CES Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes
February 4, 2026

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:00 p.m. by President Elect, Elisa Begueria. The meeting notice, agenda, and accompanying documents were disseminated to attendees 10 days prior to the meeting via email and posted on the CES' website.

Roll Call:
Members Present:

Elisa Begueria – Lake Arthur	President
Brian Snider – Jal	Past President
Lauren Laws – Aztec	Region I
Michelle Gonzales – Penasco	Region II
Johnna Bruhn – Mosquero	President Elect
Keith Durham – Grady	Region V
Dr. Gerry Washburn – Carlsbad	Region VI
William Hawkins – Silver City	Region VIII
Erik Bose – ABQ Charter Academy	NMCCS
Dr. Charley Carroll	NMCEL
Deputy Secretary Yvonne Garcia	NMPED

Members Absent:

Dr. Cindy Sims – Estancia	Region IV
Cody Patterson – Carrizozo	Region VII
Joe Guillen	NMSBA
Dr. Sandra Rodriquez	NM Higher Ed
Stan Rounds	NMCEL

Non-Members Present:

David Chavez	CES Executive Director
Teresa Salazar	CES Chief Operating Officer
Norma Henderson	CES Finance Manager
Gustavo Rossell	CES Director of Procurement
Paul Benoit	CES Northern Services Manager
Doug Marshall	CES IT Director
Jim Barentine	CES Southern Services Manager
Dr. Kimberly Mizell	CES Site Director
LeAnne Gandy	CES Director of Leadership Development
Alexis Esslinger	CES LEAP Director

Quorum:
CES Board Policy states that attendance by one third of the Executive Committee constitutes a quorum. This was, therefore, a duly convened meeting of the CES Executive Committee.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Brian Snider seconded by William Hawkins to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2025, meeting with a correction to remove Mr. Hawkin's name from the list of absent committee members.

Approval of Agenda:
A motion was made by Erik Bose seconded by Michelle Gonzales to approve the agenda for the February 4, 2026, Executive Committee meeting.

Agency Communications:
The following reports were presented

NMCCS – Erik Bose
Matt Pahl, the Executive Director of Public Charter Schools of New Mexico has resigned.

NMCEL – Stan Rounds
Not present. No report given.

NMPED – Deputy Secretary Yvonne Garcia
Legislative Updates:
-Literacy Map presented on the Senate floor today, scheduled to move to the House on Friday 2/6.
-Office of Special Education on the Senate floor today, expected to move to House on Friday 2/6.
-Cellphone Bill read on the Senate floor today, advances to the Senate Education Committee on Friday 2/6.
-Distance Learning Bill, ongoing concerns, and issues have been raised. A working group meeting is scheduled with Senator Soules on Thursday 2/5 to review and develop necessary amendments for committee subgroup approval.

NMSBA – Joe Guillen
Not present. No report given.

Higher Education (4yr) – Dr. Sandra Rodriquez
Not present. No report given.

Higher Education (2yr) – Dr. Charley Carroll
A meeting was recently held with Mr. Chavez, Mr. Snider, and Mr. Hatch to establish a partnership to provide dual credit opportunities for Lea County students.

NMJC continues to be a big supporter of CES and currently has approximately $90 million in active construction projects on campus. Other institutions frequently reach out NMJC for recommendation. Luna Community College is in the process of constructing new student housing and inquired about recommended vendors; it was recommended that they utilize CES vendors and general contractors to complete their project.

Finance – Elisa Begueria
A full report is included in the packet.

Scholarship – Johnna Bruhn
The CBA scholarship is awarded to an educational assistant from the home district of the sitting president. This year it will be given to an education assistant from Lake Arthur.

Policy – Johnna Bruhn
A committee will be formed in April to review the policy and make any necessary revisions. The revised policy will then be submitted to the full board for review and presented to the board for approval at the

Annual Conference.

Administrative Reports

Finance
A full report is included in the packet.

Ancillary
A full report is included in the packet.

Procurement
A full report is included in the packet.

Northern Services/REAP
A full report is included in the packet.

Technology
A full report is included in the packet.

Southern Services
A full report is included in the packet.

Human Resources
A full report is included in the packet.

Executive Director Reports:

A full Administrative Report is included in the packet.

CES has a contract with AAIS to conduct the math initiative for 13 school districts. Chelsey Bradley, the Chief Operating Officer, provided a brief overview of the work AAIS provides. AAIS offers services with cohort training, site visits, virtual training, learning management systems and support for administrators.

AAIS met with superintendents today to discuss conducting a midpoint audit, as the study has reached its half-way point. The proposed audit will assess each district's current level of implementation and outline a roadmap to meet their goals by the end of the six-year study.

AAIS emphasized the importance of maximizing time with each district and reducing gaps between sessions. For the upcoming year it is proposed to schedule back-to-back cohorts beginning in August with site visits in September, begin another cohort in October with site visits in November/December and cohort again in January and site visits to follow.

Mr. Chavez requested permission of approval to continue the CES Professional Development programs and put into the budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

A motion was made by Johnna Bruhn seconded by William Hawkins to continue the CES Professional Programs and include funding in 2026-2027 budget. Motion passes unanimously.

Mr. Chavez requested permission to apply the same salary increase for our CES Ancillary Staff, at the same percentage that is approved for teachers. CES has attempted to provide the same compensation increases for our Ancillary staff, which is approved by the majority of school districts. This allows CES to remain competitive and assist us in recruiting staff for our participating districts.

A motion was made by Brian Snider, seconded by Lauren Laws to approve the Ancillary Staff salary increase. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Chavez requested permission to reschedule our CES Board meeting to coincide with the NMCEL summer conference. Due to low attendance, we plan to discontinue the CES Leadership Conference, which previously hosted our annual Board meeting. After speaking with Mr. Rounds, he agreed to let CES use one of the summer conference luncheons for our Board meeting.

A motion was made by Lauren Laws and seconded by Michelle Gonzales to change the date of the Leadership Conference to coincide with NMCEL Summer Conference. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Chavez requested approval of the American Alliance for Innovative Systems (AAIS) Six-Year Study contract for 2026-2027 in the amount of $635,740.00. This contract supports twelve of the thirteen school districts in the six-year study.

A motion was made by Brian Snider and seconded by Johnna Bruhn to approve the AAIS Six-Year Study contract for the 2026-2027 budget. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Chavez requested approval of AAIS Contract to conduct program audits of the thirteen districts in the six-year study total budget of $138,000.00.

A motion was made by Johnna Bruhn and seconded by Lauren Laws to approve the AAIS program audits and budget. Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel Report – Mr. Chavez stood for questions. No questions were asked.

Consent Agenda
A motion was made by Johnna Bruhn, seconded by Lauren Laws to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Setting Next Meeting Dates

a. Tuesday, Tuesday, March 17, 2026, 2-4:00PM, Sandia Resort & Casino
b. Thursday, June 4, 2026, 2-4:00PM – Site to be determined.

A motion was made by Brian Snider to adjourn, seconded by William Hawkins. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.