

Yazzie/Martinez vs. New Mexico and the Importance of After-School Programming

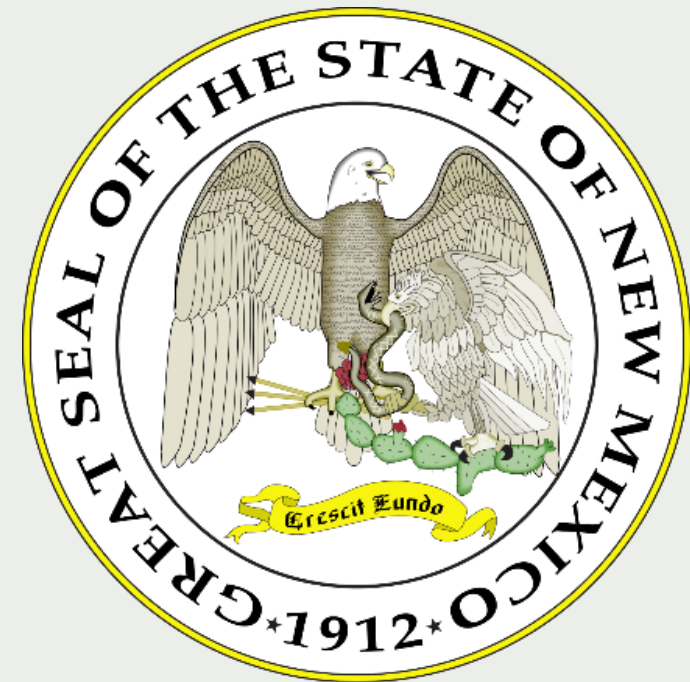
Alisa Diehl, Education Attorney
New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty
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The New Mexico Constitution

"A **uniform** system of free public schools **sufficient** for the education of, and open to, all the children of school age in the state shall be established and maintained."

N.M. Constitution, Article XII,
Section 1



The Case for Education Equity in New Mexico

<https://youtu.be/XS8lfo5sB5E>



Wilhelmenia Yazzie, Parent and Advocate

Who Is Impacted?

- Native American Students (10.6%)
- English Language Learners (14.4%)
- Students with Disabilities (14.8%)
- Low-Income students (71%)

Judge's Decision

*"...[T]he State Constitution requires the State to provide every student with the opportunity to obtain an education that allows them to become **prepared for career or college.**" (Judge Singleton)*

- **Multicultural Framework**
- **Effective Programs and Services**
- **Teachers**
- **Funding**
- **Accountability**



What the Judge's Decision said about After- School Programs

- **The State has a duty to provide programs and services, such as after school.**
- **After school programs have proven to provide support that "at-risk students need.**
- **Proven to:**
 - **Achieve higher grades;**
 - **Increase graduation rates;**
 - **Engage in less risky behavior;**

After-School Continued ...

- **A vital need:**
 - **Not all districts provide after-school programming, even though students want to participate;**
 - **Lack of funding.**

A long way to go ...

- **Most schools do not have enough funding to expand programs for “at-risk” students**, such as extended learning programs, and still lack funding for transportation.