

The CESE Beacon

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Our goal is to have a positive impact on society, and not just to preach to the choir. We want to make a difference!

PUBLIC MEETING

The CESE will hold a public meeting on Saturday, June 28, 1997, at 4:15 pm to 7:00 pm, at the Unitarian Church, 3701 Carlisle Blvd NE. Please reserve this time and plan to join us.

[MISSION AND GOALS](#)

Follow the link to review the draft (but nearly final) mission and goals of the CESE. Your comments are very welcome.

LEVELS OF COMMUNICATION

CESE has a very diverse membership. All are very busy with their own lives. CESE members who have e-mail are called Ducks. In order to accommodate different levels of interest and involvement, CESE has created two e-mail lists: unfiltered and filtered. Unfiltered means that all mail of interest to the full membership is provided. Filtered Ducks will receive only the most important e-mail messages (a few a week) as determined by CESE secretary Kim Johnson. There is a third category called Subducks. These 25 "quackers" are very involved in the activities of the CESE; e-mail traffic is very heavy. If you are interested in participating at this high level, please inform me (mberman@highfiber.com) or Kim Johnson (kim@rt66.com).

[PROGRESS WITH THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION \(SBE\)](#)

CESE is actively working with Eleanor Ortiz (SBE president), Alan Morgan, state superintendent, Albert Zamora, State Dept. of Education (SDE), and others to develop good performance standards. Follow the link to review the progress to date.

NEWSPAPER DUELS

CESE members have been very active in addressing the misinformation promoted in the press by creationists. Op-Ed duels have taken place in the Albuquerque Journal and Tribune, Santa Fe New Mexican, Los Alamos Monitor, and Crosswinds (Albuquerque). Follow the link for further details.

SENATOR PAULINE EISENSTADT'S BILL SB155

As we all know, SB155 was tabled in the House Education Committee (6-5) after passing the State Senate. We have heard from a committee member that a representative voted to table the bill as a result of a misunderstanding. Had he switched his vote, the bill would have passed. We have also heard that Governor Johnson intended to sign the bill if it reached him. Regardless, SB155 came very close to passing. If we are not successful in pursuing the current course with the State Board of Education, we can consider reintroducing the bill in a future session. Let's hope that won't be necessary.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY RESOLUTION

On April 22, 1997, the Democratic Party of Bernalillo County passed a series of resolutions. Resolution 2a states:

"2a. WHEREAS, there is no requirement for New Mexico school teachers to present evolution as the scientifically accepted explanation of the development of earth's life forms as part of the curriculum, and "WHEREAS, school children lacking such instruction will be at a disadvantage relative to others receiving such instruction in terms of college entrance requirements, job opportunities, and ability to make informed judgments,

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education be directed by statute to require the teaching of evolution in science classes."

The passed resolutions next go to the state Democratic party.

REPLACEMENT FOR STATE SUPRINTENDENT ALAN MORGAN

There are seven finalists for filling the post of State Superintendent Alan Morgan. They are:

- Roy C. Benavides, executive director of the Region XIII Education Service Center in Texas.
- Michael Davis, assoc. sup. for school management and accountability for the NM SDE.
- Placido Garcia Jr., director of the NM Legislative Education Study Committee.
- Jesse L. Gonzales, superintendent for the Las Cruces Public Schools.
- Patricia Hunter-Rowse, superintendent for the Tintic School District in Eureka, Utah.
- Robert E. Schiller, dir. of the Dept. of Ed. and Behav. Sc. at NSU in Fort Lauderdale, FL.
- Kurt Steinhaus, dir. of educational technology and information services for the NM SDE.

The new superintendent will be chosen by the Board on May 23.

FILLING A VACANCY ON THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

There is a vacancy on the SBE for District D. This appointed position encompasses Socorro, Grants, Belen, Los Lunas, Las Cruces, T or C, Southwest NM. It covers the same areas as Districts 6 and 7. In a conversation between Mark Boslough and Governor Johnson's science advisor, Durand Smith, Durand mentioned that we could provide a suggestion to fill this vacancy. Do we have a volunteer in this district?

This is the first issue of the CESE Beacon. Your thoughts and comments would be greatly appreciated.
Marshall Berman

Contact the [webmaster](#).

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