

PED's Plan Falls Short. The Constitution Is Not Optional.



The **New Mexico Constitution** requires the state to provide all students with a **sufficient education** that prepares them for college, career, and beyond.

For generations, families, educators, students, and communities across New Mexico have carried a vision for education: **schools where every child is supported, languages and cultures are honored, strengths and potential are recognized, students have the resources they need to thrive, and young people can see a future in their communities.**

That vision is what students in New Mexico are guaranteed under the law. But in 2018, the court found that New Mexico's public education system is failing to meet its constitutional obligation to Native students, English learners, students with disabilities, and students from low-income backgrounds. In 2025, the court ordered the state to develop an Action Plan to finally address those violations.

What PED Submitted Instead

- Broad aspirations instead of binding commitments
- No clear timelines
- No cost estimates or funding roadmap
- No clear accountability for implementation
- No concrete plan to implement key education laws
- No targeted strategies for the four student groups in the case
- Insufficient Tribal collaboration or shared decision-making

The Court required a plan that can be enforced.

Without a real plan, constitutional violations continue.



Plaintiffs' Objections & PED's Response

February 2026: Yazzie Plaintiffs filed objections with the Court challenging PED's Action Plan. The objections are based on expert review and input from community and advocates statewide.

March 2026: The state responds, rejecting the deficiencies and recommendations raised by Plaintiffs and community experts. PED also tried to dismiss the Yazzie Plaintiffs' experts—who know this system firsthand and bring both lived experience and professional expertise—instead of addressing the concerns. **PED argues the Court should step back.**

April 2026: Plaintiffs asked the court to take **additional action.**

What the Plaintiffs Asked the Court to Require

- **A revised plan built with New Mexico experts**
 - Educators, Tribal leaders, families, and subject-matter experts must have a central role in shaping, leading, and implementing the plan.
- **Targeted remedies for students most impacted**
 - The plan must directly address the needs of Native students, English learners, students with disabilities, and low-income students with targeted action—not one-size-fits-all reforms.
- **A funded multi-year plan with timelines**
 - The plan must clearly lay out what changes will cost, how they will be funded, and when they will happen.
- **Clear accountability and transparency**
 - The plan must establish clear accountability measures, including assigned responsibilities, measurable outcomes, and regular public updates on progress.

What's Next?

The Court will hold a hearing to determine next steps. The public is invited to continue following the process closely.

Visit our website to learn more and sign up for our email list for updates.