

STATE OF NEW MEXICO  
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
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DR. VERONICA C. GARCÍA  
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

BILL RICHARDSON  
Governor

May 7, 2004

Mr. Ronald Haugen, Superintendent  
Gadsden Independent Schools  
P.O. Drawer 70  
Anthony, NM 88021

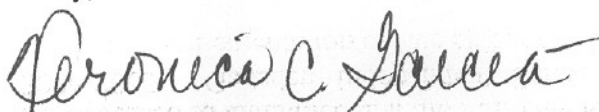
Dear Mr. Haugen:

I am pleased to announce that the Full Day Kindergarten *Plus* Pilot Program will be continued in 2004-2005. Gadsden Independent Schools has been awarded up to \$100,000.00 for the continued implementation of this extended kindergarten program.

As one of the four districts identified in the legislation to receive funding, Gadsden Independent Schools will have a continued opportunity to demonstrate the extent to which increased time in kindergarten can narrow the achievement gap and increase cognitive skills for economically disadvantaged students. Early literacy achievement is a cornerstone of academic success and a priority for our Governor, Public Education Department, and State Legislature, thus we are especially pleased to provide this special opportunity to address the literacy needs of children in New Mexico.

Funding will become available upon the approval of your 2004-2005 Budget Adjustment Request (B.A.R.). Please feel free to contact Karen Ehlert, Full Day Kindergarten Coordinator, for further information. She can be reached at 827-9972 or via email at [kehlert@ped.state.nm.us](mailto:kehlert@ped.state.nm.us).

Truly,



Dr. Veronica C. García  
Secretary of Education

VCG:ke

cc: Dr. Patricia Parkinson, Assistant Secretary for School and Instructional Support  
Vonell, Huitt, Program Manager, Reading First and State Literacy Initiatives  
Karen Ehlert, Full Day Kindergarten Coordinator