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HOUSE BILL 177

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY
Andrea Romero

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; CREATING A REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP
SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION PROJECT; CREATING A FUND; MAKING AN
APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public School Code is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION
PROJECT CREATED--REPORTING AND EVALUATION--FUND CREATED.--

A. The "regional partnership school demonstration
project" is created as a five-school-year demonstration project
involving a partnership between the Pojoaque Valley public
school district, New Mexico highlands university school of
education and Los Alamos national laboratory. The purpose of
the project is to demonstrate that:

1 (1) establishing teacher preparation clinical
2 residency programs will ensure that beginning teachers are
3 prepared for the rigors of classroom teaching and will help
4 retain teachers who want to make a long-term commitment to
5 public education;

6 (2) providing intensive informal and formal
7 professional development for classroom teachers will improve
8 teaching quality and mitigate teacher burn-out;

9 (3) providing extended learning time,
10 particularly in mathematics and language arts, through after-
11 school and summer programs will instill core subject skills,
12 improve learning habits and strategies and mitigate the
13 educational loss that normally occurs over summer vacation; and

14 (4) providing supports for parents and
15 families of students will not only support student achievement,
16 but is expected to foster a cultural shift toward valuing
17 education not just within a family, but within the community.

18 B. The demonstration project partners shall submit
19 project design and implementation plans to the department for
20 its review. The project shall include:

21 (1) a teacher residency program open to school
22 of education students in any grades and subjects;

23 (2) concentration of the integrated,
24 coordinated professional development component of the project
25 on teachers in grades four through eight, though other grades

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1 may be included if funding allows;

2 (3) extended learning for students that
3 includes after-school and summer programming; and

4 (4) parental and familial engagement in
5 student education.

6 C. Students participating in the demonstration
7 project shall be evaluated at the beginning of the project and
8 their progress shall be evaluated each year, which shall
9 include both quantitative and qualitative indicators of
10 improvement. The project shall include a study of the effect
11 of the demonstration project on the school district as a whole.

12 D. The pre-service clinical teacher residency
13 program may include tuition scholarships and residency stipends
14 for participating teaching students, training and stipends for
15 teacher mentors and instructional materials. The professional
16 development program may include salaries for instructional
17 coaches; substitute teachers; funds for experts to lead summer
18 and school-year professional development sessions; per diem and
19 mileage for off-site professional development attendees, if
20 necessary; and instructional materials. The extended learning
21 program may include stipends for teachers working beyond their
22 regular school-year contracts to plan, prepare and implement
23 month-long mindset math summer camps and other topical summer
24 camps; after-school core subject development sessions; and
25 student transportation, if necessary, and instructional

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1 materials and supplies.

2 E. The demonstration project shall include external
3 evaluation of the project over the life of the project.

4 Periodic reports shall be provided to the department and the
5 legislature, and a final report shall be provided to the
6 department, the governor and the legislature.

7 F. The "regional partnership school demonstration
8 project fund" is created as a nonreverting fund in the state
9 treasury during the life of the demonstration project. The
10 fund consists of appropriations, gifts, grants and donations
11 and any other money credited to the fund. The fund shall be
12 administered by the department of finance and administration.
13 Money in the fund is appropriated to the department of finance
14 and administration and shall be expended to pay the expenses of
15 the demonstration project, subject to limitations of the
16 appropriation. Expenditures from the fund shall be on warrant
17 of the secretary of finance and administration pursuant to
18 vouchers signed by the superintendent of the Pojoaque Valley
19 public school district or the superintendent's authorized
20 representative. Money remaining in the fund at the end of
21 fiscal year 2025 shall revert to the general fund."

22 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.**--Three million three hundred
23 thirty-five thousand dollars (\$3,335,000) is appropriated from
24 the general fund to the regional partnership school
25 demonstration project fund for expenditure in fiscal years 2020

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1 through 2025 to design, implement and evaluate the regional
2 partnership school demonstration project. Any unexpended or
3 unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2025
4 shall revert to the general fund.

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