

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Albuquerque, New Mexico  
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AIMS@UNM charter school nationally recognized for its outstanding achievement on recently released 2017 PARCC test scores.

The **Washington Post** named AIMS@UNM 42<sup>nd</sup> nationally in most challenging high schools.  
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/local/high-school-challenge-2017/>

The **US News Report** ranked AIMS@UNM #1 in New Mexico, #83 out of 2,350 national charter schools and #314 in national high school rankings. <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/new-mexico/districts/albuquerque-institute-of-math--science/albuquerque-institute-of-math-and-science-12876>

AIMS@UNM grades 6 and 7 Math and Algebra 1 and 2 and Geometry students achieved an astounding average 82% proficiency and an incredible average 85% proficiency in English. The student body makeup is 52 percent male and 48 percent female, and the total minority enrollment is 51 percent and achieves a 94% graduation rate.

AIMS@UNM is currently trying to expand its footprint to other New Mexico communities, in particular Rio Rancho. Unfortunately the current political climate has placed obstacles in that path in the form of lawsuits, recognized legal judgements made and appeals being filed. At the heart of the issue is the improvement of our New Mexico kids' education. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SrGhqHNLFe8>

Recently reported in Albuquerque Journal, after three years, New Mexico students have slightly improved their performance on the PARCC exam, but the scores remain low.

The 2017 results, released Monday, show 28.6 percent proficiency in English language arts and 19.7 percent in math. In 2015, the first year PARCC was administered in New Mexico, the numbers were 26.4 percent and 17.4 percent, respectively. It's important to note, AIMS@UNM Algebra 1 students are 8<sup>th</sup> graders, unlike public schools which are 9<sup>th</sup>. The PARCC test scoring AIMS@UNM v. Rio Rancho and the State comparison is attached.

Albuquerque Public Schools and Rio Rancho Public Schools actually saw English scores decline slightly over the past three years, while math was nearly flat. English scores for APS dropped 2.1 percentage points and were below the state average in the latest results at 27 percent; math scores increased slightly and were on par at 19.7 percent.

While seeking a diverse student population and providing a rigorous academic curriculum that rivals the best programs in the country, students at AIMS@UNM enroll concurrently at the University of New Mexico during their junior year and begin working on their college education while earning their high school diploma. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ms\\_Hxz3vxkg&sns=em](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ms_Hxz3vxkg&sns=em)

While the focus is on Math and Science; English, history, literature, government and more are taught and taught in the most innovative education strategies available. Zombie Outbreak Response Team teaches students an incredible variety of skills – personal, deductive reasoning, creative problem solving, leadership and living history. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T795GVrJPtg&sns=em>

For more information visit <http://www.aims-unm.org/>.

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