



**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
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HANNA SKANDERA
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
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August 28, 2014

This response was sent via email to: cgoodmacher@nea.org

Charles Goodmacher
NEA-New Mexico
2007 Botolph Road
Santa Fe, NM 87505
(505) 450-3155 – mobile

RE: IPRA #14-094

Dear Mr. Goodmacher:

Your request to inspect public records was received by me as the Records Custodian of the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) on May 28, 2014. Your request to inspect public records sought in pertinent part:

This is a formal request under the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, NMSA 1978, § 14-2-8(A) (1993). I wish to inspect the following records:

Any correspondence, emails, reports, research or summaries thereof regarding the P.E.D. / Secretary Designate statement that 99% of teachers were evaluated as effective or meeting standards under the old State of New Mexico teacher evaluation system (i.e. prior to the new evaluation system implemented by regulation). We request any documents that state that figure as a fact, and we also specifically request access to the information used to calculate that percentage.

The 99% (ninety-nine percent) figure is often quoted as in this May 18, 2014 story published by the Associated Press on KRQE and other news media outlets:

“We’ve taken a step from a broken system to a much improved system,” Education Secretary-designate Hanna Skandera told KRQE News 13.

The old system took a pass-fail approach. Under it, more than 99 percent of teachers were found competent.

Skandera said the new system was needed.”

This request is inclusive of, but is not limited to, any email correspondence on Public Education Department computers and devices or on personal e-mail accounts and devices. If any of the records are being held in electronic format, I wish to receive electronic copies at or, if that is not possible, on a blank compact disk.

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Along those lines, there have been questions around the citation of “today, 99.8% of our teachers meet competency.” This data point comes from a study in the early part of 2010 that examined the total number of Professional Development Dossiers submitted between 2005 and 2010. The study indicated that of the nearly 6,800 submissions, less than 15 did not meet competencies as verified by local superintendents.

This data point comes from a PED examination conducted in the early part of 2010 that examined the total number of Professional Development Dossiers submitted between 2005 and 2010.

Sincerely,

Beverly Friedman

Beverly Friedman
Custodian of Records