

UNM announces finalists in search for president

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SANTA FE NEW MEXICAN

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Santa Fe school board offers to extend contract by two years for superintendent

Christine Griffin, who joined district last year, is presented with salary of \$208,000

By André Salkin
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The Santa Fe school board has extended the tenure of first-year Superintendent Christine Griffin, who has weathered public outcry over the future of an elementary school and a revolving door of professional staff.



Christine Griffin

Griffin was offered a two-year contract with an annual salary of \$208,000, a raise reflective of the state's 1% raise for public employees mandated during the legislative session earlier this year. She will also get a supplemental retirement plan of \$10,000 a year in compliance with IRS standards.

Board members made no additional comments during the vote Thursday to approve the contract during a finance subcommittee study session, although they discussed the contract for nearly

two hours in a closed-door executive session before bringing it to a vote.

"I'm excited that the board decided to go with a two-year contract because it allows us just to build on this year and the progress that we've made on stabilizing systems," Griffin said in a phone call Friday.

Griffin took the Santa Fe job last year after a career spent in the smaller Arizona Humboldt Unified School District. She had to get up to speed quickly.

In the early months of her tenure, she confronted months of contention from school communities around the fate of E.J. Martinez Elementary School, which was intended for a temporary closure and repair — until

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Feds move to seize N.M. borderland



NEW MEXICAN FILE PHOTO
State Land Commissioner Stephanie Garcia Richard speaks in 2025.

Customs and Border Patrol offered to buy property for nearly \$800,000, but state wouldn't make deal

By Alaina Mencinger
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The Trump administration aims to use eminent domain to seize a 7-acre parcel of state trust land along New Mexico's southern border to construct a "critical border security project," the State

Land Office announced Friday.

New Mexico rebuffed the federal government's offer in March to purchase the land near the Santa Teresa border crossing for about \$800,000.

State Land Commissioner Stephanie Garcia Richard said her agency is reviewing "all forms of

recourse" to resist the condemnation.

"Doing business with these thugs was simply not an option," Garcia Richard said in a statement. "Unsurprisingly, the President threw a temper tantrum when he couldn't automatically get his way and is now going to forcibly take our state land and

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'No one was hurt' in crash

Officials say plane carrying two people lost power, deployed parachute and descended safely in La Cienega



JIM WEBER/THE NEW MEXICAN

Emergency responders work the scene of a plane crash Friday at the Ojo Santa Fe Spa Resort in La Cienega. Officials said no injuries were reported in connection with the crash.

By Nicholas Gilmore
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Both people on board got out safely after a small plane bound for Taos crash-landed Friday morning at a resort in La Cienega just after taking flight in Santa Fe.

Officials said the single-engine Cirrus SR22 lost power and then deployed a parachute, allowing it to descend to the ground at Ojo Santa Fe Spa Resort. It came to rest on some trees and shrubs next to a building.

While no one was seriously injured in the incident, it raised concerns among some residents in the community about their close proximity to the growing Santa Fe Regional Airport.

"People are concerned about the safety of air traffic," said Santa Fe County Commissioner Camilla Bustamante, a La Cienega resident, noting a previous crash ended in tragedy. "The last one was just a few years ago — so we've had two crash landings in La Cienega."

Bustamante said she heard a loud boom

when the plane crashed near her residence around 10 a.m. Friday. She called into the emergency dispatch center minutes after the crash.

New Mexico State Police, which opened an investigation into Friday's crash, said in a statement the plane "clipped" the side of a building when it landed, but reports indicated it did not cause significant damage to any structures.

The pilot and a passenger got out after

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Pasapick

pasatiempomagazine.com



'Entrapping Our Abundance'

Contemporary circus-arts troupe Wise Fool New Mexico's production confronting the Southwest's climate crisis; 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, noon and 5 p.m. Sunday; Aspect Media Village at the downtown campus, 1600 St. Michaels Drive; wisefoolnewmexico.org; \$10-\$55.

More events Fridays in Pasatiempo

Europe sours on Trump

Nationalist leaders who once embraced U.S. president now distancing themselves. PAGE A-3

Today

Sunny and clear.
High 59, low 34.

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Obituaries

Maria Guadalupe "Lupe" Sandoval, 80, April 4

Mary Margaret Neikirk, Santa Fe, Jan. 14

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Optimism for Iran peace deal emerges amid Strait of Hormuz's reopening

Abbas Jaber, who works in Toronto and flies back and forth to Lebanon, sits atop a pile of rubble that used to be his apartment building Friday in Beirut.

DIEGO IBARRA SANCHEZ
THE NEW YORK TIMES



Proclamations from both sides propel U.S. markets to record highs as oil prices tumble more than 10%

By Farnaz Fassihi, Peter Eavis, Pranav Baskar and Thomas Fuller
The New York Times

President Donald Trump and the Iranian foreign minister announced Friday that the Strait of Hormuz had reopened, raising

hopes the warring nations were cooperating and negotiating toward a peace deal.

The proclamations, made on social media by both sides, propelled U.S. stock markets to record highs and sent oil prices tumbling more than 10%.

But the picture was muddled when Trump said a U.S. naval blockade of Iranian ports would remain in "FULL FORCE" until there was a peace deal.

As the day wore on, Trump appeared to be negotiating a peace agreement publicly, in real time, through interviews and social media posts. He spoke of several points as fait accompli even though Iran has not publicly

agreed to them.

He told Bloomberg News that Iran had agreed to suspend its nuclear program indefinitely and that Tehran would not receive any frozen assets from the U.S.

In an interview with Agence France-Presse, the president said there were "no sticking points" with Iran.

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