

Valerie Trujillo, Executive Director Northwest Regional Education Cooperative #2 (NWREC2)

Valerie Trujillo currently serves as the Executive Director of the Northwest Regional Education Cooperative #2 (NWREC2). A proud alumna of Taos High School, Class of 1993, Mrs. Trujillo holds a bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education from New Mexico Highlands University. In 2008, she furthered her education by earning a master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of New Mexico. This year marks her 29th year in education.

Mrs. Trujillo began her distinguished career teaching at Casa de Corazon, a girls' home in Taos. She then dedicated five years to Taos Middle School, where she taught, coached track, and served as the varsity dance team coach at Taos High School. Later, Mrs. Trujillo moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico, where she taught at Agua Fria and Piñon Elementary Schools before transitioning into administration as Assistant Principal at Capshaw Middle School.

In 2010, Mrs. Trujillo returned to northern New Mexico and made Questa her home for seven years. There, she served as Questa High School Principal and Athletic Director for four years before becoming Superintendent for three years. Her leadership journey then took her to NWREC2, where she served as Executive Director from 2017 to 2021. In 2021, she joined Taos Municipal Schools as Assistant Superintendent and was appointed Superintendent in 2022.

Beyond her administrative leadership, Mrs. Trujillo has contributed to statewide education initiatives. She has served as a board member and legislative representative for the New Mexico Council of Administrators of Special Education (NMCASE). Her leadership excellence has been recognized with honors including New Mexico Principal of the Year in 2014 and the Woman of Distinction Award from The Taos News in 2016.

In 2024, Mrs. Trujillo returned to NWREC2 as Executive Director, bringing renewed energy and vision to her work. She is passionate about serving her eight-member school districts in her region, as well as the surrounding area. Under her leadership, NWREC2 offers high-quality support, technical assistance, professional development, collaborative partnership and oversight of key regional consortia, including the Title III Consortium, the North Central Consortium, and the CTE/Work-Based Learning Consortium. Mrs. Trujillo also works closely through Intergovernmental Agreements with NMPED, ECECD, the Governor's Commission on Disability (GCD), and other agencies to advance educational services and supports statewide.

Outside of her professional work, Mrs. Trujillo enjoys spending time with family and friends. She is an accomplished cook and baker, well known for her lemon bars and other treats. She also enjoys dancing, camping, painting, and cherishes time with her grandchildren. Her dedication to education is deeply personal and extends to her advocacy for teen parents, a cause close to her heart, as she herself was once a teen parent.