

Good News! Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham is allowing all students to return to in-person hybrid learning! This is what we have been waiting for – to have ALL of our students back in-person. Cloudcroft Schools will start the in-person hybrid learning on Tuesday, February 9. For exact details, please visit our website at cmsbears.org.

More good news is that sports are slated to begin on February 22. The start date is contingent on the expansion of in-person learning which will be monitored for two weeks by both PED and the Department of Health beginning February 8. We will be updating the sports schedules over the next few weeks. They will be available on our website – cmsbears.org.

On another exciting note, Cloudcroft Municipal Schools will be holding a series of Town Hall Meetings to highlight Family and Community Engagement. We will be discussing various topics in February, March and April to encourage teamwork and collaboration. My hope is that we will all be encouraged to reach out to each other to solve our shared problems. As of now, they will be presented via Zoom. For more information, visit our website at cmsbears.org. We will also be posting reminders on our Facebook page. We are looking forward to engaging in meaningful conversations with our students' families and our Cloudcroft Community.

Congratulations to CMS School Board Vice President, Mr. Kody Adams, for receiving the New Mexico School Board Associations Leadership Achievement Award and the Outstanding Leadership Award.

We would also like to congratulate CMS School Board Member, Mr. Dan Hughes, for receiving the Exemplary Award. The New Mexico School Board Association presented these awards during the January School Board meeting. Thank you Mr. Adams and Mr. Hughes for your time and dedication to the students of Cloudcroft Schools! We are proud of you both!

The 2021 New Mexico Legislative Session is currently underway. Some of the items on the table for education are the need for funding stability in the areas of operations and transportation. Districts across the state request adequate funding for current programs, plus any new mandates or requirements that would be implemented in the coming school year. And of course, protection of operational reserves to help districts navigate unforeseen financial challenges. With the year that we have experienced in education, districts have asked that there be a temporary re-calculation of graduation rates to allow extended time for required course completion. This is only a snapshot of what is being discussed to ensure student success and each school district's ability to support that success for each and every student - as they deserve! We will keep you updated as we learn more throughout the session.

I hope to see many of you at our Town Hall Meetings. Thank you for your patience and support and words of encouragement during these COVID times. It has been

difficult for everyone – especially our students. I feel I can see the light at the end of the tunnel and having ALL of our students back for in-person learning is the first major step to getting back to our new normal.

Go Bears!!