



Themes from the Stories of Learning in New Mexico Gatherings in Albuquerque and Las Cruces

MAIN THEMES AS IDENTIFIED

Sub-Themes

Blending Worlds Inside and Outside the Classroom

Honoring student's backgrounds: culture, tradition and language

Involving parents and promoting parent engagement in schools

Teacher impact can be strongest when it extends beyond classroom requirements

The Power of Positive Relationships

Reciprocity of learning – students learn from adults and vice versa

The importance of mentorship, caring adults and role models

Acknowledging students, listening to them and ensuring they are seen as people

Guiding students and inspiring them to think ahead

Creating Responsive Environments

Believing in, respecting and challenging students

Recognizing and developing student strengths and interests

Supporting and encouraging students when they struggle

Accommodating different learning styles

Ensuring all students have access to needed resources

Focusing on Understanding and Learning as an On-Going Process

Teaching accountability and life skills in addition to teaching "facts"

Embracing challenges

Fostering resilience and risk-taking in students

Teaching students to persevere after failures

Learning not just right and wrong answers - learning from making mistakes

Addressing Socio-Economics

Recognizing how poverty impacts education

Many difficulties in school stem from life outside of school