

**NMAA Activities Council Meeting**  
**September 1, 2015**  
**NMAA Hall of Pride and Honor**

**Welcome** - Meeting called to order by Mr. Don Gerheart, NMAA Activities Council Chairperson at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was conducted by Mrs. Mindy Ioane, NMAA Graphic Designer/Special Event Coordinator, and the following members were present:

Mr. David Gallegos (Athletic Training Challenge)  
Mr. Don Thompson (Bowling)  
Ms. Bobbi Eichhorst (CTLP)  
Mr. Steve Perea (Chess)  
Ms. Gael Natal (Drama-One-Act-Production)  
Ms. Jeannette Vigil (English Expo)  
Ms. Elizabeth Valdez (FFA)  
Mr. Don Gerheart (Music)  
Maj. Bill Barker (JROTC)  
Mr. David Berlin (NM Mock Trial)  
Ms. Rebeca Zimmermann (Scholastic Publications)  
Ms. Rose Baca-Rivet (Science Fair/Olympiad)  
Ms. Hannah Flake (Speech/Debate)  
Ms. Mary Hahn (Student Council)

**Not Present:**

Ms. Dani Valdez (NMHS Rodeo Association)

Ms. Dana Pappas, Activities Council Contact and NMAA Deputy Director announced that in efforts to reduce travel time and expenses associated with travel Activities Council members had the option to attend the meeting via teleconference. Approximately half of the members chose to attend the meeting with this option.

**Approval of Agenda**

Mr. Gerheart asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Berlin made the motion to accept the agenda as presented. Ms. Flake seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Gerheart asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2015 meeting. Mr. Gerheart asked the members to approve the minutes as presented. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (13-0).

**Council Members' Reports**

Athletic Training Challenge: Mr. David Gallegos, ATC Sponsor reported on the success of the Athletic Training Challenge held on Sunday, April 19, 2015 at Centennial High School with 85 students participating in the event. Results are as follows:

1<sup>st</sup>: Gadsden High School  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Centennial High School  
3<sup>rd</sup>: El Dorado High School

The major focus for this year was to find a replacement for Mr. Gallegos as the event sponsor. Mr. Joe Mora from Gadsden High School has agreed to be the event sponsor and work with Mr. Gallegos this year organizing the event. Most likely the Challenge will be held in Albuquerque at St. Pius X High or Manzano High School. Next year's focus will be on creating a 501C3 account.

Bowling: Ms. Pappas read the NMHSBA Bowling report provided by Mr. Don Thompson, President. The bowling activity is in its 11<sup>th</sup> year and continues to grow. This season consists of 10 regular season tournaments, a senior tournament and the state tournament. Practices begin on October 5<sup>th</sup> and the first competition is on November 7<sup>th</sup>. The senior tournament will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup> and the state event will be on February 13<sup>th</sup>. There are four competition categories (Rookie, Novice, Intermediate and Advanced) during weekly events. The categories are based on a team average allowing students to learn and advance as their abilities do.

High school membership last year consisted of 22 high schools. Weekly events averaged 45 teams, compared to 42 over the previous few years. In terms of students, this is an approximate average of 230 to 270 student participants each week. The association has discussed with Deming, Hobbs and St. Michaels about participating this year. The state event for the second year will be a Request for Proposal and the location is to be determined.

The association distributed \$10,000 dollars in scholarship monies last year with a total of \$42,650 over the past five years. The scholarship funds are maintained by a national organization, Scholarship management and Accounting Reports for Tenpins (SMART), that is designed to help associations set up, manage and disburse youth bowling scholarship funds.

Everything needed to know about the activity including board structure, committees, documents of interest (bylaws, policy, coaches guidelines) links to our activities key organization (NMAA, USBC) and their documents (handbook, eligibility form, member school listing), bowling centers, tournament schedule and results, and coaches mechanism to maintain team rosters and register for tournaments can be found on our website, [www.nmhsba.org](http://www.nmhsba.org). Contact the President at [pres@nmhsba.org](mailto:pres@nmhsba.org) or at 505-453-8615, or email the Association manager at [assocmgr@nmhsba.org](mailto:assocmgr@nmhsba.org) with any questions.

NMHSCA Board: President - Don Thompson, Vice-President – Seven Swayne, Association Manager – Adrienne Smith and Directors: Sharon Thompson, Tammy Michaels, Chuck Lang, Adrienne Smith.

JROTC Representative, Major Bill Barker entered the meeting at 9:11 a.m.

CTSO: Presented by Ms. Bobbi Eichhorst, HOSA and SkillsUSA Advisor announced the CTLP membership numbers as follows:

Business Professionals of America: 706

DECA: 3,156

Family Career and Community Leaders of America: 602

HOSA-future Health Professionals: 532

SkillsUSA: 1279

Technology Students of America: 72

Total Members: 6351

Ms. Eichhorst also presented the 2015-2016 Calendar of Major CTLP Events. The increased numbers were a result of increased staffing.

Chess: Mr. Steve Perea, informed the committee members that the Chess activity continues to grow in numbers of participants throughout the state. He visited schools within every region of New Mexico to help increase participation within the activity. Five New Mexico High Schools have added Chess as a class in their schools. Mr. Perea has personally paid entry fees for some middle schools to help increase participation and was recently recognized at the National Level for his efforts in increasing participation levels throughout the state.

Drama/One-Act Production: Ms. Gael Natal and Mr. Tom Smith reported that the NMAA One-Act Production and the High Desert High School Theatre Festival will be held in Rio Rancho, hosted by Ms. Natal, Marc Roberts (V.Sue Cleveland) and the administration at Rio Rancho Public Schools. The festival will be held October 29-31. Invitations to high schools have been sent and registration is open until September 28<sup>th</sup>. The festival can host up to 650 students and 17 schools this year. Last year the category was changed from One-Act Play to One-Act production to indicate the inclusive nature of producing plays and to recognize the backstage crew, designers and directors working on these pieces.

English Expo: Ms. Jeannette Vigil, English Expo representative discussed last year's rescheduling of the XXVI Expo originally scheduled on February 28, 2015 at La Cueva High School in Albuquerque to May 9, 2015 due to statewide weather concerns. A total of 26 schools participated with a total of 430 students and 100 adults attending the event. English Expo XXVII is scheduled for Saturday, February 27, 2016 at La Cueva High School in Albuquerque. Ms. Vigil presented the Expo Student Contest Descriptions and Schedule. Website address [www.nmira.org/what-is-english-expo.html](http://www.nmira.org/what-is-english-expo.html)

FFA: Mr. Jerrod Smith, FFA representative reported that there are 3412 members with 11 new advisors statewide and six teachers have moved districts. The State FFA officers are traveling the state conducting District-wide chapter officer trainings. The District and State officers will train around 560 students from all across the state. These students will return to their home chapter and share what they have learned with the rest of the members of their home chapter.

The next event will be the FFA Red Barn which starts September 10<sup>th</sup> on the Expo New Mexico Main Street as part of the State Fair. The National FFA convention will take place in Louisville KY, from October 28-31, 2015. Caleb Gustin of the Moriarty FFA will retire his position as Western Region National Vice President on October 31st as part of the National Convention.

JROTC: Maj. Barker announced that the JROTC program has 5000 members and competition continues to grow. The focus is changing towards technology. The middle school programs continue to grow with eleven middle school programs in Albuquerque and fifteen middle school programs statewide.

Music: Mr. Don Gerheart, NMMEA Executive Director stated that between February and May of 2015 six districts of the NM Music Educators held numerous events in their respective districts which included jazz events, honor ensembles, as well as music performance assessments for band, choir, orchestra and guitar. During the assessments each ensemble's performance is evaluated by three adjudicators followed by an evaluation of their sight reading ability. A majority of the assessments were used as part of the music teacher's end-of-year evaluation. Each district concluded their year by holding their spring district meeting to summarize and evaluate their year and to plan events for the 2015-16 school year.

Participation numbers:

- 28,400 students participated in district musical events last school year.
- 80 ensembles and 3000 students participated in the NMAA State Contests for orchestra, choir and band.
- 2600 students registered to audition for NMMEA All-State ensembles.
- 950 students were chosen to be members in one of eight All-State ensembles.
- Over 32,000 students participated in organized district and state events.

The NMMEA Executive Committee held their summer meeting in July and continued to plan for the 72<sup>nd</sup> 2016 All-State Festival to be held on January 6-9, 2016 at the University of NM. Auditions for the ensembles took place in October and November.

Two New Mexico musicians were selected to be members of the National Association for Music Education Honor Ensembles that will perform as part of the NAFME's annual conference to be held in Nashville, Tennessee in October. Ted Warner, of Los Alamos, a clarinetist in the honor band and Lila Baca, a cellist from the New Mexico School for the Arts, will participate in the honor orchestra.

Mock Trial: Mr. David Berlin, Mock Trial representative informed the members that the Center for Civic Values (CCV) held the Regional Competition in Albuquerque in February and the State Finals in March. Volcano Vista High School won the State Championship for the second year in a row, defeating Sandia Prep in the final round. Nationals were held in Raleigh, North Carolina in May.

Registration for the 2015-2016 mock trial competition opened on August 17, 2015. The case that will be used for the competition will be available on October 1, 2015. Mr. Berlin submitted the 2015-2016 calendar and discussed the Regional Competition to be held on February 19-20, 2016 and the State Finals will be conducted on March 18-19, 2016. Regional and State competitions will take place at the Metropolitan Courthouse in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Michelle Giger who had been with the CCV for the past 29 years retired as of May 31, 2015. Mr. Giger acted as the steward for the mock trial program since 1998 and during her tenure saw NM teams place in the top ten at the National Competition five times winning the National Championships twice. Michelle also was instrumental in having New Mexico host Nationals in 1998 and 2012. Both are models of how the event should be conducted. The CCV and the mock trial program, led by Kristen Leeds began in February and took over the position on June 1, 2015.

Rodeo: No representative present.

Scholastic Publications: Ms. Rebeca Zimmermann, Scholastic Publications representative announced that approximately 90 students participated in the sixth NMAA State Scholastic Publications Competition on March 21, 2015 at Volcano Vista High School. Adding TV Broadcasting in as a category, the competition attracted two new schools as a result. Mayfield and Chaparral participated for the first time. Seven schools participated in the event. A number of Albuquerque Journal professionals served as judges and a TV judge from KOAT. All are impressed with the level of work they see.

The program is concerned about meeting the 16-school rule for next year's state competition, as many schools are no longer publishing newspapers and few have actual TV broadcasts. Those that do have the programs often don't

have budgets for travel and have scheduling constraints. Many advisers also don't have professional experience and are busy with many other subjects.

NMSPA helps the New Mexico Press Association with a summer high school journalism workshop, and hope to attract more schools through that relationship as well.

Science Fair / Olympiad: Ms. Rose Baca-Rivet announced that the 2015-2016 Annual Science Olympiad Fall teacher's workshop will be held on October 30 at New Mexico Tech in Socorro. The 2016 NM Science Olympiad State Finals will be held in February 20, 2016 at New Mexico Tech in Socorro. There were 50 teams of 15 students will advance from five regional Science Olympiad tournaments. Students will compete in 23 separate events that include physics, engineering, math and English. A middle school and high school team will qualify to represent New Mexico at the University of Wisconsin on May 20-21, 2016.

The 2016 NM Science and Engineering Fair State Finals will be held on April 1-2, 2016 consisting of 300 projects with one to three students per project qualify from six regional Science Fairs to participate at this state final. Students will compete in 14 different categories in two divisions (high school and middle school). The Intel International Science and Engineering Fair will be held in Phoenix, Arizona on May 8-13, 2016. Six projects will qualify to represent New Mexico in Phoenix.

Speech and Debate: Ms. Hannah Flake, Treasurer of the NM Speech and Debate Association reported that the NMSDA has rewritten the constitution and all other guidelines over the summer of 2015 due to the align the constitution with the state law that does not allow homeschooled students to compete as a separate club. Homeschooled students must participate with the school located in their home residence. The new constitution also specifies that all speech and debate invitational tournaments are under the sanctioning of the NMAA, therefore no homeschool teams may compete. The new constitution specifies that "club teams made up of students competing without official sanctioning from their school are also prohibited.

The NMSDA hosted a professional development workshop for new coaches on Friday, September 25, 2015. Seven new coaches attended the seminar. NMSDA continues to see coach turnover with 9 schools suspending their programs due to a lack of coaches. Fifteen schools returned this year along with 4 band new or rebuilt teams.

Snowpocalypse State Tournament was snowed out in Los Alamos in 2015. As a result, the tournament was cut in half. New Mexico students attending the National Tournament include an Albuquerque Academy student who placed 13<sup>th</sup> in International Extemporaneous Speaking. An East Mountain student placed 6<sup>th</sup> in Extemporaneous Commentary and Team New Mexico with students from La Cueva, Los Alamos and Albuquerque Academy were international champions at a new event called "World Schools Debate" where 4000 people listened to the final round.

Student Council: Ms. Mary Hahn announced that 1,200 individuals attended the NMASC State Leadership Conference held February 12-14, 2015 at Cibola High School. The 2015-2016 State Officer Team as follows:

President: Adrianna Sanders, Aztec High School – Executive Advisor: Ruby Sandoval, Albuquerque  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Mario Martinez, Española High School - Executive Advisor Justin Landis, Highland High School

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Matthew Rigsby, Ruidoso High School – Executive Advisor: Elizabeth Gonzales, Bernalillo High School  
Secretary – Kaelan Horn – Aztec High School – Executive Advisor Elizabeth Gonzales, Bernalillo High School

**Awards:**

Friends of NMASC Awards: Dana Pappas and Shari Kessler-Schwaner, NMAA and Kaelan Horn  
Advisors of the Year: Middle School: Laura Thomson and Carlos Vigil, Española, NM and High School: Ben Shults, Cibola High School  
Administrator of the Year: Antonio Gonzales, Atrisco Heritage Academy High School  
Life-Time Achievement: Phil Ortiz

The National Student Council Conference was held on June 26-28, 2015 at Rio Rancho High School. The theme of the event was “Elevate your Leadership”. The official NM delegation was 31 students and advisors from throughout the state. The Rio Rancho High School Student Senate and advisor Bill Duncan; the Rio Rancho Public Schools; and the 100+ student council volunteers from Farmington to Las Cruces made this event successful. NMASC coordinated a pre-conference kick-off at iT’Z for over 500 of the conference delegates. The NFHS National Summit was held in July, 2015 in Indianapolis after a five year hiatus. There were 20 states were represented with Adrianna Sanders of Aztec High School and Mario Martinez of Española High School along with Ms. Pappas and Ms. Kessler-Schwaner of the NMAA.

Fall District Conference Week will be held on October 27-31, 2015 with leadership training and camaraderie throughout the state. Motivational speaker Aric Jackson will address the leaders, peer-to-peer leadership instruction and execution of our state service project! About 1,200 students will attend conferences in Albuquerque, Roswell, Las Cruces, Farmington and Española, New Mexico.

The NMASC State Leadership Conference, Radio Active Leaders: Take Charge! Be Positive! will be held on February 11-13, 2016. This conference will be filled with student and adult-led training workshops; national motivational speakers; an Achievement Showcase; practicing democracy via student elections; building camaraderie with schools in geographical regions as well as from around the state; peer to peer learning; and awards and recognition! Goal for this school year is to create an in-organization scholarship for our Summer Leadership Workshop.

**Staff Reports**

Ms. Dana Pappas reminded the council members that all Activity eligibility forms and rosters must be submitted prior to the State events.

Mr. Bill Cleland discussed home/charter school participation. He stated that New Mexico law allows home school students “to participate in up to three school district activities at the public school in the attendance zone in which the student resides.” NMAA bylaws do not allow member schools to compete against non-member schools. New Mexico law also allows charter school students “to participate in school district activities at the public school in the attendance zone in which the student resides... if the charter school does not offer such activities. If the student chooses to participate at a public school other than the one in the attendance zone in which the student resides, the student shall be subject to New Mexico activities association transfer guidelines.”

Mr. Cleland encouraged all Activities to review their Constitutions/Bylaws to make sure that they are in alignment with NMAA bylaws and state law, and then to be sure that they adhere to all of those requirements.

**Other Business**

Mr. Gerheart reminded the Council to turn in student participation numbers to Ms. Pappas as soon as possible.

Ms. Kessler-Schwaner reminded the members that they will only be receiving \$1000 for each Activity due to not receiving the Legislative allocation for Activities. She also reminded the members that they must submit all receipt of expenses prior to May 15, 2016.

Ms. Eichhorst informed the committee that the Alliance for Student Activities have many educational videos available as a valuable resource to utilize within their activities.

Mr. Gerheart asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 a.m. Mr. Berlin made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Perea seconded the motion. A vote was taken and passed unanimously (14-0).