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Secretary-Designate

## New Mexico Public Education Department

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# NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: May 31, 2011

## Public Hearing Scheduled to Amend Rules on Special Education for Students With Disabilities

**Santa Fe** – The Public Education Department will conduct a public hearing on July 5 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm in Mabry Hall, Jerry Apodaca Education Building, 300 Don Gaspar, in Santa Fe for the purpose of obtaining input on suggested amendments to the 6.31.2 NMAC rule on children with disabilities/gifted.

The Special Education Bureau of the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) is proposing amendments to several sections of 6.31.2 NMAC relating to the special education of children with disabilities. Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. § 1407(a), each state that receives funds under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (IDEA) is required to ensure that any state rule conforms to the IDEA. Several of the proposed changes will align our state rules with the IDEA. House Bill 230, enacted during the 2010 Legislative Session, adopted requirements relating to interventions for students displaying characteristics of dyslexia. Rulemaking is required to implement these provisions. In addition, the Governor's veto message with respect to SB 314 on autism strategies also requires rulemaking on the part of the SEB.

Below are links to the electronic copies of both the proposed amendments and the rationale for rulemaking.

The NMPED invites comments on the proposed changes from interested individuals and organizations. Interested parties may testify at the public hearing or submit written comments by email to [spedfeedback@ped.state.nm.us](mailto:spedfeedback@ped.state.nm.us), by regular mail to the Special Education Bureau, Public Education Department, 120 South Federal Place, Room 206, Santa Fe, NM 87501, or by fax to (505) 954-0001. Written comments must be received no later than 5:00 P.M. Tuesday, July 5, 2011.

Please see links for additional information regarding public hearing and proposed rules.

- [Rationale for Rulemaking](#)
- [6.31.2 NMAC Proposed Amendments](#)

The proposed rule may be accessed on the Department's website <http://ped.state.nm.us/seb/>.

Individuals with disabilities who require this information in an alternative format or need any form of auxiliary aid to attend or participate in this meeting are asked to contact Leah Erickson at 505-827-1458

or [Jennifer.Erickson@state.nm.us](mailto:Jennifer.Erickson@state.nm.us) soon as possible. The Department requests at least ten (10) days advance notice to provide requested special accommodations.

Following the hearings, the Secretary of Education will review comments from the public and make a decision on the rules. The rules will be formally filed with the State Records and Archives Center and become effective on the date published in the New Mexico Register

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