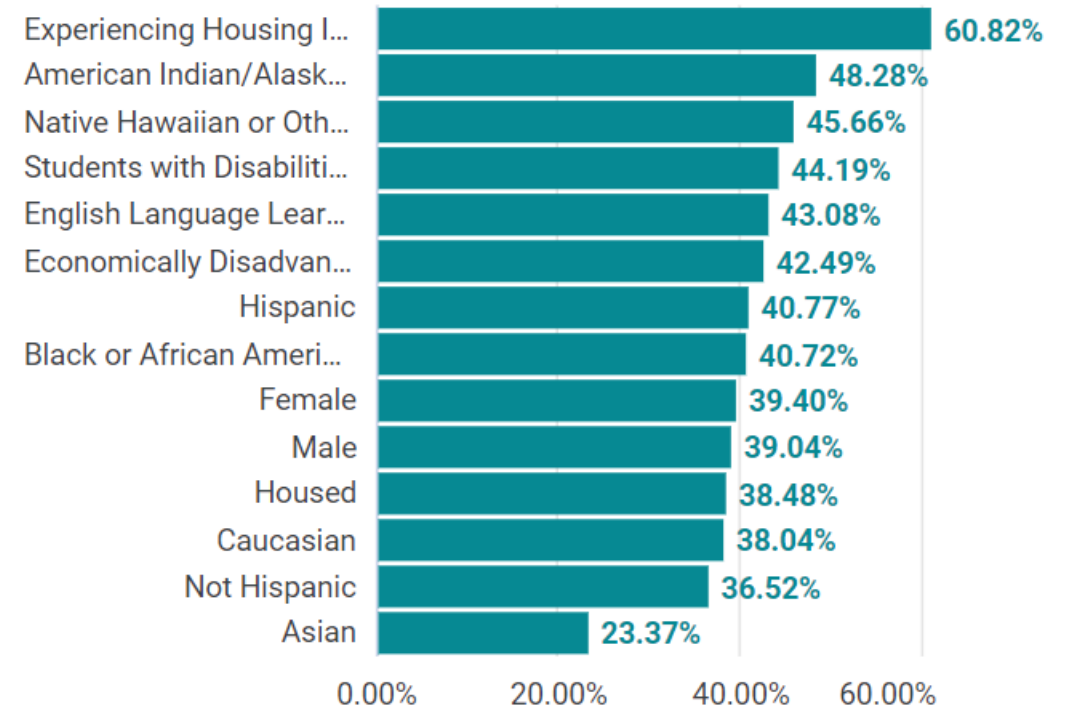
- Supporting schools most in need of improvement
- 144 schools in Comprehensive Support and Improvement and Most Rigorous Intervention status
- This federally required work includes:
 - Site visits to assess school programs and structure, adoption of evidence-based programs, and ongoing monitoring visits
 - Intensive mentorship and coaching for teachers and school leaders to identify root causes of low performance and to set improvement goals

Attendance and Exclusionary Practices

Amend the Attendance for Success Act to:

- Focus interventions
- Reduce burden
- Reduce exclusionary practices
 - Reduce chronic absenteeism
 - Improve behavioral health
 - Create positive learning environments
 - Reduce crime and drug use
 - Improve academic outcomes

Chronic Absentee Rate - School ⓘ



Behavioral Health

- Even more important after the pandemic
- Crucial for both health and academic outcomes
- \$5M for behavioral health in 2023/2024 school year supported
 - Curriculum for behavioral health
 - Training on restorative practices
 - Grants to schools for innovative behavioral health practices
 - Wellness rooms
- \$0 for behavioral health in 2024/2025 school year

Legislative Considerations for FY26

- Strengthen requirements for educational leadership preparation and licensing
- Require math professional learning
- Reduce exclusionary practices
- Update the Community Schools Act
- Require a common IEP template

Fund:

- Math and STEM
- School improvement and transformation
- Attendance initiatives
- Literacy, including high school reading support
- Drug counselors in high schools
- Education acts, including the Bilingual Multicultural Education Act
- Behavioral health
- Career Technical Education (CTE)
- The full cost of public school insurance

Thank you!

