

Resolution 2026R-33
Requesting the Discontinuation of Mandatory Online Assessments for Elementary Students
Farmington Municipal Schools Board of Education

TOPIC: Requesting the Discontinuation of Mandatory Online Assessments for Elementary Students

SPONSOR: Farmington Municipal School District Farmington, New Mexico

DATE OF SUBMISSION: September 8, 2026

TARGET ENTITY: New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED)

WHEREAS, the **New Mexico School Boards Association (NMSBA)** represents the collective voice of locally elected school boards dedicated to the academic success and well-being of all New Mexico students; and

WHEREAS, the **New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED)** mandates standardized statewide summative and interim assessments, including the **NM-MSSA** and **i-MSSA**, which are heavily reliant on digital testing platforms; and

WHEREAS, younger learners in early elementary grades (Kindergarten through 5th Grade) possess varying levels of fine motor skills and digital literacy, making navigation of complex online interfaces a barrier to accurately demonstrating their actual academic knowledge; and

WHEREAS, excessive screen time during high-stakes testing contributes to severe screen fatigue, reduced attention spans, and heightened test anxiety among young children; and

WHEREAS, the infrastructure required to manage multi-grade online assessments places a significant logistical and technical burden on local elementary schools, diverting valuable instructional time and IT support away from classrooms; and

WHEREAS, traditional paper-and-pencil or teacher-led observational assessments offer a more developmentally appropriate framework for evaluating the foundational progress of young students;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Farmington Municipal Schools Board hereby resolves to support the discontinuation of mandatory online assessments for elementary students

Adopted this **8th day of September 2026** by the Farmington Municipal Schools Board.

Board President: _____

Board Secretary: _____