



# National Education Association - New Mexico

*Great Public Schools Begin With Us!*

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Sharon Morgan  
*President*

Betty Patterson  
*Vice President*

Charles Bowyer  
*Executive Director*

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The National Education Association of New Mexico will host over 160 member delegates at its annual Delegate Council on Saturday, November 5, 2011. President Sharon Morgan will convene this statewide business meeting at the Albuquerque Sheraton Uptown beginning at 9 am. Highlighting the day's events will be a celebration of NEA-NM's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an organization. Founded in the waning weeks of 1886 by a small group of educators meeting in Santa Fe, it soon accomplished its first goal of establishing a system of free public schools. After statehood, it became the New Mexico Education Association before changing to its current name, NEA-New Mexico and continuing its advocacy for public schools and public school employees.

Joining the delegates at the celebration are former Presidents, Executive Directors, and staff including; former State Representative J. Paul Taylor, former State Representative Ima Lee Wells, former Public Education Commissioner Catherine Smith, current Deming Schools Mary Lou Cameron, Democratic Party Vice-Chair Annadelle Sanchez, and syndicated New Mexico columnist Jay Miller.

Delegates will hear a keynote address from national President, Dennis Van Roekel, discuss the current status of school grading implementation, receive any updates on the Teacher Effectiveness Task Force Report, and hear reports from representatives of the Public School Insurance Authority and the Educational Retirement Board. They will also be introduced to NEA-NM's 2012 Read Across America Honorary Chairman, Harlan McKosato, the host of the national radio program, *Native America Calling*, that originates daily from Albuquerque.

To commemorate the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, each delegate will receive an anniversary book chronicling NEA-NM's history in pictures and timeline fashion side-by-side with our state's and country's history.

Contact Eduardo Holguin 505-469-2125 for inquiries, press availability for those mentioned in this release, or for a copy of the anniversary book.