

Laguna Department of Education (LDoE)

Mission:

Hanu He ya Nayuutsi Gunishe - The concept refers to “*People Preparing for Life’s Journey*”

Organizational Description/Scope of Work:

LDoE was created by Laguna Pueblo Council to combine all educational programs under one entity that would provide a continuum of high quality programs that support and promote life-long learning. LDoE strives to provide educational opportunities through a variety of services and programs, which are coordinated, comprehensive, culturally appropriate and community-driven.

“Meeting the Needs of Every Child Through an Emphasis on Learning and Results”

Laguna Department of Education (LDoE)

P.O. Box 207

Laguna, NM 87026

(505) 552-6008

(505) 552-6398 (fax)

www.lagunaed.net

Number of Employees: 175

Number of Laguna Tribal Members: 115

Board of Education:

Mr. Jack Ondelacy – President

Ms. Marilyn Cheromiah – Vice President

Ms. Janice Kowemy – Secretary/Treasurer

Ms. Gloria Mariano – Member

Ms. Elsie Vaio – Member

Governor Richard Luarkie – Ex-Officio

Superintendent:

Dr. Anthony Fairbanks

(505) 552-6008

a.fairbanks@lagunaed.net

Student Enrollment:

Division of Early Childhood: 242

Laguna Elementary School: 230

Laguna Middle School: 128

Partners for Success: 335

Laguna Acoma Connections: 57

Higher education: 120

Total: 1,112

Financial Description 2011:

**SCHEDULE OF BUDGETED EXPENDITURES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012**

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
PRE K-8 (DEC/LMS/LES) INSTRUCTION/CLASSROOM	\$ 8,337,776
PROGRAM AND SUPPORT SERVICES	4,223,732
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	862,700

TOTAL FY 2011-2012 BUDGET	<u>\$ 13,424,208</u>

LAGUNA EDUCATION FOUNDATION	AMOUNT
PROGRAM SERVICES	\$ 4,300
SCHOLARSHIPS	22,000
S & W, F/B	54,676

TOTAL FY 2011-2012 BUDGET	<u>\$ 80,976</u>

Goals/Objectives/Status 2011:

Continued throughout the year to align school operations in order to create a safe and supportive environment for all staff and students; and use research-based instructional strategies and designs within Early Childhood, Laguna Elementary and Laguna Middle schools to increase student achievement.

Accomplishments 2011:

- Office of Head Start in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families recognized the Laguna Division of Early Childhood as a Center of Excellence in Early Childhood. This award was given to only ten Head Start grantees in the United States and was the first awarded to a Native American program. The award recognizes that the Pueblo of Laguna community has worked many years to develop a solid framework to grow its early childhood programs to benefit Laguna children and families. It is a framework that will help Laguna Division of Early Childhood get to the next level.
- Division of Early Childhood Program Governance: smooth transition occurs from one year to the next, in regard to the Head Start Policy Council for Laguna children and their families, through shared decision-making.
- Division of Early Childhood Program Design and Management: all DEC employees work on adhering to numerous state and federal program regulations on a daily basis.
- Early Childhood Education and Development: the Hawaii Early Learning Profile is the assessment now being used for all programs. All Laguna Early Childhood programs use the same developmental assessment, the Hawaii Early Learning Profile (HELP). Use of the HELP across all programs helps align training for staff and helps parents use one tool to track the progress of a child's development.
- The Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools have accomplished a 7% increase in reading proficiency from spring 2010 to spring 2011: from 28% to 35%.
- The Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools have accomplished a 3% increase of math proficiency from spring 2010 to spring 2011: from 17% to 20%.
- The Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools have enhanced technology, integrated within the classrooms.
- The Bureau of Indian Education has recognized the Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools as being 100% compliant with all special education laws and requirements since 2009.
- Teachers have received training sessions to help develop their professional skills for classroom instruction. Continued training will be provided for ongoing professional development that focuses on Rigor, Relevance and Relationships for continued instructional expertise.
- The Laguna Elementary summer Keres language pilot program was very successful.
- Partners for Success and Laguna Acoma Connections served 335 participants for the project year.
- Partners for Success and Laguna Acoma Connections total numbers are reflective of several project activities throughout the year:
 - 12 General Educational Development graduates.
 - Five college graduates earned their AA or Certificates.
 - 18 Summer Youth Employees.
 - One Heavy Equipment Operator Trainee.
 - 130 Johnson O' Malley school supply cards distributed.
 - 35 Laguna Acoma High School Seniors participated in Hawks On The Horizon.

- The Laguna Education Foundation awarded 120 higher education scholarships to Laguna Tribal members. There were 13 students who earned undergraduate degrees and five students earned graduate degrees.
- Laguna Acoma Connections served 57 American Indians with disabilities, 17 having successful gainful employment outcomes. This exceeds the Laguna Acoma Connections Vocational Rehabilitation project goals of 25 to be served, with 15 successful employment outcomes. This is a major milestone in the project history.
- The Bureau of Indian Affairs Environmental Management Audit Program conducted an audit of Laguna Department of Education Facilities Management in July 2011, for compliance with the Indian Affairs Environmental Management System regulations. Laguna Department of Education was 100% in compliance.

Challenges 2011:

- Aging and limited Early Childhood and Elementary School facilities.
- Partners for Success - More adults are seeking training and educational services to remain competitive in the job market. Cost of living, transportation and educational services are also increasing.
- Partners for Success – Higher Education had a record number (116) of applicants for 2011/12 academic school years. Funding levels have remained the same while scholarship needs have increased.
- Reduced federal funding for virtually all programs, their administrative costs, and services.

Collaborations 2011:

- A partnership has been initiated for the Division of Early Childhood, Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools with the Successful Practices Network, a national professional learning community, in coordination with the International Center For Leadership In Education. Teachers and administrators have participated in training with the Successful Practices Network program that is endorsed by the model school movement and the International Center for Educational Leadership. This important network is a part of efforts to improve curriculum, professional development and classroom instruction.
- Comprehensive health, behavioral and school-based (after & before school, summer, some evenings & weekends) collaborations were continued with Elev8 New Mexico and community partners for student, family services (206 participants).
- Laguna Elementary School has worked to develop collaboration with Sundance Educational Consultants for reading and math alignment efforts that included teacher input. With the use of the Odyssey Labs, students are getting an education that is technology based and data driven.
- Laguna Elementary School has also collaborated with the Pueblo of Laguna Tribal Administration and community health resources to begin a health and wellness awareness program that promotes good nutrition and exercise. Students and staff walked a mile with the guests. In addition, students participated in writing and art activities that emphasized the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

- Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools' collaborative efforts between the Special Education department and the Grants Cibola County Schools continue to help students to transition between schools.
- Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools had a successful Family Institute held on October 22, 2011.
- Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools have had training with Northwest Evaluation Association Measure of Academic Progress to use for state mandated short cycle assessment.
- Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools have had training for rubric for open ended and extended response for the New Mexico Standard Based Assessment.
- Laguna Middle School has collaborated with the National Micro Society Trainers to train staff for after school programs.
- Partners for Success have created positive partnerships with local educational institutions where participants are enrolled. PFS has met with Financial Aid Officers, Academic Advisement & Career Development Offices, Tutorial Services and Services Special to insure participants are guided in the right directions.
- Laguna Acoma Connections Vocational Rehabilitation Project hired a Vocation Rehabilitation Outreach Technician to participate in community program events for developing positive working relationships with both Pueblo of Laguna and Pueblo of Acoma programs.
- Laguna Education Foundation established Memoranda of Understanding with the University of New Mexico, New Mexico State University and New Mexico Highlands University that provide up to five free tuition and fees scholarship awards for Laguna Scholars.
- Laguna Education Foundation established an annual scholarship granting partnership with the New Mexico Gas Company to cover unmet need for up to three scholars per year.
- Laguna Education Foundation established a working relationship with the Daniels Fund Scholarship Program to cover unmet financial need for one Laguna Scholar at New Mexico Tech for up to four years.
- LDoE collaborated with the Pueblo of Laguna and the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Facilities Management to finalize the Program of Requirements for the new elementary school.

Highlights 2011:

- Laguna Elementary School collaborated with Pueblo of Laguna Governor Richard Luarkie and Bureau of Indian Education in promoting the revitalization of the Keres Language. A total of 59 kindergarten through second grade students participated in the seven-week pilot program. Six fluent Keres speakers conducted the classes.
- The Laguna Middle School Student Governor was selected to represent New Mexico at the National Youth Forum in April to present and discuss issues with Arnie Duncan, National Secretary of Education.

- Partners for Success Employment & Training program is in its third and final year for its grant cycle. PFS provided services to 335 participants, which is significant when compared to funding amounts provided.
- Partners for Success Higher Education provided scholarships to 116 tribal members for academic school year 2011-12.
- Successfully completed year one of five for Vocational Rehabilitation Project Grant.
- The Laguna Education Foundation recognized the 2010-2011 accomplishments of five scholars earning their graduate degrees, including a law school and a dental school graduate. Additional graduates included thirteen undergraduate scholars, earning their bachelors' and associate degrees.
- The Laguna Education Foundation completed year one of a three year \$148,600.00 Learn & Serve Grant for two hundred after school Laguna Middle School youth. The summer segment introduces youth to the Keres Language and trains them to become instructors and facilitators. The school year component engages youth in community and culture through the use of digital media.
- The Laguna Education Foundation conducted monthly Hawks on the Horizon College Prep workshops with Laguna Acoma High School seniors to assist high school seniors planning to attend college, vocational training or military service.

2012 Future Plans/Goals/Objectives:

1. The Laguna Division of Early Childhood will focus on three strategies in 2012 for developing children who are excited about learning; and continue to develop early childhood professionals who recognize they join with parents/families in being "brain sculptors" of all young children:
 - Continue to work with all staff to practice a research-based early childhood relational approach (Brazelton Touchpoints) to working with children, parents/community and colleagues (Traditional Core Values/Relationships).
 - Continue to work on instructional effectiveness/literacy plan using developmentally appropriate practices (play-based NM Early Learning Guidelines) to incorporate literacy/Keres language into all developmental areas and provide training to provide parents/early childhood staff with even more activities to use to maximize children's brain development during our interactions with them (Rigor and Relevance).
 - Develop an early childhood development/early education committee (administrators/teachers/family visitors/Parent Policy Council/other early childhood professionals) to assess how well strategies are working and to ensure monitoring of work effort is being documented and analyzed (Organizational Leadership).
2. The Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools reading goal:
 - Students scoring proficient in 3rd thru 8th grades will increase at least 10%. Fall 2011 baseline proficiency is 38% (as identified from internal assessments).

3. The Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools math goal:
 - Students scoring proficient in 3rd thru 8th grades will increase at least 10% from fall to spring. Fall 2011 baseline proficiency is 30% (as identified from internal assessments).
4. Partners for Success and Laguna Acoma Connections programs will apply for another three years (2012-2014) of funding:
 - Grant to focus on tutoring and jobs for school aged students, supplemental scholarships for college students and education, job skills and training for adult learners and workers.
 - PFS will work on developing relationships and partnerships with Pueblo of Laguna programs, NM State Workforce Investment Act projects, and public and private businesses to learn about the opportunities or impacts.
5. Partners for Success and Laguna Acoma Connections will assist eligible American Indians with disabilities to prepare for gainful employment.
6. Partners for Success and Laguna Acoma Connections through a cooperative working agreement, letters of commitment and/or letters of collaboration will ensure that the project will work in collaboration with appropriate service providers to address employment, appropriate counseling services, higher education, transition services, housing opportunities and transportation, for consumers with disabilities.
7. Continue collaborations for Phase II of the planning and design for the new Early Childhood facility and elementary school.
8. The 2011-12 Strategies for the Laguna Elementary and Middle Schools to improve academic proficiency:
 - Alignment of curriculum with a standardized lesson plan template.
 - Partnership between instructional assessments and the Compass Learning (digital curriculum).
 - Staff evaluations include academic performance of students.
 - Student incentives for perfect attendance, academics and good behavior.
 - On-going staff development in math instruction and staff development for math teachers and paraprofessionals.
 - Instructional coach in classrooms to enhance math instruction.
 - Instructional coaches in classrooms to enhance reading and writing instruction.
 - On-going staff development in reading instruction.
 - Provide parents/guardians with professional publications on how to help their child succeed in school.
 - Continued encouragement with parents/guardians to be involved with their child's education.
 - New technology - Interactive (white) boards: classrooms are equipped with a PolyVision board for interactive instruction, especially for reading and mathematics. Students use the boards to make class presentations and to show understanding of specific math concepts.