



## Attorney General of New Mexico

**GARY K. KING**  
Attorney General  
January 11, 2011

**ALBERT J. LAMA**  
Chief Deputy Attorney General

Alysa Landry  
Regional Editor  
The Daily Times  
201 N. Allen  
Farmington, NM 87499

Dear Ms. Landry:

The Attorney General's Office is in receipt of your letter asking whether a quorum of Central Consolidated School Board Members can attend a national education conference. This action is generally not considered a meeting of the school board. According to page eight (8) of the Attorney General's Open Meetings Act Compliance Guide, the provisions of the Act apply to any meeting of a quorum of a policymaking public body held for the purpose of:

- (a) formulating public policy, or
- (b) discussing public business, or
- (c) taking any action that the body has authority to take.

Board members sitting in the audience listening to presentation on national educational issues are not performing any of these above-mentioned tasks. Therefore, we will not open a file into the matter. However, if you have specific information that the board members did use this conference to discuss specific public business involving the Central Consolidated School District, then please re-file your complaint and we will review it.

Sincerely,

Zachary Shandler  
Assistant Attorney General  
Deputy Director, Civil Division

ZS/jr

Office of NM Attorney General Gary King  
Civil Division  
PO Drawer 1508  
Santa Fe, NM 87504-1508  
Oct. 26, 2010

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a formal complaint concerning a possible violation of the state Open Meetings Act. In question is an unpublished meeting of four of five board members from the Central Consolidated School Board, located in Shiprock and Kirtland, NM.

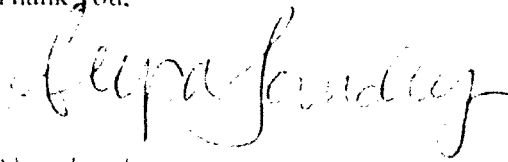
Four board members attended a conference Oct. 19 through 22 in Phoenix, Ariz. When reached by phone during the conference, board members and the district's superintendent admitted they had a quorum but had not posted it as required by law.

The conference, sponsored by the National School Board Association, took place at the Phoenix Convention Center with site visits to nearby locations.

I respectfully request that the Attorney General's Office look into this complaint and make a ruling as to whether attendance at a national education conference constitutes a violation of the state Open Meetings Act.

Enclosed, please find a news article that ran in The Daily Times on Thursday, Oct. 21.

Thank you,



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