



APS Families & Community,

New Mexico has ranked first in pedestrian fatalities per 100,000 population each year between 2016 and 2020, which is far too long. Thus, APS, along with the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, and other partner agencies, is working to eliminate traffic fatalities by embracing the Vision Zero framework.

Albuquerque Public Schools supports existing Vision Zero initiatives in the Albuquerque area, and our own Vision Zero for Youth Initiative is tailored to our students and families, because one fatality is one too many.

APS has the goal of filling the educational gap for pedestrian safety and awareness for students, staff and families. We are doing this through a safety awareness campaign directed at drivers, district-wide curriculum and the present Action Plan for setting measurable goals. The curriculum itself has been designed and written using student and teacher input, so that it is relevant and impactful.

As with campus-wide security measures, nutritional outcomes and student wellness, pedestrian and bicyclist safety is a life, health & safety measure to which APS has an imperative responsibility. The Vision Zero for Youth Initiative supports our district's strategic direction with its commitment to equity and access for all students in a safe and supportive environment. Furthermore, the Initiative commits to staff and community engagement to allow for safer student outcomes.

The present Albuquerque Public Schools Vision Zero Action Plan lays out a timeline and measurable goals to ensure that APS and its community remains committed to eliminating traffic deaths and making Albuquerque and APS safe for youth and families walking to school and anywhere else.

Sincerely,

Scott Elder