



## NEWLY RELEASED STUDENT TEST SCORES PROVE GOV. LUJAN GRISHAM HAS FAILED NEW MEXICO'S CHILDREN

*LUJAN GRISHAM DESERVES AN "F" FOR NEW MEXICO CONSTANTLY HAVING THE WORST EDUCATION SYSTEM IN THE NATION*

**Albuquerque, September 1**—Today the New Mexico Public Education Department released those long-awaited student assessments, only to prove once again that the Lujan Grisham administration has failed our students miserably.

The latest 2022 student assessments reveal that overall 75% of New Mexico students are not proficient in mathematics and 66% are not proficient in reading.

The disgraceful numbers are indicative of an administration that has systematically failed education in New Mexico.

When the pandemic hit, Gov. Lujan Grisham shut down schools and used her illogical and arbitrary COVID policies to hurt our students via online learning. There were countless absences, students fled to neighboring states where schools were open and in New Mexico there was a class divide, as many rural communities had no access to the internet, and students had no computers. Students didn't have equal access to an education as required under the New Mexico Constitution. That was wrong and unfair.

Lujan Grisham's orders led to a damaging experience for students who have now fallen well behind academically and socially. In fact, national test results just released show the pandemic's devastating impact on school children with some math and reading levels falling to those from two decades ago. There's also been a significant increase nationwide in the number of students having to repeat a grade.

School lockdown orders and virtual requirements in Democrat-led states like New Mexico have led to this scholastic crisis.

Meantime, during her tenure as governor, the state has spent more than \$13.6 billion on K-12 spending. Yes, *\$13.6 billion on public education spending*. Lujan Grisham and progressive state lawmakers continue to spend and spend--under the delusion that more cash will raise academic

performance in New Mexico.

Yet, New Mexico is consistently ranked last nationally in education. With low student academic proficiency, dismal test scores and high dropout rates, it's no wonder New Mexico's public education is a sham. Parents have no school choice, children are trapped in a broken system, and with multiple PED Secretaries during the past four years, there's no consistent plan to fix it.

"The governor's incompetence and mismanagement of priorities have made New Mexico's education system a national embarrassment," said RPNM Chairman Steve Pearce. "These latest scores don't lie. Our students are drowning academically, and the Governor and progressives are to blame. New Mexico children cannot succeed, especially in a world with changing technology. The dollars are not going to the classroom, and there's no concrete plan to improve our schools. Lujan Grisham has failed our children, and we must see to it this November that we have new leadership in the Governor's Office and the Roundhouse."