



CREC ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

SUPPORTING QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL STUDENTS
OUR REGION- OUR SCHOOLS- OUR STUDENTS

CENTRAL REGION EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE



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WHAT IS THE CREC?

The Central Region Educational Cooperative is a public education agency created under state statute for the main purpose of “cooperative action to furnish programs and services” to public school districts and state supported schools.



THE CREC IS ...

- Often referred to as REC 5, CREC is one of 10 regional educational cooperatives in New Mexico.
- Established in 1984 by the New Mexico Department of Education.
- CREC provides related (ancillary) services to a total of 15 school districts and charter schools throughout NM; other statewide program supports and professional learning opportunities.
- CREC provides fiscal and program support to many NM initiatives in partnership with the Public Education Dept, Early Childhood Education and Care Dept, Commission for the Blind and NM RECs.
- Locally governed by our member districts and entities
- Cost effective in delivering programs and services
- Committed to helping local school districts & state supported schools improve
- Responsive to local needs and inter-district opportunities
- Flexible in creating, adapting & enhancing programs



MIS S I O N & C O M M I T M E N T

- MIS S I O N

To deliver and support efficient and effective educational, technical, and information services to CREC members to assist them in providing quality education for students of all abilities



- C O M M I T M E N T

The CREC appreciates the inherent differences among its member agencies and is committed to providing current and future services in a way that is sensitive to these differences

2023-24 SERVICES

***THE CENTRAL REGION EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE ADDRESSES A MULTITUDE OF EDUCATIONAL TOPICS AND WILL CUSTOMIZE TO ADDRESS MEMBER SCHOOLS' NEEDS. THE FOLLOWING ARE JUST A FEW OF THE MANY SERVICES OFFERED...**

- Related Service Provision and Supplemental Diagnostic Evaluations FTE calculations – NOVA support
- Common Core State Standards Support
- Special Education Technical Assistance
- Professional Learning- Educators
- Child Find Coordination
- Transition/Early and Postsecondary Supports
- Early Childhood Instructional Coaching
- Structured Literacy Coaching
- Student Assistance Team/MLSS Supports
- Crisis Prevention Intervention Training
- Event Management Services
- Procurement and fiscal management of WCC Broadband Initiative – E-Rate (3 public libraries and 3 school districts)
- Grant application consortium
- Educational Technology PowerSchool Special Programs
- Edgenuity/Beyond Textbooks
- Data Driven Decision Making/ Analysis
- Medicaid School Based Services/Billing
- Title I (N&D): Program Administration
- IDEA B: Program Administration
- Instructional Material Administration
- State Directed Activity Funds/Program Administration for special ed. services and supports
- Commission for the Blind - Vocational Transition Services for students 14 and older
- School Based Mental Health Services – all students
- Universal Design for Learning
- Project services – PreK applications and other application support for distributions



2023-24 CREC MEMBERS

CREC MEMBER SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- **Estancia Municipal Schools**
 - Superintendent: Cindy Sims
- **Jemez Valley Public Schools**
 - Superintendent: Manuel Medrano
- **Magdalena Municipal Schools**
 - Superintendent: Glenn Haven
- **Mountainair Public Schools**
 - Superintendent: Dawn Apodaca
- **Quemado Independent Schools**
 - Superintendent: David Lackey
- **Vaughn Municipal Schools**
 - Superintendent: Lyndsey Padilla

CREC STATE SUPPORTED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

- **Juvenile Justice Services**
 - Superintendent: Ben Santistevan
- **Sequoyah Adolescent Treatment Center**
 - Administrator: Merlinda Trujillo
- **UNMH - Mimbres School (Child Life)**
 - Superintendent/Principal: Jeremy Abshire
- **NM Corrections Department**
 - Educational Administrator: Robert Madrid

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

- **Laguna Dept. of Education**
Superintendent: Amy Suman



2023-24 CREC ADMIN STAFF

MARIA JARAMILLO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JESSICA ORONA, BUSINESS MANAGER

- Sandra Drangmeister, Business & Program Manager
 - Chrys McMillin, Financial Specialist
 - Carol Elliott, Chief Procurement Officer
 - Vanessa Doubek, Medicaid Coordinator
 - Florence Mceachren Garcia, Medicaid Coordinator
 - Vicky Fuessel & Mandy Thrasher Related Service Coordinators
 - Sandra Coleman, Program Support Coordinator
 - Taisha Chambers, Administrative Assistant
 - Alex Johnson-Jimenez, Education Tech Specialist
 - Hector Valles, Education Tech Specialist
 - Lucretia Foster, Voc. Transition Coordinator
 - Laura Gilge, Project Manager
 - Mark Hightower, Project Support Specialist
 - Terri Tapia, Early Childhood Lead Coordinator
 - Amanda Rottman, Early Childhood Coordinator
 - Ginger Towle, Early Childhood Coordinator
 - Katrina Gallegos, Early Childhood Coordinator
 - Holly Meyer, Training and Data Coordinator
 - Janea Menicucci, Universal Design for Learning Coord.
 - Rianne Herrera, Structured Literacy Coordinator
 - Craig Turpin, SBHC Grant Coordinator
 - Fidel Chavez, Custodian/Maintenance
- Vacancies**
- HR Generalist/IT Support



2023-24 CREC SERVICE PROVIDERS

117 SERVICE PROVIDERS (INCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

- 8 Speech-Language Pathologists
- 7 Occupational Therapists/COTAs
- 2 School Psychologists
- 5 Educational Diagnosticians
- 8 Social Workers
- 1 BCBA
- 3 Physical Therapists
- 38 Early Childhood Instructional Coaches
- 6 UDL Instructional Coaches
- 27 Structured Literacy Coaches
- 2 Vocational Transition Specialists



PROGRAM FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

FUNDS:

- Instructional Materials 14000
- IDEA B –Entitlement 24016
- Title I 24123
- Medicaid 25153
- Legislative – State Appropriation, SDAA, PED Initiatives 27101 & 27200

- The ending operational reserves balance on June 30, 2024 was \$708,794
- Overall **revenue** (including transfers in and other sources) totaled **\$36,866,268**
- Total **expenditures** were **\$34,404,328**

- Net Position increased (minus net pension liability) \$3,768,341
- Fund Balance increased \$2,461,940



PROGRAM FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

CREC Revenue Gov. Activities	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Federal Sources	654,232	2,788,000	2,318,920	4,245,587	4,430,218	3,617,057	7,866,321	4,609,206	5,664,984	16,422,747
State Sources	623,872	5,186,000	4,184,121	431,725	3,706,400	4,250,257	3,412,582	7,404,732	12,805,473	20,443,521
Local Sources	3,624,783	398,942		2,562,700	2,880					
Total Revenue	4,902,887	8,372,942	6,503,041	7,293,484	8,139,498	7,867,314	11,278,903	12,013,938	18,470,457	36,866,268



PROGRAM FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

CREC Expenditures Governmental Activities	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Instruction	9,062	12,396	768,680	32,154	1,370,031	616,722	733,732	965,469	509,935	54,279
Support Services: Instruction	4,444,568	4,232,451	4,131,796	3,699,101	5,081,457	4,279,333			949,331	984,778
Support Services: Students	0.00	0.00	5,218	0.00	14,350	29,976	50,298	3,004,972	3,315,683	4,051,841
Support Services: General Admin	161,575 25,855,380	206,113	670,827	2,226,621	1,093,419	2,125,178	8,549,674	5,414,030	10,489,930	
Support Services: School Admin	52,430	116,000	208,301	333,861	197,453	10,616				
Support Services: Central Services	274,001	315,770	654,379	655,349	1,115,462	389,366	424,373	1,821,686	908,846	2,071,819
Operation & Maintenance of Plant	52,430	50,333	48,918	44,526	58,635	65,047	1,983	91,934	100,172	113,938
Community Services Operations									796,534	1,151,622
Debt Principal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63,096	65,471
Debt Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40,404	38,029
Capital Outlay/Other Support Svc./Community	35,297 17,171	17,219	5,253	2,661	72,983	102,829	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,195
Total Expenditures	4,976,933 34,404,328	4,950,282	6,896,686	6,994,273	7,796,001	7,619,067	9,760,060	11,431,870	17,190,126	



2023-24 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

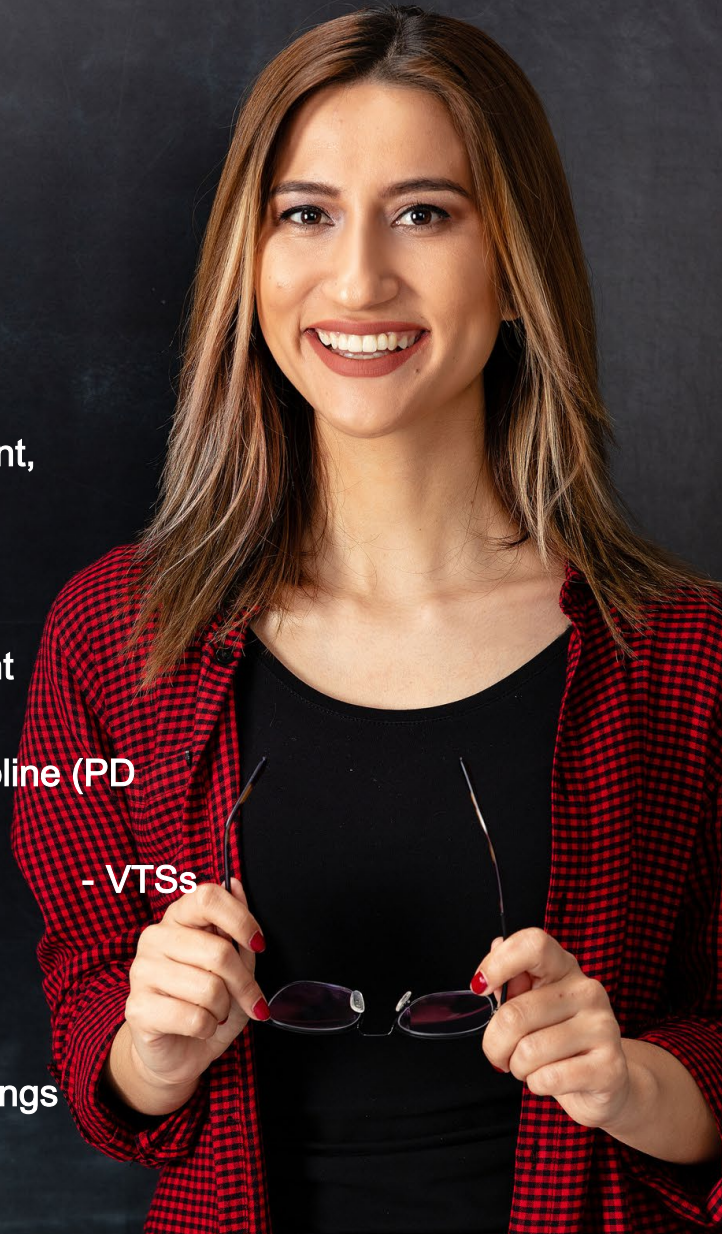
- Over 3000 students served in 11 member districts
- Over 5000 NM educators participated in CREC-provided PreK through 12th grade professional learning/support activities in universal Design for Learning (UDL), LETRS-Early Childhood, and other professional development events.
- 31,285 students received UDL tools, coaching, and resources.
- Over 72 infants and preschool children participated in Child Find Events within the 6-member school districts.
- Medicaid in the Schools (MITS) billing and assistance was provided to 6-member, and one charter school to over 300 students and to 6-nonmember districts for over 248 students on IEP.
- Provided ongoing Pre-Employment Transition Services via vocational transition specialists to 59 visually impaired and students across the state. Our staff also made 34 successful community job placements for CFB students!
- Direct educational services provided by 37 CREC Related Service Providers (including contractors) for over 550 special education students in 15 school districts throughout NM. Over 300 Evaluations (educational, assistive, and psychological) were provided to students in those districts.



2023 -24 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND SUPPORTS WERE PROVIDED TO DISTRICTS (BOTH MEMBERS AND NONMEMBERS EDUCATORS) ON TOPICS INCLUDING:

- Special Education (timelines and monthly conference calls with special ed attorney)
- IEP compliance
- Structured Literacy - EC LETRs
- Universal Design for Learning
- Child Find
- Effective Instructional Strategies
- Crisis Prevention Intervention
- Early and Post Secondary Transition
- Preschool FOCUS professional learning
- Education Leadership – CREC Superintendent, Principal, and Special Education Coordinator Meetings
- Common Core State Standards
- Multi Layered System of Supports - Student Assistance Team
- Related Service Providers – specific to discipline (PD events)
- Pre -Employment Transition Service Supports and students - VTSS
- PowerSchool Special Ed.
- Edgenuity and Beyond Textbooks programs
- Coalition of State Supported Ed. Programs Meetings – PED Compliance
- Education Technology



2023-24 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Expanding Opportunities Project:**
 - Distributed over \$755,000 to graduate students and providers in the mental health field
- **School -Based Mental Health (USDOE):**
 - Year 2 of 5-year grant: 3 social workers, 1 behavior consultant, and a lead school psychologist – coordinator providing direct services to students and staff at 7 school districts



2023-24 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Early Childhood Instructional Coaching Program (91 NM school districts, charters or community -based)

PreK and 619 (Special Education). Title1/Head Start and community-based Classrooms	
Total NM Classrooms	814
Albuquerque Public Schools	
Total ECLIPSE School Teams	38
FOCUS Professional Development sessions	
Total # Educator Participants	over 3500

32 EARLY CHILDHOOD INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES
 3 ECLIPSE INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES
 1 LEAD EARLY CHILDHOOD COORDINATOR; 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD
 COORDINATORS; 1 TRAINING AND DATA COORDINATOR



2023-24 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Universal Design for Learning

Supported 98 school sites across New Mexico, encompassing approximately 3,500 educators and staff within 33 districts and charter schools, in implementing the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Framework. This included training teachers to design UDL-aligned lessons that emphasize voice, choice, and accessibility. Additionally, we helped establish UDL District teams and provided comprehensive year-long coaching, both in-person and virtually. We also delivered targeted Professional Learning sessions to support the effective use of the following tools:



- o Co:writer Universal
- o Snap & Read Universal
- o Equatio
- o UPar
- o Bookshare

Structured Literacy

Supported 72 NM school sites, with approximately 1,030 teachers across 34 districts and charters in training teachers in Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) to ensure that all students receive instruction grounded in the science of reading. CREC hired 25 coaches to provide supports to the identified schools and teachers.



2023-24 MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mar ia L. J a r a m i l l o



Since the Regional Cooperatives were created in 1984, we have prided ourselves in “putting kids first”. The key to accomplishing this lies in cooperation and collaboration with all our education partners.

The CREC has always provided access to high quality, leading -edge related services, educational programs, and professional development. Our success in this area is attributed to the CREC’s emphasis on providing assistance tailored to the individual needs of our teachers, staff, parents, and students. Our statewide support continues to grow each year.

The CREC has many new accomplishments to celebrate, and I share in the belief many fortunate leaders hold: “It definitely takes a team!”

Thank you to the CREC Council, School Districts, and our incredible Growing Staff. I appreciate all your hard work serving New Mexico’s educators and students and continuing to support the vision of the CREC in increasing NM student achievement through collaboration.

CENTRAL REGION EDUCATIONAL COOPERATIVE

