



# New Mexico Public Education Department

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## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release: October 23, 2009**

### **Public Education Commission Approves the New Mexico School for Architecture, Construction, and Engineering Charter School**

The New Mexico Public Education Commission (PEC) voted today at their meeting to grant a state charter to the New Mexico School for Architecture, Construction and Engineering (NMACE).

The school was one of seven schools denied a charter by the PEC at their meeting on September 10, 2009.

NMACE filed an appeal with the Secretary of Education Veronica C. Garcia, and a public hearing for the school was scheduled for November.

After the PEC met today in Executive Session, they reconvened and voted to reconsider their previous vote denying NMACE a charter. On a unanimous vote, the Commission granted the school a state charter.

This state-chartered school will be located in the Old Town/Saw Mill/Museum District of Albuquerque in order to provide access to young people from across the city. The school plans to give construction-specific learning to students by highly-skilled teachers. The high school will have two components. One will serve students in grades 9-12 matriculating from middle school. The second component is the Reengagement Program for students ages 16-21 (grades 10-12) who left high school and have not graduated.

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