

## State Position Discussions – LWVSFC Program Planning 1/27/2021

All current LWVNM positions can be found at <https://www.lwvnm.org/positions.html>.

Addendum to LWVNM Education Position as of 1/16/2021.

### **Rewording of existing paragraph 3 of the General Education section to align with current Public Education organization:**

The League supports public schools as the primary institutions for educating students and opposes the presence of private, for-profit companies in the governance, management, and provision of public education. LWVNM believes that an education commission should be responsible for recommending the appointment of the head of the Public Education Department and advising on education policy, regulations, and finances. The League believes in accountability, transparency, and equity in the use of public funds for education and the education workforce.

### **Expanding Early Childhood Education section:**

#### 2. Early Childhood Education:

- 2.1. Fund sufficiently a broad base of social service agencies, providers, and schools to foster the development of children from birth to age five and prepare them for success in school and life.
- 2.2. Provide quality early childhood care providers and educators with culturally, linguistically, and developmentally appropriate programming and access to resources through cross-agency partnerships.
- 2.3. Emphasize holistic development of preschoolers through programming that supports social, emotional, cognitive, and physical learning.
- 2.4. Provide parents with resources to assist their children from birth to age five with language acquisition.

### **Adding Postsecondary Education section:**

#### 5. Postsecondary and Higher Education:

Postsecondary education includes public career and technical, community college, undergraduate and graduate institutions.

The League believes that all qualified students should have the opportunity to attend postsecondary education and that successful participation should be facilitated by a variety of resources. Preschool, elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education should be viewed as a continuum leading to life-long learning and include:

- 5.1 Effective programs that prepare students for increasingly difficult academic work.
- 5.2 Rigorous high school graduation standards and expectations.
- 5.3 Programs, including mentoring, that facilitate positive engagement in learning, use a variety of community resources to support students socially and emotionally, and improve academic performance.
- 5.4 Programs during middle school and high school for students and parents regarding academic and financial issues related to attending higher education institutions, as well as information about the variety of options, including dual credit.

The League supports sustainable funding for financial aid programs in order to provide access to higher education for all qualified New Mexico students. Objectives should be to

- 5.5 Increase state funded need-based financial aid to enable all qualified students to attain a postsecondary education.
- 5.6 Increase state funded merit-based scholarships to reward and attract high quality students from New Mexico.