

# ADELANTE NOW

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 9, 2021

## Adelante Now Educational Foundation Releases New Web Video: *Leaving New Mexico. Why?*

Albuquerque, NM – Adelante Now Educational Foundation, a nonpartisan 501c3, released a new web video named, *Leaving New Mexico. Why?*

Video: <https://youtu.be/QmtIVwFhaXQ>

Adelante Now produced and released a new web video to assist all New Mexicans to become aware of a terrible reality in New Mexico. At the onset of the Covid-19 virus, our state leaders had very difficult decisions to make; some of those decisions were not well considered. Now New Mexicans are leaving the state due to harmful policies that were executed by state leadership. Throughout the pandemic, winners and losers were chosen indiscriminately leading to hundreds of restaurants and small businesses shuttering, leaving New Mexicans unemployed. Unemployment skyrocketed in early 2020 and has remained high as we entered 2021. However, neighboring states took more well considered routes and thoughtfully opened their economies, allowing their citizens to return to work, and they allowed students to go back to school.

“People are leaving New Mexico and we at Adelante Now Foundation asked some of those who have left, and others who are leaving, the question, “Why,” said Harvey Yates, Jr., president of Adelante Now Foundation. “As evidenced by the statistics and by earlier studies published by this Foundation and others, even before the pandemic, policies out of Santa Fe crippled our economy and weakened our educational system. Now policies flowing out of Santa Fe have caused more difficulties in the state. Those policies have made other surrounding states, though they can’t compare culturally, geographically, or climate wise with New Mexico, more desirable place to live, to support a family, to secure an education for one’s children and to operate a business.”

Recently, Adelante Now Foundation commissioned a statewide poll conducted by Brian Sanderoff with Research and Polling, Inc. to test public opinion of parents, grandparents and guardians regarding opening schools for the 2021 school year.

Among the findings, the poll shows that:

- 52% believe that the local school board should be the decision maker as to when to reopen public school for in-person learning, while 30% believe that the decision should rest with state governmental leaders.
- 66% believe that schools should be opened completely or opened, at least, on a hybrid model or for in-person learning, while only 25% believe that schools should remain closed to in-person learning.

One of the major concerns communicated is that people believe that New Mexico’s students are falling behind academically while students also are experiencing the results of isolation which often include depression or other mental health issues.

When asked what concerns, if any, respondents have regarding the fact that our child(ren)/grandchild(ren) are not able to attend school for in-person learning or participate in in-person school activities 91% shared concerns. *(Respondents were able to choose more than one response when giving their answers.)*

Here are the responses:

<b>CONCERNS REGARDING CHILD(REN)/GRANDCHILD(REN) NOT BEING ABLE TO ATTEND SCHOOL FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING OR ACTIVITIES</b> <small>AMONG THOSE WHO ARE PARENTS/GRANDPARENTS/GUARDIANS OF CHILD(REN) UNDER 18</small> <small>TOTAL RESPONSES (N=313)</small> <small>TOP 8 UNAIDED RESPONSES</small>	
<b>FALLING BEHIND ACADEMICALLY</b>	<b>42%</b>
<b>ISOLATED/CAN’T SEE FRIENDS</b>	<b>35%</b>
<b>DEPRESSED/ANXIOUS/SAD</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>STRUGGLING WITH VIRTUAL LEARNING</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>NO SPORTS/CLUBS</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>NO BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>NOT CONCERNED</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>NOTHING IN PARTICULAR</b>	<b>5%</b>

To learn more about Adelante Now Educational Foundation’s initiatives, please visit us on the web at [www.adelantenow.net](http://www.adelantenow.net).

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