

# COUNSELING CONNECTION

*New Mexico's School Counselor Newsletter*



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## NMPED PARTNERS WITH NS4ED/PATHWAY2CAREERS

NS4ed/Pathway2Careers is excited to partner with the NMPED College and Career Readiness Bureau to provide technical assistance and resources for New Mexico's school counselors. Our company is experienced in providing quality leadership, research and guidance to identify and promote best practices. We are also a career readiness service provider that offers a collection of resources to support career readiness efforts in educational settings.

Several great services are already in the pipeline to support you this year, including this newsletter, which will be published and distributed monthly. A resource website, containing news, resource links, research and a discussion forum is also being developed. You will also have access to counselor-specific professional development, training, webinars and more.

We are looking forward to the upcoming school year and getting to know each of you!

Joseph Goins, CEO, [NS4ed](#)

## INTRODUCING VERSION 2.0 OF THE P2C LABOR MARKET DASHBOARD

We are pleased to announce the upcoming release of several new updates to our education-focused labor market data system. These updates improve your access to the most current labor market data for your region and enhance your ability to identify regional career destinations for your students.

### A New Look

The user interface has been refreshed to offer more streamlined interaction.

### Updated Data

Labor market data has been updated to display the most current regional data.

### Custom Reporting

Reporting features were enhanced to generate instant Perkins V reports and career cluster maps.

### Improved Sort/Filter Functions

Data tables now display advanced sort and filter functions for customized searches.



V2.0 scheduled for release on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> using the same web address: <http://careerpathways-nm.com/>

## FOUNDATION HELPS SANDOVAL COUNTY STUDENTS PURSUE THE TRADES AND NURSING

The Schumann Foundation is a program developed to help Sandoval County resident students pursue their education beyond high school. This is an endowment to fund that was created so that students can guide themselves toward their future, and that should they need financial assistance to further their education, they can contact the Schumann Foundation.

The Schumann Foundation provides financial assistance through scholarship awards and very low cost education loans to attend trade school or nursing school. The same application form may be used for either scholarship or loans. Scholarship awards will generally be in amounts that will provide some assistance for ancillary educational expenses.

Currently, however, the Schumann Foundation is only accepting applications for scholarships. Loans may be available at a later date.

For more information, visit <https://schumannfoundation.com/>

[Remember, if your community has a foundation, non-profit or for-profit entity that is providing specific scholarships, and you want to get the word out through the counselor newsletter, please email Barbara.armijo@state.nm.us.](#)

## RMACAC PROVIDES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SPRING CONFERENCE FOR COUNSELORS

The Rocky Mountain Association for College Admission Counseling (RMACAC) is pleased to offer scholarship funding to college access professionals to attend its annual spring conference. The date and location details (likely virtual) will be announced soon.

RMACAC will offer scholarships to professionals from the region who support the successful transition of students from high school to college. Scholarship applicants must work within our five-state region: Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah or Wyoming.

This application may be completed by a nominator or the applicant themselves. Each application will be reviewed by RMACAC's Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Committee. College admission professionals, community-based organization professionals, and high school counselors who seek to improve and create opportunities for college access for traditionally underrepresented and underserved populations will be prioritized.

For questions, contact Tyler Cegler, IDEA Chair at [tyler.cegler@nau.edu](mailto:tyler.cegler@nau.edu)

# CONNECTING INDUSTRY TO CLASSROOMS

Many counselors have been involved in discussions about creating opportunities for all students to gain exposure to the real world. Hundreds of hours are spent brainstorming with companies, universities, non-profits, chambers of commerce, technology councils and the likes to bridge the gap between industry and education. The reality is most counselors and teachers do not have the tools or the time to invite guest speakers or project mentors, organize field trips or develop films and videos, and most companies find it difficult to scale education outreach due to geographic and curriculum barriers. Rural school districts are left out because they lack access to diverse industry choices in their local area.

Here is one provider who is helping to connect industry to the classroom, virtually.

The educational company Nepris was founded to meet these needs. The company coordinates with educators, industry leaders, professionals and community partners, to reduce the barriers between industry and education. Its core mission: Making industry engagement part of the everyday classroom by empowering teachers to engage students in STEAM!

By facilitating virtual connections, Nepris removes student barriers to access while providing companies the opportunity to efficiently and effectively extend their education outreach efforts into classrooms.

With Nepris, teachers don't have to spend endless hours and time to recruit and plan for guest speakers. Nepris offers daily opportunities to join live, virtual chats with professionals on a variety of topics that prepare students for college and career. The topics follow the national themes in education along with several unique series being offered throughout the school year. With one click, you can sign up to participate in one of these chats along with other classrooms from across the country.

Some features include:

- Women in STEM careers
- Employability skills
- Computer Science education week
- Healthcare pathways
- Financial Literacy
- Virtual tours of workspaces and guest speakers



For more information visit  
<https://nepris.com/home/v4>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### August 18

- Join counselors, advisors and school leaders around the state for a free webinar on social emotional learning. (More details on last page of this newsletter.)

### August 31

- Scheduled release date for new Community of Best Practice website for New Mexico's School Counselors. Look for an email with the link and more details!



**WEBINAR: SEL  
STRATEGIES TO FLIP THE  
SCRIPT AROUND STUDENT  
AND STAFF SUPPORTS**



See last page of newsletter for more details!





## CTSO SPOTLIGHT ON SKILLSUSA

SkillsUSA New Mexico is a partnership of students, teachers, and business and industry working together to create America's future workforce. SkillsUSA has been preparing rising generations of trade and technical workers with the personal, workplace and technical skills sought by employers confronting the nation's "skills gap." The foundational components of its framework enrich the experiences and outcomes for middle, high school and college/postsecondary students across the state who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service professions.

At its core, SkillsUSA improves the quality and quantity of New Mexico's future skilled workforce. SkillsUSA supports well-prepared graduates for workforces in:

- construction,
- manufacturing,
- transportation,
- health sciences,
- information technology,
- communications,
- personal services,
- hospitality,
- public safety and
- engineering technology.



If your school is interested in starting a SkillsUSA program, there are new membership benefits as well as other mission driven virtual program opportunities available this fall including webinars, virtual conferences, curricula, and more.

For more information, contact Natalie Donnelly, SkillsUSA NM State Director at [ndonnelly1@cnm.edu](mailto:ndonnelly1@cnm.edu) or 505-224-4000 Ext. 54205.



## PED ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

With a PED Scholarship, your students can enroll in a course that isn't available to them on your own campus.

- No household income or school location restrictions
- 25 different AP courses available
- Two different online schools to choose from – Florida Virtual School or VHS Learning (schools can participate in both)
- Available to 75 students statewide
- Six of the courses involve Lab Kit fees, which are not covered by the scholarship
- Students whose households qualify for free or reduced-price lunch are eligible for AP Exam fee waivers, reducing the cost of their exams to just \$3

For more information on the PED Scholarship, contact Alexandra Lutz, AP Coordinator at [Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us](mailto:Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us) or (505) 827-6417.



**DEDICATED NM  
SCHOOL  
COUNSELOR  
WEBSITE!**

**Be on the lookout for a new website built to support NM School Counselors! It will be live no later than August 31<sup>st</sup>!**

## NAPE ANNOUNCES THE EQUITY IN YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM TOOLKIT

The National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity is offering a free resource made possible by the Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship (PAYA) led by New America.

PAYA established equity as one of its five Principles for High-Quality Youth Apprenticeship. The equity principle asserts that, in order for a youth apprenticeship program to be considered high quality, it must: be intentionally designed to acknowledge and address local equity challenges. It must:

- Provide targeted student support services to ensure equitable representation and success across all industries involved in the program, and
- Expand opportunity to improve education and employment outcomes.

The NAPE toolkit is designed to assist leaders from K-12, higher education, and the workforce to build and scale equitable youth apprenticeship programs. The readings, discussions, and activities in the toolkit equip leaders with the skills to recognize and mitigate structural barriers and bias in apprenticeship programs. It provides self-reflection tools and resources to address equity in three key areas:

- **Access:** Design and implement more equitable youth apprenticeship programs by recognizing how stereotypes, implicit biases, and negative micro-messages prevent students from fully accessing youth apprenticeship programs,
- **Belonging:** Create youth apprenticeship programs that strive for equity in the way they recruit, train, implement, support, and evaluate youth apprenticeship opportunities for students where students feel not just that they are included, but that they belong,
- **Continuous Improvement:** Monitor and continuously improve youth apprenticeship programs to enable students inclusive of gender, race, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation, or religion to fully participate in youth apprenticeships with equitable outcomes.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT RURAL ACCESS GRANT

Students in rural schools (as determined by the US Department of Education) may qualify for the Rural Access Grant, brought to New Mexico by the National Math & Science Initiative (NMSI).



- Students must enroll in either AP Computer Science Principles or AP Biology
- Students will attend VHS Learning as their online school
- Available to 50 students in each course statewide (100 total)
- Lab Kit fees and Exam fees included
- Laptops provided for each student
- NMSI coaching services increase the likelihood of success for students and schools
- NMSI will work with campuses to remove other barriers to accessing the opportunity

For more information on the Rural Access Grant, contact Jim Smithwick, NMSI Program Manager at [jsmithwick@nms.org](mailto:jsmithwick@nms.org) or (214) 525-3048.

Schools may participate in both the PED Scholarship and the NMSI Grant. However, due to limited opportunities, schools or students may be restricted in the number of courses they may access. Neither the PED Scholarship nor the Rural Access Grant will pay late or drop fees, or College Board penalties.

Please talk with your administrators, share this information with your colleagues, and feel free to reach out for more details and next steps.

# FREE WEBINAR ON SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING



## SEL Strategies to Flip the Script Around Student and Staff Supports

Teaching and learning are all about relationships, and yet health concerns are challenging our normal systems for building positive climates and supporting students and staff. Trauma informed re-entry as well as Social and Emotional Learning will play critical roles this year as we engage in various remote, in-person, and hybrid models during COVID. Join us for this engaging look at the challenges, strategies, and levers for positive change. This is a moving, interactive and highly engaging workshop that gives everyone an inspiring vision for what a powerful SEL program can and should be. It covers the basics, the data, the components and best practices of SEL. There are actionable strategies to move student supports to a more proactive rather than reactive model and tie in Social and Emotional Learning as foundational to that work. Most of all, it is a collaborative experience of what SEL feels like when done well.



You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: Aug 18, 2020 09:00-10:30 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcod-yhqTsqGdCa50saAi9vbjmRaVbHiZ4d>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

BIO:

R. Keith Matheny is a national award-winning teacher, author, and speaker. He was a 2015 winner of the Crystal Star Award for Excellence in supporting student success from the National Dropout Prevention Center. In addition, He is a member of the Aspen Institute's Social Emotional and Academic Development (SEAD) Council of Distinguished Educators. A passionate and dedicated former classroom teacher with over 25yrs experience. He created and taught an innovative social and emotional learning freshman seminar, which helped reduce freshman failures by 41% and discipline referrals by 71% at Austin High School over a four-year period. His class has had over 400 educators visit in his last 6 years, was featured in an article in The Atlantic, and has now spread to many more schools and districts. One of his former students, who went from "at risk" to ivy league, recently did a Ted talk and referenced the class he teaches. Keith is a co-author of School-Connect a research and evidence-based social and emotional learning curriculum now in over two thousand secondary schools. He is an engaging frequent public speaker and keynote on SEL, school safety, and multi-tiered systems of student and staff supports. He was the keynote for twelve educational conferences in the past three years. His work and the schools he worked with have been frequently featured in national webinars, magazine articles, and journals of best practices. Since 2014, he has helped launch over three hundred SEL programs in secondary schools, has led over three hundred teacher trainings, and has presented at two congressional briefings on SEL, in Washington DC.

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<http://sellaunchpad.com/>

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