



## Every New Mexico child deserves to graduate ready for college, career, and to pursue their dreams.

At the core of a sufficient and equitable education system is multicultural and multilingual learning that is responsive to the cultures, languages, and heritages of New Mexico's diverse student populations.

75% of our students are Hispanic or Native American and more than a third speak a language other than English at home. These are assets that should be celebrated and invested in. But for decades, our education system has failed to meet its own standards under Indian Education Act, Hispanic Education Act, and the Bilingual Multicultural Education Act.

Leading corporations and small businesses in New Mexico and across the country, have a growing need for a larger and more highly qualified bilingual workforce. Furthermore, well supported bilingual programs build on the linguistic and socio-cultural capital of our New Mexico communities.

**Learn more at**  
**[TransformEducationNM.org](http://TransformEducationNM.org)**

Developing proficiency in two or more languages has been an aspiration for New Mexico students since statehood. Our state passed the Bilingual Multicultural Act of 1973, which was expanded in 2004 and serves as a model to other states, promoting the use of cultural and linguistic backgrounds of students in educational programming.

Today, the Bilingual Multicultural Education Act's goal is unmet due to lack of funding. School districts do not have sufficient funding to support their bilingual programs and lack the resources needed to comply with state and federal laws for English language learner (ELL) education.

ELL students require either a Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) endorsed teacher or a bilingual certified teacher, but the current bilingual unit does not provide enough money for districts to recruit and retain these teachers.

HB 153 will:

- Increase Bilingual Multicultural Education Program funding from 0.5 to 1.0.
- Ramp up accountability to ensure funds are properly spent, on the student in the classroom.
- Require more rigorous reporting on how funds are spent, ensuring proper use of funding formula dollars.

*\*Appropriation: \$36 million in new, recurring funding*

### **Platform for Action**

To transform education for our students and meet the constitutional mandates, New Mexico must take action to create a sufficient and equitable education system. A Platform of Proposed Remedies and associated proposed legislation were developed by the Transform Education NM coalition, with the involvement of hundreds of educators, students, parents, tribal and community leaders, and experts.

Find the full platform at [transformeducationnm.org/our-platform/](http://transformeducationnm.org/our-platform/)



Transform Education NM is a coalition of education, tribal and community leaders advancing a new vision for our public education system in New Mexico.

Our platform is endorsed by: College Horizons, Dual Language Education of NM, Native American Community Academy (NACA), NACA Inspired School Network (NISN), Learning Alliance NM, National Education Association NM (NEA-NM), New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education (NMABE), New Mexico Center on Law and Poverty, New Mexico Voices for Children, Keres Children’s Learning Center, Coalition for the Majority, Native American Budget & Policy Institute, New Mexico Education Action Alliance, CHI St. Joseph’s Children, NGAGE NM, NM Dream Team/United We Dream, Southwest Organizing Project (SWOP), The Santa Fe Indian School Leadership Institute, The Sun Project, Educators Rising, Albuquerque Interfaith, and Partnership for Equity & Education Rights (PEER).