

Charter Chatter

June 2021

A Collaborative Newsletter between NMACES and PCSNM



Celebrating Max Luft of NMACES

Guess who gets to retire!!! Congratulations, Max! The New Mexico Association of Charter School Education Services THANKS YOU!! Max has dedicated so many years to making this business a successful service to public charter schools all across New Mexico. His diligence and dedication will help us move forward and continue to thrive. Max's commitment to making personal connections with ALL vendors, service providers and school leaders is the foundation that NMACES was built on. Max has an amazing ability to know and care about people, the basis for establishing relationships in life and in business. He leaves behind BIG shoes to fill!! We hope you all will reach out to Max with warm wishes, congratulations to an amazing career, and best of luck in retirement!

A Little bit about Max....

During the past 50 years Max's primary pleasure has been enjoying his family and raising four fantastic children. To support this endeavor, he initially taught math and science to mid-school through graduate school students in four states. In addition to direct instruction, he worked as the Director of Testing for Albuquerque Public Schools and for a federally funded educational laboratory. He has owned a private educational consulting business that evaluated 500 federal and state funded programs in schools over a 10 state area. Finally, he has started three educational services agencies, two of which were public entities and the third a non-profit.

Max has had an incredibly rich and fulfilling career and we all wish him the best for his future as a retired leader!! Please take a minute to send your well wishes to Max at max.l@nmaces.org or

maxluft@gmail.com. We know he would LOVE to hear from you!

Thank you, Max!



Executive Director of NMACES, Christy Takacs

There are many changes happening at ACES. We are happy to announce a few retirements that have an impact on ACES, in addition to Max. Kelly Callahan and Susan McConnell have both served on the ACES Executive Committee for several years. Kelly for 6 years and Susan for 3 years. A special THANKS to each of you for your time and commitment to ACES. We wish for all three of you exciting adventures, full of fun and well deserved rest! Lorrie DeLoach has worked in our Business Office for the past year. She will be leaving at the end of the month. I am very thankful for her patience, dedication, and hard work she has given during her time with ACES. I am excited to bring on board Christopher Narkun, who will serve as ACES Director of Finance and Procurement. He comes with a wealth of experience that will greatly benefit the ACES team. We are also adding Katherine Moore who has joined us in managing Accounts Receivable. She has a strong financial and human resources background that will continue to support quality and efficiency from our Business Office. ACES is only as strong as the support we have from our JPA Charter Leaders! I am so thankful for the leaders who volunteer to be a part of the ACES Executive Committee. We have two new members who have committed to serving: Kimberly Ritterhouse from Red River Valley Charter School and Jon Orris from Roots and Wings. Thanks to both of you for stepping up! As we look forward into the next fiscal year, we ONLY SEE POSSIBILITY!! We are thrilled to partner with each of you in supporting NM Charter Schools. Please continue to reach out to US TO MEET YOUR NEEDS! That is why we are here!



New Vendor Highlight: LEGAL SERVICES

Ami S. Jaeger is the principal of [BioLawGroup](#), a law firm located in Santa Fe, which offers comprehensive education law services. Ms. Jaeger has served as a state-wide Special Education Mediator and IEP Facilitator, General Counsel to the Santa Fe Public Schools, and Legal Counsel to the Public Education Commission. In these legal roles, she has advised both charter and traditional schools, as well as authorizers and school boards. She has also served as Counsel to UNM. Ms. Jaeger brings unique legislative and policy experience, having served as lead analyst for both the New Mexico House and Senate for over ten years. With this breadth of experience, Ms. Jaeger offers full General Counsel services to charter schools. This includes advising on state and federal

resources, special education, campus security, contracts, real estate, bond elections, public finance, budgeting, insurance, operational and business oversight including litigation, strategic alliances, strategic planning, and legislative strategy.

Please contact Ami from BioLaw Group at 505.466.4642 for more information!





About ACES

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