

Alma Ripley

Vice Principal

Carlos Rey Elementary School

1215 Cerrillos Rd SW

Albuquerque, NM 87121

RE: NMSS STEM High Altitude Balloon Program

Mrs. Ripley,

We at New Mexico Space Studies (NMSS) appreciate your efforts and wish you continued success fostering the growth of STEM Education at Albuquerque Public Schools. Your introduction to us of Mark Hendricks of NJROTC at West Mesa High School was instrumental in the creation of the NMSS\APS High Altitude Balloon HAB affiliate program.

In less than a year, APS and NJROTC have created their own HAB program using techniques and procedures developed by NMSS and the Amateur Radio community. Amateur radio has been applied in tracking and controlling HABs, and has been instrumental in the recovery of all flights to date. Students and instructors have attended and passed a Technician Class Amateur Radio class provided by NMSS, licensing 18 new Hams with the FCC.

NMSS is an organization dedicated to providing safe and responsible access to near space for educational organizations. We look upon the accomplishments of the students and teachers of APS and ROTC with a great deal of pride and friendship. We are especially proud of the STEM exposure this program has provided to students from surrounding schools.

Mrs. Ripley, the future appears a little brighter as a result of your efforts and the NMSS\APS\ROTC HAB program.

Sincerely,



Scott J. Stevenson

Program Director

New Mexico Space Studies