# THE VALUE OF BELONGING

### **MORE POWER**

NEA-New Mexico supports and mobilizes its members, giving you the tools and confidence to speak at school board meetings and push for better school funding at both the state and local levels. We advocate on your behalf with state legislators, city and county officials, and school administrators. By working together, we strengthen our association, which increases your voice and influence in the workplace.

### **INCREASED PAY AND BENEFITS**

NEA-New Mexico fights for your professional pay, health care, and retirement security, resulting in increased salaries and improved benefits for all public school employees. Recent legislative wins include a \$5,000 minimum wage increase for all tiers to \$55,000/ \$65,000/ \$75,000.

#### **IMPROVED PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE**

Your local association, supported by recent legislative victories, advocates for access to high quality professional development and increased collaboration time. This empowers you to enhance your teaching practice and stay updated with innovative approaches in education. Mentoring and support from experienced colleagues are also available.

### NATIONWIDE COMMUNITY OF EDUCATORS

By joining NEA-New Mexico, you become part of a statewide and national community of educators. NEA National has over 3 million members and is the largest professional employee organization in the United States.

## IMPROVED WORKING AND STUDENT LEARNING CONDITIONS

A recent legislative victory was a change in the State Equalization Guarantee (SEG) which significantly increased per-pupil funding for some of the neediest students and districts in New Mexico. We consistently work with the Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) to win legislation that supports our students and our schools.

Other recent legislation that NEA-NM supported included a budget bill that allocated \$59 million for educational programs. NEA-New Mexico also succeeded in allocating \$6.4 million directly to the Community Schools' Fund and Framework. Every year, we strive to put forward new legislation that will improve every aspect of our schools.

### **COMMITMENT TO STUDENT RIGHTS**

NEA-New Mexico, through its legislative advocacy, is dedicated to fighting for students along with educators. Recent wins, such as the provision of free school meals to all public and charter school students, address the needs of marginalized communities and promote equal opportunities for all students. Training opportunities, such as the Education Justice Fellowship, are available to members to develop new strategies in this pursuit.

#### **NEA MEMBER BENEFITS**

NEA's Member Benefits program offers an extensive range of benefits and discounts, including retirement, insurance, shopping discounts and travel. This can include NEA Complimentary Life Insurance, one year of free access to the NEA Student Debt Navigator, \$500 Travel Dollars, Liability Insurance (EEL), and more.

To Join: www.mynea360.org/s/join-now

