



2026-2027 NORTH CENTRAL REGION EVENTS

All events and locations subject to change. See www.nmmesa.org for updated information.

REGIONAL EVENTS

September 8-11: [High School STEM Showdown](#), NM Highlands University & [Storrie Lake State Park](#)

September 14-18: [Middle School STEM Showdown](#), NM Highlands University & [Storrie Lake State Park](#)

November 13: Regional Rally, Santa Fe Community College

January 2027: Middle School & High School MESA Competition Work Days (Locations in ABQ/Santa Fe)

STATEWIDE EVENTS

October 23: Alliance for Minority Participation (AMP) Conference, Las Cruces

January 25-29: Legislative Fieldtrip, NM State Capitol, Santa Fe (one day TBD during this range)

February 25: MESA Day/MESA USA Teacher Panel, virtual

Date TBD: Miner Mayhem Competition, NM Institute of Mining and Technology

March 24-27: Senior Incentive Field Trip (SIFT), Portland, OR

March 29-April 9: MESA Day/MESA USA team inspections, virtual

April 29: MESA Day & MESA USA Competition, Expo New Mexico, Albuquerque

June 21-23: [MESA USA National Engineering Design Competition](#), Baltimore, MD

REGIONAL ADVISOR MEETINGS (RAM)

September 1, 2026: 12:00 PM-2:00 PM, [Statewide PDC](#), [Embassy Suites](#), ABQ

May 7, 2027: 10:00 AM-1:30 PM, Location TBD

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

MESA's Big Give: A statewide service learning campaign where students, advisors, staff, and board members are invited to participate in community service efforts individually for a massive statewide impact. Projects and communities will be highlighted through social media through the duration of the campaign. *Release in October 2026*

[WeHelpTwo](#)-Sell socks to help provide free socks for people in need.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

MESA Buddies: A MESA Buddies class has a lead high school program that mentors a partner elementary school. Program includes training, supplies, curriculum, and 10 weeks of instruction. Provided curriculum has lessons for Virtual Learning and In Class Instruction. High School advisors need to apply for a program and be selected.

COMPETITION/FIELD TRIP/WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES

Competitions:

[Botball](#)

[RoboJam](#)

[First Tech Challenge](#)

[Congressional App Challenge](#)

[NM Electric Car Challenge](#)

[Governor's STEM Challenge](#)

- [Explora](#), Albuquerque, Field trips, school workshops (virtual and in-person), STEAM kits, etc.
- [New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology](#), Socorro, Campus visit and tour
- Miner Mayhem Yearlong educational program, materials and class visits/workshops provided, [New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology](#), Socorro
- Field trips/tours at University of New Mexico (Options include: [UNM ARTS Lab](#), [Centennial Engineering](#), Campus Tours, [Ropes Course](#), [Mind Research Network](#), [STEAM NM](#))
- Field trips/tours at Santa Fe Community College (Options include: School of [Trades, Technology, Sustainability & Professional Studies](#), [SFCC Planetarium](#), [Science on a Sphere](#), [Health Sciences](#))
- School-based workshops by [Math Circles Collaborative of New Mexico](#) (available to Santa Fe, Cochiti)
- School-based workshops by Regional Coordinator (paper airplane physics, Arduino, electronics, 3D printing, acoustics/physics of sound, coding for art and music/interactive sound creation)
- Earthship tour in Taos by [Earthship Biotecture](#), and tour of [El Monte Sagrado](#), sustainably designed hotel: Great connection to this year's theme, "Energy as a Grand Challenge"
- Pick a few for a day trip to the Los Alamos Area: [Bandelier National Monument](#), [Los Alamos Historical Museum](#), [Bradbury Science Museum](#), [Pajarito Environmental Education Center](#), [The New Mexico Consortium](#), [Valles Caldera National Preserve](#)
- [Wildlife West Nature Park](#) in Edgewood, just east of Albuquerque: Interactive zoo that has [rescued over 20 species](#) native to New Mexico.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [UNM Latin American & Iberian Institute](#): Resources available for teachers, including professional development, literature lending library, and [Teaching Central America](#)
- [Society of Women Engineers at UNM](#): Outreach to MESA classrooms by young women from UNM's School of Engineering. Will visit your classroom to do a talk on engineering careers and college paths, or do an interactive workshop such as making solar cells or scrap metal prosthetic legs! Let me know if you're interested and I can schedule a time for them to visit.

Point of Contact:

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