

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
GADSDEN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AND  
NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY**

**A. Partners to the Agreement**

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between New Mexico State University ENLACE (NMSU ENLACE) and the Gadsden Independent School District is to provide services indicated in the Scope of Work as outlined in Attachment A for the period of August 15, 2015 to August 17, 2016.

**B. Statement of Need**

The work of the Southern New Mexico ENLACE is to empower participants through three core integrated programs that constitute an institutional pathway. These programs consist of the ENLACE Academic Curriculum for Excellence (A.C.E.) for middle and high school students, Parent mentoring, and Exito! (success for university students) program through culturally responsive methods of education in supportive student learning communities.

Parent mentoring has a powerful influence on children's academic achievement. Numerous studies have supported the claim that when parents are involved, children earn higher grades, receive higher scores on tests, have lower absentee rates, turn in greater amounts of homework, demonstrate positive attitudes toward school, graduate from high school, and more likely to enroll in college.

Parents desire to become more involved with their child's education; that is a desire for more opportunities to be academically and socially involved as means of increasing opportunities and experiences that are available to them and to their children. In turn, so that gaps can continue to be filled and so that all involved in the education process can grow and succeed. ENLACE recognizes that parents want to know more about their child's educational opportunities, especially parents who are not college or high school graduates themselves.

ENLACE Southern will support schools by collaboratively creating a parent mentoring program that supports families and students in order for students to stay in school, graduate, and transition to post-secondary education. The overall goal of the ENLACE/GISD parent mentoring project is to include parents, school personnel, and students to meaningfully engage and have a stronger presence in the academic preparation of their children.

**C. Goals of the Agreement**

The strategic priorities of ENLACE NMSU are to prepare all students successfully to graduate from high school and prepare them to be college ready when they enroll at

NMSU and/or Dona Ana Community College. ENLACE Southern goals are: 1) Ensure access and success into higher education of those students enrolled in the GISD; 2) Foster belief that all students can achieve and graduate from the university; 3) To install a solid foundation for student growth, development, and persistence so that students are retained and graduate; and 4) Using parents social and cultural capital, parents and school staff will recognize and understand the value of their capital contributing to the development of an academic and cultural identity leading to success.

#### **D. Organizational Process**

ENLACE Southern will assist the parents of the GISD middle and high schools by identifying and linking educational support resources and materials for Parent mentoring their child and mentoring other parents.

#### **E. Points of Contact**

##### **Programmatic/Technical**

The NMSU Principal Investigator is responsible for the technical, scientific, and programmatic aspect of the overall project.

The GISD Project Director is responsible for the proper management and conduct of the scope of work as described in Attachment A.

##### **NMSU Principal Investigator**

Dr. Federico Marquez  
Principal Investigator  
New Mexico State University  
ENLACE Program NMSU  
P.O. Box 30001  
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001  
Telephone: 575-646-7927  
Fax: 575-646-3073

##### **GISD Project Coordinator**

Mr. Raymundo Lara  
Title I Program Coordinator  
Gadsden Independent School District  
4950 McNutt Rd  
Sunland Park, NM 88063  
Telephone: 575-882-6283  
Fax: 575-882-6727

##### **Administrative Points of Contact:**

##### **NMSU**

Dr. Federico Marquez  
New Mexico State University  
ENLACE Program  
P.O. Box 3001  
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001  
Telephone: 575-646-7927

##### **GISD**

Mr. Efren Yturralde, Superintendent  
Gadsden Independent School District  
Sunland Park, New Mexico 88063  
Telephone: 575-882-6283  
Fax: 575-882-6727

#### **F. Modification**

Any modification to this Memorandum of Agreement shall be made by written agreement of the authorized representatives of the parties.

#### **G. Period of Performance**

This Memorandum of Agreement will become effective August 15, 2015 and terminate August 17, 2016.

#### **H. Scope of Work**

The agreed upon Scope of Work for collaborative efforts for the Memorandum of Agreement are outlined in Attachment A hereto appended to this MOA.

#### **I. Termination**

It is understood and agreed that this Memorandum of Agreement may be terminated by either party upon thirty (30) days written notice. In the event of termination, NMSU and GISD shall proceed in an orderly fashion to limit or terminated any outstanding commitments and to conclude the work.

#### **J. Publicity**

No publicity matter having or containing any reference to NMSU, or in which the name of NMSU is mentioned, shall be made by GISD until written approval has been first obtained by NMSU. No publicity matter having or containing reference to GISD, or in which the name of GISD is mentioned, shall be made by NMSU until written approval has been first obtained by GISD.

#### **K. Progress Reports**

GISD Parent mentors and staff shall participate in monthly progress and in-service meeting with NMSU principal investigators and or his designated staff in accordance with the provisions contained in Attachment A.

#### **L. Human Subjects**

NMSU and GISD agree that the rights and welfare of human subjects will be protected in accordance with the applicable policies set forth in 45 CRF Part 690. NMSU and GISD shall bear the responsibility for the proper and safe performance of its work and services involving human subjects. Research involving the use of human subjects will not be conducted under the agreement.

#### **M. Non discrimination**

NMSU and GISD, in compliance with federal and state laws, shall be committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to program and employment without

regard to race, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, status as a disabled or veteran, and sexual orientation.

**N. Assignment**

This agreement may not be assigned or sub awarded to a third party, in whole or in part without the prior written consent of NMSU and GISD.

**O. Applicable Law**

This agreement shall be governed and constructed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Mexico. As between the parties, each party will be solely responsible for liability arising from personal injury, including death, or damage to property arising from the act or failure to act of the respective party or of its officials, agents and employees pursuant to this Agreement. The liability of NMSU shall be subject to the immunities and limitations of the New Mexico Tort Claims Act, Section 41-4-1 et seq., NMSA 1978, and of any amendments thereto.

**P. Entire Agreement**

This Memorandum of Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between NMSU and GISD. Any changes or modifications shall be accomplished by amendment to this agreement executed by the duly authorized representatives of the parties.

This Memorandum of Agreement supersedes and replaces any previous arrangement between the parties hereto, oral or written, pertaining to this agreement.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, the parties have executed this agreement by their duly authorized officials, in duplicate, on the dates indicated below.

**ENLACE Southern**

**Gadsden Independent School District**

By:

By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date  
Dr. Federico Marquez  
Principal Investigator.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date  
Mr. Efren Yturralde  
Superintendent, GISD

## **Attachment A Scope of Work**

The overall goal of the ENLACE/GISD Parent Mentoring project is to include parents, school personnel, and students to meaningfully engage and have a stronger presences in the academic preparation of their children. In order to meet this objective, the following strategies will be used.

- The GISD staff will inform parents and guardians of meetings, functions, and activities relating to parent mentoring in the school and at home.
- The GISD staff will contact parents/guardians through meetings, knock and talks, letters, phone calls, online or other means to inform them of parent mentoring activities that may improve student achievement.
- Parent staff will provide materials and training to help parents mentor their child and other parents to improve achievement.
- Parent staff will provide activities and materials to help parents to academically assist their child at home.
- Parent staff will facilitate activities that assist parents to mentor their child towards planning post graduation activities.
- Parent staff will recruit parent volunteers to participate in mentoring advisory teams and decision making.
- Parent staff will keep complete records for each parent, student, and evaluate parent engagement activities and forward this data to ENLACE for program evaluation purposes.

The overall goal of the ENLACE/GISD Parent Mentoring project is to include parents, school personnel, and students to meaningfully engage and have a stronger presences in the academic preparation of their children. In order to meet this objective, the following strategies will be used.

- ENLACE in coordination with GISD staff will facilitate training to assist parents, students, and in understanding parent rights, roles and responsibilities as it pertains to their child's education.
- ENLACE in coordination with GISD staff will identify parent mentoring training resources such as the Latino Family Awareness Project, 4H Tech Wizards Youth Mentoring Program, Tech Goes Home, Family Schools and Community Toolkit, and others.
- ENLACE in coordination with GISD staff will provide training in the delivery of parent mentoring training methods to parents so that they train other parent mentors.
- ENLACE incorporate into the Si Se Puede and ACE curricula educational topics to bridge generational disconnects between parents and students using parent's funds of knowledge.
- ENLACE will convene and facilitate parent focus groups to assist the development of parent mentoring curricula.
- ENLACE will maintain communication with GISD parents, staff, principals, teachers, and others to continually evaluate progress and identify future directions.
- ENLACE will assist GISD in the collection of data to assess the effectiveness of activities leading to student achievement and report data to GISD and State ENLACE.