**ACES Update**

March, 2015

Food/Cafeteria Services-Request for Proposals

ACES will be publishing an RFP March 29 soliciting proposals from food/cafeteria services providers. We are hoping to receive proposals from as many vendors as possible so that charter schools will have a wide variety of options. We are looking for proposals from both the smaller vendors that can provide services to just one of two schools in a local area, and from larger vendors that can provide services on a statewide level. We anticipate awarding multiple contracts to food service/cafeteria providers statewide so charters can have the greatest variety of providers to choose from at the lowest and best possible prices. If you have a great food service provider at your school, ask them to provide a proposal. Vendors must provide services at a lower price than to the non-participating charter schools.

Online Ancillary Service Providers

ACES offers online ancillary services for those schools that are having difficulty finding quality service providers or schools that are looking to lower their special education related services costs. Check out the link <http://nmaces.org/services-view/online-ancillary-services/> on our webpage for more information on the services available online.

Announcements/Calendar on the ACES Webpage

We now have a Calendar and Announcements Section on our website ([www.nmaces.org](http://www.nmaces.org)). We will post important announcements from a variety of sources and upcoming Public Education Commission meetings as they become known to us. If you have an important announcement of interest to all charters, you want broadcast on our webpage, please email Bruce at Bruce.h@nmaces.org and we will get it posted for you.

Problems with an ACES Vendor?

Hopefully it never happens, but if you happen to experience a problem with the services provided through an ACES vendor, please let Bruce or Max (Max.L@nmaces.org) know right away. We want to be able to resolve whatever the issue is right away before the problem continues to grow. In our experience, the earlier we can start to resolve a problem, the greater the chances for a successful resolution. Our goal is to make your procurements easier and more cost effective through ACES and to make that you are satisfied with the goods and services you are receiving.

ACES Membership Continues to Grow

ACES membership now stands at 62 charter schools and we continue to add more each month. Our goals is to have 100% of the charter schools in NM as a member, whether they are utilizing the services available at the moment or not. The more members we have, the greater our ability to negotiate better pricing for charter schools and to save them money. The more money we can save you, the more money you can spend in your classrooms. If you are not a member yet, please contact Bruce or Max about becoming one. There is not an obligation of any type.

Newsletter Email List

Our Newsletter goes out to all school leaders and to the Governing Council members we have email addresses for. With the constant changeover in GC members and leaders, we do our best to keep up with the changes. To help us out and to make sure we have the best information available, please send us a current list of your GC members and their email addresses. We would greatly appreciate it and want to make sure all leaders and GC members stay informed and receive our newsletters.

Trainings/Information Needed or Wanted

Please let us know what trainings/information meetings you would like to see provided for your staffs, your leaders, and your GC members. We will do our best to facilitate these trainings and informational sessions and will do so in the most cost effective and efficient manner. When we know that a training or informational session is needed or wanted, we will seek out the very best presenters we can and we will also look to find sponsors for the event. Please let us know what your needs are.