

**From:** Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org) <Cari@excelined.org>  
**Sent time:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 11:50:00 AM  
**To:** Webster, Melinda  
**Subject:** FW: the Albuquerque Journal: Gov. Wants Incentives for Schools

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FYI

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**From:** Mary Laura Bragg (MaryLaura@excelined.org)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 11:42 AM  
**To:** Patricia Levesque (patricia@excelined.org); Nadia Hagberg (Nadia@excelined.org); Jaryn Emhof (jaryn@excelined.org); Mandy Clark (mandy@excelined.org); Alexis Franz (Alexis@excelined.org); Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org); Christy Hovanetz (christyh@excelined.org); Matt Ladner (ladner55@gmail.com); Deirdre Finn (dfinn@excelined.org); Erin Price (Erin@excelined.org); Clare Crowson (Clare@excelined.org)  
**Subject:** RE: the Albuquerque Journal: Gov. Wants Incentives for Schools

Hanna/Leighann will get back to us this morning on joint letter/other support later today.

Plan for roll-out as of now for these PRELIMINARY/BASELINE grades is:  
Yesterday, districts got embargoed baseline data

Today, tomorrow, Friday: webinars with districts/principals to do a deep-dive on calculations

Monday: Martinez will spend all day briefing legislators on district performance

Tuesday: Public release, to be held in a district where NO schools met AYP last year, and because of the growth piece added in, many are now A/B – as a way to show how more meaningful A-F is as an accountability system; they will announce \$600,000 to be used as rewards when final grades are released late summer. Supts were invited to offer input as to how to craft “eligibility” for those rewards. They have created an app through google maps to locate schools and their grades; they have revamped their report card to focus much more on A-F than on NCLB as in the past.

Ongoing: a series of webinars to continue through spring:

Module 1: - the deep dive into calculations

Module 2: deep dive into value added piece

Module 3: guidance to districts on how to re-organize/re-prioritize after grades are released.

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**From:** Patricia Levesque (patricia@excelined.org)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 11:02 AM  
**To:** Nadia Hagberg (Nadia@excelined.org); Jaryn Emhof (jaryn@excelined.org); Mary Laura Bragg (MaryLaura@excelined.org); Mandy Clark (mandy@excelined.org); Alexis Franz (Alexis@excelined.org); Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org); Christy Hovanetz (christyh@excelined.org); Matt Ladner (ladner55@gmail.com); Deirdre Finn (dfinn@excelined.org); Erin Price (Erin@excelined.org); Clare Crowson (Clare@excelined.org)  
**Subject:** RE: the Albuquerque Journal: Gov. Wants Incentives for Schools

If school grades are going to be released next week, we may need to have a joint letter to the editor from joel and gov bush applauding the release of the grades and urging nm to stay strong on the policy with a side comment on how this new initiative will help complement the school grades initiatives.

Mary laura, does hanna/gov's office need help with rollout? Does she have our checklist?

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**From:** Nadia Hagberg (Nadia@excelined.org)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 10:01 AM  
**To:** Jaryn Emhof (jaryn@excelined.org); Mary Laura Bragg (MaryLaura@excelined.org); Patricia Levesque (patricia@excelined.org); Mandy Clark (mandy@excelined.org); Alexis Franz (Alexis@excelined.org); Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org); Christy Hovanetz (christyh@excelined.org); Matt Ladner (ladner55@gmail.com); Deirdre Finn (dfinn@excelined.org); Erin Price (Erin@excelined.org); Clare Crowson (Clare@excelined.org)  
**Subject:** RE: the Albuquerque Journal: Gov. Wants Incentives for Schools

(FYI) In drafting the statement, the article below differs from the Governor's original press release ([linked here](#)) by saying 6.5M will be requested from the legislature to fund the program. The amount reflected in the statement by the Governor's office is closer to 5.5M. Also, the first round of *preliminary* school grades in NM will be released next week.

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**From:** Jaryn Emhof (jaryn@excelined.org)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 8:59 AM  
**To:** Mary Laura Bragg (MaryLaura@excelined.org); Patricia Levesque (patricia@excelined.org); Nadia Hagberg (Nadia@excelined.org); Mandy Clark (mandy@excelined.org); Alexis Franz (Alexis@excelined.org); Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org); Christy Hovanetz (christyh@excelined.org); Matt Ladner (ladner55@gmail.com); Deirdre Finn (dfinn@excelined.org); Erin Price (Erin@excelined.org); Clare Crowson (Clare@excelined.org)  
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I recommend a 200 word letter to the editor is best fit. Clare can draft one.

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**From:** Mary Laura Bragg (MaryLaura@excelined.org)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 9:38 AM  
**To:** Patricia Levesque (patricia@excelined.org); Nadia Hagberg (Nadia@excelined.org); Mandy Clark (mandy@excelined.org); Alexis Franz (Alexis@excelined.org); Cari Miller (Cari@excelined.org); Christy Hovanetz (christyh@excelined.org); Matt Ladner (ladner55@gmail.com); Deirdre Finn (dfinn@excelined.org); Erin Price (Erin@excelined.org); Jaryn Emhof (jaryn@excelined.org); Clare Crowson (Clare@excelined.org)  
**Subject:** RE: the Albuquerque Journal: Gov. Wants Incentives for Schools

I think so. There are several points that need to be made to clear up obvious misinformation-- mainly about this statement:

“Santa Fe Public Schools Superintendent Bobbie Gutierrez, who was at the announcement, said many low-performing schools in Santa Fe already have instructional coaches, and she would rather spend the money on teacher training.” (coaches ARE teacher training, and obviously the instructional coaches in place in low-performing schools aren't working.)

And this one, which is just too good not to attack:

Ellen Bernstein, president of the Albuquerque Teachers Federation, was critical of that part of the proposal. Bernstein pointed to research showing teachers choose their schools based largely on working conditions like autonomy and the quality of the principal, not salary. "There's no research that says bonuses move teachers and make them stay in a school," Bernstein said.

Just my two cents.

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**From:** Patricia Levesque ([patricia@excelined.org](mailto:patricia@excelined.org))

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 9:12 AM

**To:** Nadia Hagberg ([Nadia@excelined.org](mailto:Nadia@excelined.org)); Mandy Clark ([mandy@excelined.org](mailto:mandy@excelined.org)); Alexis Franz ([Alexis@excelined.org](mailto:Alexis@excelined.org)); Mary Laura Bragg ([MaryLaura@excelined.org](mailto:MaryLaura@excelined.org)); Cari Miller ([Cari@excelined.org](mailto:Cari@excelined.org)); Christy Hovanetz ([christyh@excelined.org](mailto:christyh@excelined.org)); Matt Ladner ([ladner55@gmail.com](mailto:ladner55@gmail.com)); Deirdre Finn ([dfinn@excelined.org](mailto:dfinn@excelined.org)); Erin Price ([Erin@excelined.org](mailto:Erin@excelined.org)); Jaryn Emhof ([jaryn@excelined.org](mailto:jaryn@excelined.org)); Clare Crowson ([Clare@excelined.org](mailto:Clare@excelined.org))

**Subject:** RE: the Albuquerque Journal: Gov. Wants Incentives for Schools

Should we put out a statement or op ed in support?

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**From:** Nadia Hagberg ([Nadia@excelined.org](mailto:Nadia@excelined.org))

**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 8:45 AM

**To:** Mandy Clark ([mandy@excelined.org](mailto:mandy@excelined.org)); Alexis Franz ([Alexis@excelined.org](mailto:Alexis@excelined.org)); Mary Laura Bragg ([MaryLaura@excelined.org](mailto:MaryLaura@excelined.org)); Cari Miller ([Cari@excelined.org](mailto:Cari@excelined.org)); Christy Hovanetz ([christyh@excelined.org](mailto:christyh@excelined.org)); Matt Ladner ([ladner55@gmail.com](mailto:ladner55@gmail.com)); Patricia Levesque ([patricia@excelined.org](mailto:patricia@excelined.org)); Deirdre Finn ([dfinn@excelined.org](mailto:dfinn@excelined.org)); Erin Price ([Erin@excelined.org](mailto:Erin@excelined.org)); Jaryn Emhof ([jaryn@excelined.org](mailto:jaryn@excelined.org)); Clare Crowson ([Clare@excelined.org](mailto:Clare@excelined.org))

**Subject:** the Albuquerque Journal: Gov. Wants Incentives for Schools

*\*NM will be asking the legislature for 6.5M in new funds for their school recognition program...*

## Gov. Wants Incentives for Schools

By Hailey Heinz / Journal Staff Writer

Wed, Jan 4, 2012

Gov. Susana Martinez hopes to attach funding to her A-F school grading policy, awarding extra money to high-performing schools and giving struggling schools extra cash to hire instructional coaches.

She also hopes to give bonuses to "highly effective" teachers and principals if they transfer to low-performing schools.

Martinez announced the proposals Tuesday, saying they will be part of her budget proposal to the Legislature in the upcoming session. She said the proposals, which would cost a total of about \$6.5 million, would be funded with new revenue. Most of that would go to low-performing schools.

"The bottom line is we want to reward successful schools, provide increased incentives for schools to raise their performance levels, and provide targeted and effective help to schools and students who need it the most," Martinez said.

Santa Fe Public Schools Superintendent Bobbie Gutierrez, who was at the announcement, said many low-performing schools in Santa Fe already have instructional coaches, and she would rather spend the money on teacher training.

Instructional coaches are brought in to help teachers improve. Some have a particular focus, such as literacy or math.

Paul Aguilar, deputy education secretary for finance, said his department is considering how best to help schools that already have instructional coaches. He said schools may use the money to add more coaches, or to free federal dollars already being spent on instructional coaches.

Martinez said low-performing schools that receive the extra funding will have to show improvement within two years or risk losing the money.

"This isn't simply throwing money at the program, an approach we have seen in New Mexico for far too long," Martinez said. "For our D and F schools who are receiving targeted funds, there will be accountability."

Albuquerque Public Schools chief of staff Joseph Escobedo said he did not know the details of the governor's proposal, but said APS favors a budget that would put any new revenues into the general education budget to restore funds cut in the past few years.

The plan to lure effective teachers and principals to struggling schools was still light on specifics Tuesday, in terms of how the "highly effective" staffers would be identified and how much the bonuses would be. Also during the legislative session, Martinez will propose a bill to evaluate teachers based largely on their students' growth on test scores.

Ellen Bernstein, president of the Albuquerque Teachers Federation, was critical of that part of the proposal.

Bernstein pointed to research showing teachers choose their schools based largely on working conditions like autonomy and the quality of the principal, not salary.

"There's no research that says bonuses move teachers and make them stay in a school," Bernstein said.

Martinez's plan breaks down to these amounts:

\$4.3 million to schools that receive a D or F grade, specifically for hiring instructional coaches and offering other services such as tutoring.

\$1.25 million to the 25 highest-performing schools statewide, which would each get \$50,000 to spend as they choose.

\$500,000 in bonuses for high-quality teachers to work in struggling schools.

\$400,000 in bonuses for high-quality principals to work in struggling schools.

— This article appeared on page C01 of the Albuquerque Journal

<http://www.abqjournal.com/main/2012/01/04/news/gov-wants-incentives-for-schools.html>