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# NEWS RELEASE

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## Governor Susana Martinez Announces Expansion of Pre-Kindergarten Programs

*NM Pre-K Funding More Than Doubles in 2 years; 1380 Additional Students to be Served in Coming Year*

**Santa Fe** – The Public Education Department (PED) and Governor Susana Martinez announced 100% of the applicants for New Mexico’s Pre-Kindergarten (PreK) program will be funded in the 2013-2014 school year. Martinez says the new and expanded programs will help prepare New Mexico students for educational success in school.

The additional funding will allow the creation of 12 new PreK programs in areas including Roswell, Silver City and Taos. Granting funding to all 40 district applicants will mean expansion to serve more students than at any other time in the history of the PreK program.

“Our students deserve every opportunity to be successful in the classroom” said Governor Susana Martinez, “and parents deserve the option to give their children an early start.” The expansion of PreK includes serving 4,230 students in the upcoming school year – an increase of 1,380 students. Targeted spending for education programs with proven results is the right thing to do for our students and taxpayers and PreK is a sound example.”

Student funding for PED PreK programs this year is about \$13.7 million, an increase of nearly \$4.5 million from last year. With the additional funding, the total amount Governor Martinez has authorized for PreK funding has more than doubled in two years.

“This is one of many effective options we want to make sure is offered to parents,” said PED Secretary Hanna Skandera. “Thousands of students will now have the chance to get a head start on their education and continue to move forward with the ultimate goal of graduating high school and being ready for New Mexico’s workforce.”

New Mexico’s PreK program began in 2005 and serves students 4 to 5 years old with educational programs before they begin Kindergarten. Participation in the program is voluntary.

Funded programs for the 2013-2014 school year include:

District/REC/Charter	Requested Number of School Sites	Requested Number of Classrooms	Requested Number of Children	Total Funding Requested
Albuquerque Public Schools*	18	20	796	\$2,463,000
Bernalillo Public Schools*	3	6	175	\$594,198

Central Consolidated Schools	5	16	420	\$1,398,000
Chama Valley Independent Schools*	2	2	30	\$90,000
Cobre Consolidated Schools	1	3	60	\$245,820
Deming Public Schools*	2	2	80	\$250,556
Dexter Consolidated Schools*	1	1	28	\$112,135
Farmington Municipal Schools*	4	8	180	\$580,000
Gadsden Independent Schools	4	18	430	\$1,490,000
Gallup McKinley County Schools*	7	7	189	\$595,670
Grants/Cibola County Schools	3	4	80	\$240,000
Hatch Valley Public Schools	1	1	40	\$145,000
Horizon Academy West Charter	1	1	40	\$120,000
Jemez Valley Public Schools*	1	1	18	\$59,000
Los Lunas Public Schools*	1	3	120	\$408,606
Magdalena Municipal Schools	1	1	10	\$40,874
Mesa Vista Consolidated Schools*	1	1	18	\$62,000
North Valley Academy Charter	1	1	40	\$120,000
Pecos Independent Schools	1	2	40	\$126,000
Red River Valley Charter School	1	1	10	\$40,000
REC #6: Dora, Elida, Grady, Melrose, Tucumcari , Floyd, Fort Sumner, San Jon*	8	8	86	\$286,097
REC #7* Eunice, Hobbs, Jal, Tatum	5	7	148	\$444,000
Rio Rancho Public Schools*	1	15	270	\$957,252
Santa Fe Public Schools*	5	6	220	\$660,000
Socorro Consolidated Schools*	2	2	70	\$218,000
T or C Municipal Schools*	2	3	60	\$196,000
Zuni Public Schools	1	1	20	\$60,000
<b>TOTALS FOR EXISTING PROGRAMS:</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>3678</b>	<b>\$12,002,208</b>
<b>New Programs Funded for 2013-2014</b>				
Belen Public Schools	1	1	40	\$120,000
Bloomfield Schools	1	4	160	\$486,720
Cuba Independent Schools	1	1	18	\$63,072
La Promesa Charter School	1	1	40	\$120,000
Lordsburg Municipal Schools	1	1	30	\$90,000
Pojoaque Valley Public Schools	1	2	35	\$105,000
Questa Independent Schools	2	2	27	\$81,000
Roswell Independent Schools	2	2	40	\$135,000
Silver City Consolidated Schools	3	3	60	\$180,000
Taos Municipal Schools	3	3	36	\$108,000
Vaughn Municipal Schools	1	1	6	\$18,000
West Las Vegas Schools	1	3	60	\$180,000

<b>TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTS:</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>4230</b>	<b>\$13,689,000</b>
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\* Expansion of current program

**Note:** Both PED and the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department administer PreK programs. Total funding for both programs is about \$30 million. The numbers reflected above are for PED programs only.