

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
for  
A Principal Preparation Program  
between  
The Gadsden Independent School District  
and  
The Regents of New Mexico State University  
Center for Border & Indigenous Educational Leadership

The Gadsden Independent School District (GISD) agrees along with the Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) on behalf of the Center for Border & Indigenous Educational Leadership (CeBIEL) in the College of Education to collaboratively develop and implement a customized program for administrator preparation during academic year 2007—2008. The *Preparing Leaders Together Initiative* will be a joint venture capitalizing upon the expertise of both organizations.

CeBIEL will be responsible for the initial design and development of the leadership coursework. The design of all courses will be informed by evaluation findings from prior year CeBIEL efforts. All courses will balance theory and practice; integrate research-based practice; reflect the needs of the GISD; and include problem-based learning, current research, simulation activities, and reflective practices. The GISD will review and have the right to suggest modifications to all developed courses.

Course instruction will include public school leaders who will assist CeBIEL in identifying promising and innovative administrative preparation activities. Each semester will include a formal field-based experience and may include shadowing, practica and/or internships at the elementary, middle, and high school levels.

The NMSU College of Education will provide formal briefings on progress of the program and student participation at the end of each semester (December, 2007; June, 2008, and August 2008).

GISD will assist CeBIEL in the selection of 6 GISD employees as project participants. These employees will demonstrate their willingness to participate in the program and meet all requirements. GISD agrees to pay tuition costs, books, specialized course activities, course materials, mentors, and coaches in an amount that does not exceed \$32,400 (thirty-two thousand four hundred dollars). In addition, GISD agrees to provide \$27,600 (twenty-seven thousand six hundred dollars) for administrative costs to include specialized course development, administrative support, operational expenses, orientation, and travel to GISD school-sites. CeBIEL will provide quarterly reports to GISD that specify function and cost of expenditures in the operation of this program. Attachment A provides budget details for this project for the performance period specified above. Any revisions to this budget will require prior approval of the GISD Superintendent or his designee.

For the Regents of New Mexico State University

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For the Board of Education of the Gadsden Independent School District

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_