



Office of the Governor

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Gov. Lujan Grisham issues statement on sudden death of Las Cruces superintendent Trujillo

SANTA FE – Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham on Friday issued the following statement upon learning of the sudden death of Las Cruces Public Schools superintendent Karen Trujillo, who served as secretary of the Public Education Department in 2019 and worked for more than two decades in New Mexico education:

“This is an incredibly painful and shocking loss for Southern New Mexico, for Las Cruces Public Schools and for our public education community statewide. I am stunned and saddened almost beyond words. Dr. Trujillo was, above all else, committed to New Mexico students, and she made a significant impact on the young women and men she taught, counseled and led for decades across different roles. She began her teaching career in Las Cruces almost 30 years ago, and her classroom experience informed her later administrative and advocacy leadership roles, and I know so many are proud to have known her as a colleague and friend. She leaves behind an unfinished legacy of credible service in New Mexico public education. The suddenness of her loss is a reminder, for all of us, to make as much meaning out of each day as we can. My prayers are with her loved ones, with her family and friends and the many students and educators and parents whose lives she touched.”

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