



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Governor Richardson Speaks at Tribal Education Summit, Announces Funding Awards

SANTA FE – Governor Bill Richardson today gave the keynote address at the State Tribal Education Summit at Ohkay Owingeh (formerly San Juan Pueblo). Governor Richardson addressed the state’s plans to improve education for New Mexico’s Tribes and Pueblos through his “Year of the Child” legislative agenda.

“As Governor I have worked to build stronger ties with our tribal neighbors, while also respecting tribal sovereignty,” said Governor Richardson. “We’ve made a lot of progress toward improving tribal education, making our schools work and preparing our children for the future. But we have more work to do – especially when it comes to closing the achievement gap.”

To close the gap, Governor Richardson has announced a \$500,000 comprehensive study of both the challenges facing Indian education and the solutions to those problems.

“Native American education deserves more attention than just reporting the dire statistics year after year,” said Governor Richardson. “We need to take an in depth look in order to find solutions. This study will help insure that what I am calling the ‘Year of the Child’ will be a year for *all* of New Mexico’s children.”

The Governor also announced \$2.5 million in state funding for 12 vital tribal infrastructure projects. These projects are designed to improve quality of life, and encourage economic development opportunities.

These projects will be completed within 6 to 18 months, and the 2.5 million dollars in state funding will leverage an additional \$10 million in federal and tribal funding.

Projects include:

Taos Pueblo,	Sewer Line Project,	\$90,000
Sandia Pueblo,	Sewer System Improvements,	\$150,000
Zuni Pueblo	Water System Improvements	\$145,000
Laguna Pueblo	Water Project	\$150,000
Santo Domingo Pueblo	Housing Project	\$300,000
Jemez Pueblo	Water/Wastewater System	\$400,000
San Felipe Pueblo	Wastewater System Project	\$300,000
Cochiti Pueblo	Water & Sewer Project	\$300,000
Alamo Navajo	Water Project	\$190,000
Ramah Navajo	Water Project	\$200,000
Acoma Pueblo	Water System Improvements	\$150,000
Picuris Pueblo	CHR Bldg Renovation & Infrastructure Improvements	\$125,000
Total		\$2,500,000