

# Charter Chatter April 2021

A Collaboration Between ACES and PCSNM



## Notes From Christy Takacs, ACES Executive Director

ACES Virtual Job Fair! It's HAPPENING!!! We are excited to partner with Vsummits in providing a virtual job fair for NM Charter Schools. Many of you responded to our survey showing interest. We are still in the planning phase and **need your help**. The job fair will take place on an agreed upon date sometime between May 17 -28. The cost will be **no more** than \$200 to participate. There will be a demo with Vsummits on **Wednesday, April 21st at 4:00**. I hope you will join us to learn about how Vsummits works and gain an understanding of what is needed from you in preparing for the job fair. Here is the link for **anyone** who wants to join us on Wednesday:

Click here to join the demo: <https://events.vsummits.io/e/aces-demo>

You can check out their website at: Vsummits

<https://www.vsummits.io/>

## PCSNM Updates from Matt Pahl

Charter schools had one of the most successful legislative sessions in recent memory. This is a great step forward and a recognition of the hard work of many. The advocacy, however, never stops. We need your support in creating some advocacy for funding that really helped New Mexico charter schools get where we are today: the federal Charter School Program grant. **Our state has received millions of dollars to both start and expand charter schools, but that money is not included in the current federal budget.** The CSP grant is essential for charter schools that want to grow or new charter schools that need financial support to open. Our charter school environment is unique, and some external financial help is needed to get off the ground. The CSP provides that. The budget is currently in the U.S. House. **Click on the following link to send a letter of support to your congressperson. The letter is pre-drafted and will only take you 2 minutes.**

<https://act.publiccharters.org/new-mexico>





## RFP Updates from Max Luft

ACES published RFP 21-001 for Business Office Services on February 2, 2021 and the proposals were received on March 5, 2021. The evaluation committee began their process on March 10 and the awarded vendors were announced on April 2. Below is a synopsis of the results. Proposals were received in four Lots.

Lot 1 Software: schoolAbility

Lot 2 Business Manager: SWREC, K12 Accounting and EdTec, Inc.

Lot 3 Substitute Business Office Staff: No responses

Lot 4 Facilitating Community: EdTec Inc. and SWREC

## SWREC

The Southwest Regional Education Cooperative (SWREC) is a NM State Agency providing educational programming support across the state of New Mexico, including business management services. Collectively, our organization has extensive experience as teachers, district and school administrators, curriculum and instruction specialists and school finance leaders. This depth and breadth of expertise uniquely positions us to provide comprehensive business management services that meet your needs. We take time to understand your vision and ensure the school finances are a tool, and not a barrier, to achieving your school's goals. In addition, because we are a NM State Agency, we can serve as the CPO of your school if needed. We look forward to being your partner in education.



## EdTec

[EdTec](#) is a social enterprise committed to improving public education by supporting charter schools with business, operations, and performance services. Our experts provide support in the areas of new charter applications, school startup, back office, school data and compliance, school software, grant writing, consulting, and more. Through our core service – back office - we provide a CFO-level resource and a team of specialists to perform payroll, accounts payable, and accounting functions. We partner to support your long-term success, and provide robust, long-term financial and cash flow analysis as well as monthly forecast updates to help you stay on track and in good financial health. To learn what our school partners have to say, visit our website to read our [client testimonials](#). Our work supports our vision to have the greatest positive impact on the quality of public education. EdTec has partnered with hundreds of charter schools since our founding in 2001, and we are proud to support New Mexico charters!

## K12 Accounting

Many public schools are facing crisis in the business office. Due to the increase in the number of business managers in New Mexico who are reaching the age of retirement, the qualified talent pool is getting smaller and often consists of applicants with a lack of school business and governmental accounting expertise. This often results in excessive and repeat audit findings, potential financial statement misstatements,



embezzlement and ultimately the inability to focus solely on education due to issues in the business office. K12 Accounting offers public school's a solution to their business office needs.

K12 Accounting is a full-service public school business office management company located in Albuquerque, New Mexico. K12 Accounting handles all areas of school business office management including financial budgeting and planning, grant and revenue management, state and federal reporting and compliance, financial audit preparation, accounts payable, payroll and other accounting back office support. K12 Accounting's expertise has allowed the company to grow organically by providing admirable results that speak for themselves. K12 Accounting's commitment to running clients' school business offices efficiently allows the school's administration to focus on the classroom. From small charter schools to large school districts, K12 Accounting has become a top provider of business management services in New Mexico.

K12 Accounting provides the following services:

- Complete business office services
- School start-up services
- Financial training
- Audit preparation
- General ledger review and clean-up

K12 Accounting is home to some of the best school business professionals in the state of New Mexico. Members of the K12 Accounting team hold Certified Public Accountant licenses, Level I & II School Business Official licenses and Bachelor's/Master's in Accountancy degrees. K12 Accounting personnel have a combined total experience of more than 100 years managing and auditing public schools. K12 Accounting Business Managers are specialists in governmental accounting and many have experience auditing governmental entities, including public schools. Everyone on the K12 Accounting team goes through a rigorous training process and is assigned a mentor as an additional layer of support. If you are interested in learning more about how K12 Accounting could help your school, please email [info@k12accounting.com](mailto:info@k12accounting.com).



schoolAbility is a top-tier provider of business office software and solutions for schools in California, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Colorado, and Texas. schoolAbility provides a comprehensive suite of products and services to manage school district and charter school business office operations using state-of-the-art financial management, human resources, and payroll systems and services. schoolAbility is uniquely qualified because it is the only organization that combines the expertise of financial management software architects and developers with top-tier business managers and the hands-on experience of using various financial management systems to deliver back-office and payroll services to charter schools and independent public-school districts across the southwestern United States. This rare combination of expertise and hands-on experience, along with an unrelenting passion for delivering the highest quality of service, enables schoolAbility to provide the best financial management software and business office consulting services to independent school districts and charter schools.



Imagine the peace of mind that comes from knowing that your business office software and back-office operations are supported by experienced professionals so you and your administrative team can focus exclusively on student achievement.

For more information, please contact Alfredo Diaz  
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## About ACES


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