

Business

1. Sandy reminded members that postcards are ready for pickup after 1 pm today. These are for Blue CD2 New Mexico. Pick up at Sandy's or Marti Burke's. If you have issues contact Monica at monicagilboa@comcast.net. Thirty three members have volunteered to write 3,750 cards, the most ever!
2. Sandy will be on vacation through November 6. Next week's meeting (10/25) is in the evening, 5:30-7, on Zoom only. Jana will facilitate a conversation with Senator Liz Stefanics. The 11/1 meeting will be a review of our new website. Sandy said the site exceeds her expectations and can be viewed now. The website will be presented to the NM Indivisible Congress (NMIC) sometime soon.
3. Cynthia reported on the most recent NMIC meeting. Eight or nine Indivisible groups in the state were represented. Ricann gave a presentation on modernizing the state legislature, which she will share with our group. There was also a presentation on a state public bank. Rachel introduced info on the proposed social studies curriculum. The Rio Grande chapter has asked Rachel and Monica to give their civil rights presentation, which will take place tonight. NMIC is planning an in-person meeting this spring.
4. Sandy reported on last week's leadership team retreat and thanked Dottie and Monica for hosting. The agenda included plans for leadership transition and succession. We've set a goal of 100 members (currently we are 80). To this end, Sandy asked that each member submit two names of potential members to Stephanie. We will send these women a short newsletter and possibly invite them to attend an introductory meeting by Zoom.
5. We will have a holiday party on the evening of December 13, in-person and masked, at Betsy Porter's home. We need two volunteers to set up and two to clean. After that, we will take a break from any meetings until January 10.

Speakers

Paula introduced today's speakers: Severo Martinez, the director of literacy and humanities at the NM Public Education Department (PED), and co-leader of the social studies revision project; also Wendy Leighton, founding faculty member and teacher of history and Native American studies at Monte de Sol Charter School and co-chair, with Marie Fernandez, of revised standards for US history for 7th-12th grades.

- This is the first proposed update of social studies curriculum for NM in 20 years and is an important opportunity for the future of education here and establishing NM as a leader.
- Sixty teachers have been working on new standards since July of last year.
- Professional development is part of the proposed standards, which cover tribal sovereignty, indigenous history, sustainable futures and social justice. Wendy and Severo emphasized that the focus is on correcting erasures of groups such as women, people of color, LGBTQ people and others. Also that new standards are not about this political moment but the future of education.
- There have been many very negative comments about the proposed standards from teachers and the public. Supportive voices are needed. Rachel will be writing a letter on behalf of our group.
- A public hearing will be held on 11/12 and our members are asked to both submit written comments and attend in person. The hearing is from 1-3 and speakers can have up to 3 minutes to comment. The meeting will be in person and via teleconference.

Notes written by Dottie