



# National Education Association - New Mexico

*Great Public Schools Begin With Us!*

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## Local Businessman Named Friend of Education

An accomplished national speaker and current resident of Phoenix, Arizona still comes home to Deming on occasion, and when he does, the town and students of Deming are the better for his visits. Michael Herrera, President and CEO of MHA Consulting, hasn't forgotten his roots or the children on this stop on I-10, best known for its clean water and fast ducks. Now, it is known to NEA-New Mexico as the home of its 2011 Friend of Education. Mr. Herrera was recognized at NEA-NM's annual Delegate Council in Albuquerque on November 5, 2011 where he was greeted by a thunderous standing ovation by the 170 participants. Herrera for the last seven years has selflessly shared his time and generosity with the students of Memorial Elementary. He not only provides coats for 40-50 children each year, but he also comes to town to take them shopping. He makes it a point not only to ensure a proper fit, but to also spend time with each individual student in making them feel important and deserving. He provides another 25 students their back-to-school supplies and this year, gave every student at Memorial a book to take home. On top of that he contributes to the Deming Schools SOS program which provides for emergency needs of eye glasses and clothing for students.

His busy schedule takes him across the country as a speaker for Disaster Recovery Conferences, but somehow, this son of Deming, this Deming Wildcat, finds his way home to pay it forward and keep Memorial School and its students in his thoughts and his heart