

Region 9 Education Cooperative

Minutes of the Region 9 Coordinating Council Meeting

Date & Time January 21, 2026 9:00 AM

Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Members Present: Mr. Lee, Mr. Patterson, Ms. Ferguson, Ms. Gillespie (via Zoom), Ms. Encinias (via Zoom), Dr. Serrano (via Zoom), Ms. Montoya in person as discussion items started.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the Order and Content of Agenda. Mr. Patterson made the motion, and Ms. Ferguson provided a second. A roll call vote ensued: Mr. Patterson-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Dr. Serrano-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. Ms. Encinias is present at 9:02 viaZoom. With members voting in favor Motion passed.

Approval Items

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the Previous minutes for December 2025. Mr. Patterson made the motion, and Ms. Ferguson provided a second. A roll call vote ensued: Mr. Patterson-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Dr. Serrano, Ms. Gillespie-yes, Ms. Encinias-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. With members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the Previous Month's vouchers for December 2025. Mr. Dooley presented the list of vouchers, Bureau mentorship stipends, and events, nothing extraordinary or unusual. Ms. Ferguson made the motion, and a second was provided by Ms. Encinias. A roll call vote ensued, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Ms. Encinias-yes, Dr Serrano-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, and Mr. Lee-yes. With members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chair Lee requested a motion to approve the Budget Adjustment Requests. Mr. Dooley reviewed the submitted BARS and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Patterson made the motion, and a second was provided by Ms. Encinias. A roll call vote ensued, Mr. Patterson-yes, Ms. Encinias-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Dr. Serrano-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, and Mr. Lee-yes.

Discussion Items

Mr. Dooley introduced Erica Bearman from Evress, who presented on the status of New Mexico education scores through a White Paper developed by Evress on literacy proficiency and growth, commissioned by NMCEL. Districts interested in obtaining more information can access the link included in the Status Report.

Head Start Governance Training for Governing Boards

Calla Goeller, Head Start Director, delivered a presentation on Governance training for Governing Boards. The topics covered included:

- Mission and Vision of Head Start
- History of the Head Start program
- Who does Head Start serve
- Head Start Law and Regulations
- Responsibilities of the Governing Body

- Data of the Head Start program
- Reporting Requirements

Region 9 Early Childhood Buildings Update - Infrastructure As A Service (IAAS) Mr. Phipps

Mr. Dooley reported that Mr. Phipps was unable to attend the meeting to provide a building update. However, he mentioned that the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the renovation/addition for 315 Sudderth, the new Early Head Start building, will be finalized by Friday, and bids will be opened for any or all of the four qualifying contractors that are eligible to submit.

Region 9 has received an extension for the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) for the fire alarm system at 135 El Paso Road until March 31st. This extension will allow for the installation of a central pull station and five carbon monoxide detectors. J & G Electric from Roswell has been awarded the contract and will have the plans approved, which will enable them to complete the work by the March 31st deadline.

School Resource Officer (SRO)

The item was a duplicate and has been moved to item 4, where the discussion of an SRO will continue as a related service.

Directors Status Report

Dr. Dooley mentioned that Mote Access is a UDL-aligned audio and feedback tool, offering a free trial at no cost from January 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026. Districts interested can find more information at the provided link.

Mr. Dooley also informed the board that the upcoming Coordinating Council meeting for February 18, 2026, and March 18, 2026, will be virtual due to the NMASBO and Spring Budget Workshop.

Updates on the following departments.

- Home Visiting-Coalition
 - Home Visiting has signed a contract with ECECD to serve Otero County through Home Visiting.
- Educational Services
 - Based on survey results, MLSS Layer 1-Early Stage Interventions: Behavior Strategies for Every Teacher will be held on April 1st at Region 9. Districts interested will need to reach out to April Lindsay.
 - Structured Literacy LETRS training is currently being held at Region 9
 - CPI Trainings are scheduled for January 23rd and February 27th
 - The January Ed Services newsletter link was provided on the Status Report
- Technology
 - There has been a significant increase in the number of cybersecurity incidents. The New Mexico Office of Cybersecurity will be hosting a Cybersecurity Tabletop workshop next month to help school districts develop and refine their Cybersecurity Incident Response Plans. The plan is to take the entire technology team to the event in Roswell.

- **Internal Supports**
 - Internal Supports continues supporting 36 IGAs, 13 NMPED Bureaus, and 2 state agencies
- **LCJJB**
 - Botvin Lifeskills will be facilitated with RMS 6th grade this semester on Wednesdays. Ms. Jackson will work on the grant application, which will fund programs next school year.
- **Human Resources**
 - Transfers and Current Job postings are listed on the Status Report and on the Region 9 website..

School-Based Health Center Glasses program

Ms. McEwen provided information about the glasses program to all districts. The NM Lions Club KidSight and SBHC Partnerships offer free glasses to both children and adults with a valid prescription. Flyers containing details on how to access the program will be distributed to schools.

Region 9 proposed FY 27 Budget Calendar

Mr. Dooley presented the proposed budget dates. The board members accepted those dates without any questions.

Discussion SRO as a Related Service

Mr. Dooley presented a sample Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), accompanied by notes for the review. The document included general rules and guidelines, job descriptions, duties, schedules by district, and estimated salaries. Region 9 will need a list of the participating schools and their schedules for an SRO. Carrizozo indicated they have a solution in place already. Corona, Capitan, Hondo, Tularosa, and Cloudcroft indicated they may be interested. Mr. Dooley has contacted law enforcement agencies in Otero County and Lincoln County regarding this matter. Superintendents will engage in further discussion at the next meeting.

Items for the next meeting

- Discuss the March Meeting Date and time
- Discussion on the SRO Officer Agreement

Adjournment

Chair Lee requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Patterson made the motion, and Dr. Serrano provided a second. A roll call vote ensued: Mr. Patterson-yes, Dr. Serrano-yes, Ms. Ferguson-yes, Ms. Gillespie-yes, Ms. Encinias-yes, Ms. Montoya-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. Meeting adjourned.



2/18/26