

# **Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations**

**New Mexico Highlands University**

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The Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations (CESDP) was established by the New Mexico State Legislature in 1993 in order to address the unique and diverse educational needs of the state.

The mission of the CESDP is to assist communities in improving the quality of education for all learners. The CESDP manages state, federal and private contracts or grants that support this mission. Services focus on partnerships with districts and communities that have culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

CESDP staff has expertise in the needs of the diverse learners and families of the southwest, student and family literacy, system-wide school improvement, implementation of federal regulations and grants, program planning and implementation, research and evaluation, educational resource development and dissemination and standards-based education.

## **Products/Publications**

*New Mexico Content Standards, Benchmarks and Performance Standards Reference Guides*

*Standards Primer: A Guide to Standards-Based Education in New Mexico*

*Equal Chance, Equal Learning through Literacy (ECELL) Toolkit*

*Working Together: Parent, Family and Community Involvement in Education Toolkit (First Edition)*

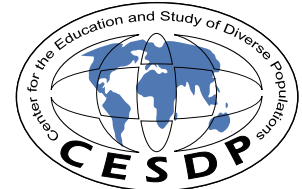
*Working Together: School-Family-Community Partnerships, A Toolkit for New Mexico School Communities (Second Edition)*

*Cultural Competency Professional Development Manual*

*Drawing From the Well Curriculum and Place-Based Teaching Video*

*Supplemental Education Services Evaluation Report*

*High Quality Sheltered Instruction Professional Development Manual*



Center for the Education and  
Study of Diverse Populations  
at New Mexico Highlands University

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Dear New Mexico Educator:

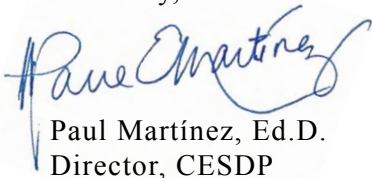
The Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations (CESDP) at New Mexico Highlands University has spent the past decade engaged in research and development, technical assistance delivery and evaluation activities. Those efforts have always been directed at providing educators and policy makers with information and resources to improve education on many levels. We are pleased to have been invited by New Mexico's Public Education Department to develop the most current of those resources - ***Working Together: School-Family-Community Partnerships, A Toolkit for New Mexico School Communities.***

We created this *Toolkit* to provide educators and families with information, resources and strategies to both increase and strengthen parent, family and community involvement across New Mexico. The *Toolkit* is based on the research of Dr. Joyce Epstein from Johns Hopkins University who has identified six types of parent involvement. In addition, we used the National PTA's standards for parent and family involvement as an additional reference for development. Our intent has been to create both a research-based guide as well as a practitioner-friendly resource for New Mexico educators and families.

The CESDP joins Governor Bill Richardson and Secretary of Education Dr. Veronica García in emphasizing the importance of parent, school and community alliances in learning. We have long supported these collaborations not only as a goal of effective school reform but as a statewide imperative. If New Mexico is to continue building a stronger ethic around teaching and learning, parents and families must be supported by schools in increasingly effective ways.

I want to extend my thanks to Secretary García and her staff for guiding this project from inception to completion. Moreover, I wish to thank my staff at the Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations for their passion and commitment in completing this *Toolkit*. We at CESDP hope you find this product an effective tool for building stronger parent, school and community partnerships. Please contact us at CESDP if you are interested in professional development services in the area of building school-family-community partnerships.

Sincerely,



Paul Martínez, Ed.D.  
Director, CESDP