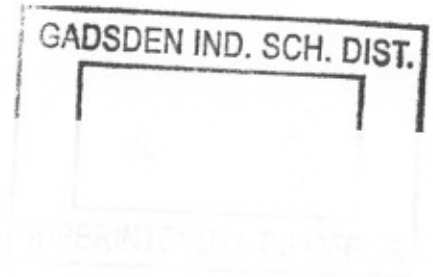




STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
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DR. VERONICA C. GARCÍA  
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

July 11, 2008

Superintendent Cynthia Nava  
Gadsden Independent Schools  
4950 McNutt  
Sunland Park, New Mexico 88021



Dear Superintendent Nava:

It is a pleasure to congratulate you and select schools in your district for achieving outstanding improvements in reading and math proficiency. Because of this exceptional accomplishment, the schools appearing on the attached list received awards from the New Mexico Incentives for School Improvement Fund on June 24, 2008.

The schools were selected to receive this award because of school year 2005-06 and 2006-07 standards based assessment scores. This success is due to strong leadership, effective instruction, and diligence by your administration, teachers, students, and parents.

The Incentives for School Improvement Award was created by the 1997 Legislature to give schools financial incentives to make outstanding gains on student assessments (§22-2C-8 and 9, NMSA 1978). The amount of the award is based on the size of your school's proficiency gains and the number of students enrolled. Your school council may determine how this supplemental funding will be used. The statute excludes the use of funds for salaries, salary increases or bonuses. You might want to consider using some of this award to fund substitutes so teachers may attend professional development activities provided by the PED Assessment and Accountability Division. Teacher participation in these activities supports the ongoing development of the statewide assessments. Regardless of how these funds are used, I trust that teachers and students will be recognized for their praiseworthy achievement, and that this recognition will motivate them to continue their attainment of excellence.

Incentives for School Improvement  
July 11, 2008  
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These funds will be distributed in accordance with statute. In order to budget these funds, please submit an electronic Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) utilizing the PED OBMS (Operating Budget Management System) website at:

[http://obms.ped.state.nm.us/PED\\_OBMS/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fped\\_obms%2fOBMSHome.aspx](http://obms.ped.state.nm.us/PED_OBMS/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fped_obms%2fOBMSHome.aspx)

You are encouraged to work with your school district finance officer, who has been notified of this process for submission.

When submitting your BAR, please use Fund Code 27138 and Revenue Code 43202.

As time permits, please contact your State Legislators and thank them for funding the Incentives for School Improvement Act, and to tell them about the important impact this award is making on your school.

Please contact Dr. Tom Dauphinee at (505) 827-6528 or [Tom.dauphinee@state.nm.us](mailto:Tom.dauphinee@state.nm.us) if we can assist you with any questions about this award.

Congratulations and continue your journey to excellence.

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VCG/TD/df

Enclosure (1)

cc: Dr. Catherine Cross Maple, Deputy Secretary, Learning & Accountability  
Mr. Carlos Martínez, Assistant Secretary, Assessment & Accountability  
Dr. Sheila Hyde, Assistant Secretary, Quality Assurance & Systems Integration  
Business Manager, Laura Garcia  
School Award Principals:  
Graciela Marquez  
James Diggs  
Vicente Sanches  
Charlene Bonham  
Cecilia Doran

