



National Education Association - New Mexico

Great Public Schools Begin With Us!

Sharon Morgan
President

Betty Patterson
Vice President

Charles Bowyer
Executive Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 14, 2011

For More Information Contact:

Eduardo Holguin, NEA-New Mexico Government Relations

505-469-2125 • eholguin@nea.org

Kirtland Teacher wins Award for Teaching Excellence

NEA- New Mexico announced its winner of the 2011 Award for Teaching Excellence- **Phyllis Meier**, Business/Computer teacher at Kirtland High School. She was nominated by her colleagues in Central Consolidated Schools who cite her work ethic, professionalism and innovation as major contributors to the success she has with her students in this rural, far-flung school district. Phyllis sponsors the Business Professionals of America and regularly sees her students succeed in receiving state and national honors in competitions. She takes her responsibility to the profession seriously by working through the Regional Educational Technology Assistance (RETA) program to provide professional development to her colleagues; assisting them in integrating technology into their classrooms and also providing assistance to teachers working on their dossiers to advance through the licensure system.

Phyllis now becomes NEA-NM's nominee for the national NEA Award for Teaching Excellence sponsored by the NEA National Foundation for the Improvement of Education (NFIE) and California Casualty. California Casualty will be contributing \$650 to the school of each state winner. NEA-NM, in turn, will provide \$1000 award to Phyllis and NEA will provide transportation and lodging for her to attend the annual Gala in Washington, DC on February 12, 2012 where she will be honored along with the other state finalists vying for the national award to be announced that evening.