**ACES UPDATE**

**November, 2014**

**Happy Holidays!** All of us at ACES wish each of you have very best of holidays and a well-deserved rest. If you are traveling, please travel safely.

**The ACES Team**-The ACES team includes a number of highly qualified, and experienced personnel that are leaders in the field of education in New Mexico. Our staff includes: Dr. Bruce Hegwer, Dr. Max Luft, Dr. Patricio Rojas, Dr. Lou Lafrado, Dr. Penne Wilson, Dr. Jim Ledyard, Dr. Hugh Prather, Mr. Steve Robbins, Ms. Sandy Davis, Mr. Richard Romero and Mr. Tony Archuleta.

Our team can provide just about any type of professional development, technical assistance, or support that a school may need. The services provided by Cadre members are tailored to meet a school’s individual needs and are extremely cost efficient.

**Wanted-Grant Proposal Participants!** ACES is looking for 4-5 schools willing to partner on a grant proposal. The schools do not need to have a common need as funding for several needs can be incorporated into a single proposal. Nor do the schools need to be in the same community. The proposal would be written by Dr. Lou Lafrado, ACES Cadre Staff Member, and the cost would be shared among the participating schools and can be spread out over several months or longer.

If your school is interested in participating, please contact Bruce (Bruce.H@nmaces.org) or Max (Max.L@nmaces.org) by December 15. Once we know how many schools are interested in participating, we will arrange a conference call to discuss each school’s need, next steps, funding, etc.

**Cooperative Purchasing**-Through a competitive bid process that has met all of the requirements of the NM Procurement Code, the following products and services are available to charter schools without the school having to go through the RFP process themselves. ACES has already done that and schools can utilize our contracts which saves the school time and money. The following are currently available through ACES:

*Online Ancillary Services Financial Management/Business Management Services*

*Food/Cafeteria Services IT Hardware, Software, and Support Services*

**ACES Governing Board Meeting-** Thanks for those of you that attended our annual Governing Board meeting. The principal/head learner of each member is one the board. We meet annually to approve/modify Bylaws and Board Policy, review the employment of the Executive Director and approved the Open Meetings Act Resolution. This year the Board approved a minor change to the JPA for final approval of all members.

**Mandatory Staff Compliance Training**-Many school utilize the free employee compliance training available through Poms and Associates. Such training is great for group trainings. However, what does a school do that has one or more staff that has missed the training from Poms? ACES has developed a partnership with Global Compliance Network (GCN) that provides online compliance training for the mandatory training plus over 100 other topics. These training modules can be completed by an individual staff member online, at their convenience, and receive a certificate of completion. Also, the training modules available thru GCN are a perfect way for any staff members to get convenient, effective training for topics that may be included in a staff member’s Personal Development Plan. For a complete list of the 135 training modules available, please contact Bruce at Bruce.H@nmaces.org.

**The Year in Review**- As we close out 2014, the growth ACES has experienced has been phenomenal. With over 50 charter schools as members, we want to thank each of our members for their business and support. The growth in membership, the volume in sales, and the number of contracts currently in place is clear evidence that ACES is providing a valuable service to help charter schools and their students succeed.