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Organization at Forefront of Education Reform Receives \$1.3 Million Grant

Center for School Leadership Receives National Recognition for Innovative Approach to Education

Albuquerque, NM – When Albuquerque students at four local public charter schools attend their first day of class next week, they will be backed by a new community partner—ECMC Foundation. The New Mexico Center for School Leadership, the network hub for ACE, Health, Tech and Siembra Leadership High Schools, has received a \$1.3 million grant from the nationally focused foundation. ECMC Foundation’s mission is to inspire and facilitate improvements that affect educational outcomes—especially among underserved populations—through evidence-based innovation.

“This is exciting news for the Center, but more so for our students and professional educators,” said Tony Monfiletto, executive director of the New Mexico Center for School Leadership. “These funds will allow us to create a highly collaborative network that helps make all of the member schools and the Center better. It also helps ensure that we continue to be responsive to the needs of employers and community partners.”

The grant will be used to build the infrastructure that will create a high performing network. The funding supports leadership development, data management systems, professional development for teachers and other school staff, and long-range planning for the Center and the network of member schools.

The mission of the New Mexico Center for School Leadership, a nonprofit organization based in Albuquerque, is to develop high schools and educational leaders with input from the people who have the most at stake in the success of our educational system: students and families, community members and employers. They accomplish this in part through the Leadership High School Network, a network of cutting-edge, industry-focused schools that are rooted in deep intellectual rigor and relevancy.

ECMC Foundation is a nationally focused foundation with current assets of \$354 million. The foundation has three priority investment areas: teacher development, college success and career readiness. The foundation is willing to be entrepreneurial and to take risk with a preponderance of grantmaking dollars, understanding that failure is a natural part of generating discoveries. They support innovation and a willingness to experiment with a bias toward ideas that can be scaled to benefit large numbers of students. For more information, visit www.ecmcfoundation.org.

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All four high schools in the Leadership High School Network begin the 2016 school year on Monday, August 15. Parents or students interested in the schools can visit www.leadership-pdc.org.