



PISD UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 9, 2021



@penascoisd

[penascoisd.com](https://www.penascoisd.com)

WHAT'S INSIDE

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**Elementary Afterschool
Registration**

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Journalism Class Articles!

School Highlight: Elementary Class

A Full Page of Job Openings

CALENDAR

Friday/Saturday, September 10-11,
Volleyball: Cimarron Tournament

Thursday, September 9,
Cross Country: West Las Vegas
Invitational

Saturday, September 11,
Cross Country: Jemez Valley Invite

Thursday, September 16, 3:45-7:00:
PISD Back-to-School Event

Thursday, September 16, 6:00:
Volleyball (home) vs Coronado

Wednesday, September 22, 6:15:
PISD Community Meeting

PISD COVID VIDEO

Have questions about PISD policies regarding COVID-19? This video (<https://youtu.be/olZcers2fGI>) has accurate info about COVID and our schools, with interviews featuring:

- Laura McCutcheon, PA, El Centro Family Health
- Yvette Pacheco, School Nurse
- Melissa Sandoval, PISD Superintendent
- Nicaea Chavez, HS/MS Principal
- Michelle Gonzales, Elementary Principal
- Julia Romero, Cafeteria Staff
- Veronica Gonzales, Transportation Secretary
- Ray Pino, Maintenance Supervisor
- Mandy Montoya, Athletic Coordinator & Girls Basketball Coach
- Craig Quanchello, Governor, Picuris Pueblo
- And, featuring 24 students!

BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT!

PISD will host a back-to-school community event

Thursday, September 16, 2:30-4:30

(Students will be released early.)

Enter at the guard shack.

Highlights:

- A bag of food for every family
- Gift card raffle
- Meet your children's teachers
- Sign up for after-school programs
- Verify your address for the P-EBT cards
- Apply for the Emergency Broadband Benefit
- Pick up progress reports
- Talk with district staff about job openings
- Athletics info

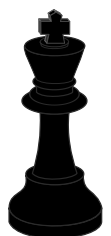
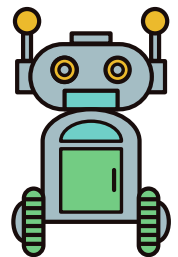
Plus, get information from these organizations:

- El Centro Family Health
- Taos Behavioral Health
- Nurturing Center
- Taos Alive
- PISD Student Support Services (Child Find)
- And more!

ELEMENTARY AFTERSCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration for Peñasco Elementary's afterschool program is open. The program is free and open to all students. The program will begin Monday, September 20, and run from 3:40-5:45 and include snack and supper. Activities will include chess, circus arts, gardening, guitar and violin, social/emotional learning through the Nurturing Center, podcasting, and robotics.

Please complete this form by Sept. 15.
<https://forms.gle/UAFo27Y36ndPukdg8>



The Middle and High School registration form is coming soon.

PARENT AND STUDENT SURVEYS

Help the district understand the needs of its students and families .
Please fill out these two short surveys:

- Parent Survey: <https://www.penascoisd.com/article/525386>
- Student Survey: <https://www.penascoisd.com/article/525391>

MORE GRANTS FOR PISD

PISD has been awarded more grants!

- **Library of Congress Teaching Primary Sources grant:** \$85,000 to support students working with community elders on building a digital museum and archive to Peñasco and Picuris history.
- **ESSER III Out-of-School-Time Grant:** \$59,999 to support elementary after-school programs
- **USDA Farm-to-School Grant:** \$50,000 to support gardening, agricultural, and other land-based cultural programming
- **CACFP Supper Program:** Approximately \$128,000 in reimbursement for afternoon snacks and suppers for afterschool participants
- **Community Schools Grants:** \$150,000 Implementation Grant for the Elementary School and \$50,000 Planning Grant for the High School to support bringing community resources into the schools and making schools a community resource.

Current Grant and Other Approved Funding Totals for 21/22 School Year



HELP GUIDE PISD IN SPENDING THESE FUNDS

Next Community Meeting (Community Schools, PTO, Equity Council):

- Wednesday, September 22, 6:15
- Elementary Commons & Online

Google Meet joining info:

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/wds-ewhi-xka>

Or dial: (US)+1 424-379-1346 PIN: 629 771 325#

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

PEÑASCO INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS is offering free meals to all children ages 18 and under regardless if children are enrolled in the district under COVID-19: Child Nutrition Response #85 Nationwide Waiver to Allow the Seamless Summer Option through School Year 2021-2022.

USDA Non-discrimination Statement:

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

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**MAIL: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary
for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410**

FAX: (202) 690-7442
**EMAIL:
program.intake@usda.gov**



THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.

NEW ID CHECK FOR SCHOOL VISITORS

Please read this letter from Superintendent Sandoval about the new Raptor Visitor Management System that will require ID from all visitors to campus.



**Home of the
Panthers**

Peñasco Independent School District

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Superintendent

Melissa Sandoval

Peñasco Board of Education

Amanda Bissell, Board President
Dorothy Lopez-Sherman, Board Vice-President
Sherry Archuleta, Board Secretary
Mary Trujillo Mascareñas, Board Member
Carlos Abeyta, Board Member

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Peñasco Independent Schools is pleased to announce that we will begin using the Raptor Visitor Management System to strengthen our program of campus safety for students and faculty. Part of keeping students and faculty safe is knowing who is in our buildings at all times, and the Raptor system will allow us to do that. The Raptor system will better allow us to screen visitors, contractors, and volunteers in our schools and provide us with a safer environment for our students and staff.

Beginning September 13, 2021, upon entering our district campus, visitors will be asked by security to present an ID such as a Driver's License, which can either be scanned or manually entered into the system. If a parent or guardian for any reason does not have a US government-issued ID, the school staff member can use any form of identification and manually enter the person's name into the Raptor system. The Raptor system will check to ensure that registered sexual offenders are not entering our school campuses without our knowledge. The Raptor system checks the visitor's name and date of birth for comparison with a national database of registered sex offenders. The registered sex offender database is the only official database checked by the Raptor system. No other data from the ID is gathered or recorded and the information is not shared with any outside agency. Once entry is approved, Raptor will issue a badge that identifies the visitor, the date, and the purpose of his/her visit. The badging will only occur during school day; drop off and pick up time will remain as it is currently.

The safety of our students is our highest priority, and the Raptor visitor management system allows us to quickly identify those that may present a danger to our students. This will also help us with contact tracing for COVID positive reporting. In the event you are on campus and have been in close contact with an individual who tests positive, you will be notified. Again, our goal is to keep everyone safe.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and your support in enhancing the school safety protocols in our district.

Respectfully,

Melissa Sandoval



Ms. Noll's journalism students: Alicia Abeyta, Dazylyn Gonzales, Analise MacAuley, Maricela MacAuley, and Karizma Saenz.



FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

VOLLEYBALL

This fall, we have two sports competing-- volleyball and cross country. The volleyball players for the Fall 2021 season are:

Analise MacAuley
Alicia Abeyta
Maricela MacAuley
Sylvia Brown
Sierra Atencio
Martina Tafoya
Kaitlyn Romero
Destiney Rodriguez
Alyssa Atencio
Cheyenne Martinez
Haylie Martinez
Madison Rael
Rochelle Lopez
Alexius Romero
Jenica Gurule
Isabella Gonzales

Carolina Tafoya is the manager, and the coaches are Monique Visarraga and Analisia Pena. Last year, during the Fall 2020 season, players practiced and were all set to play Cimarron on a Monday in September; however, the game was cancelled due to covid, and soon after, the entire season was postponed. Practices continued during the spring of 2021, but the season didn't happen for the Lady Panthers. This year, practice began in August before school started, and it continues to occur Mondays-Thursdays from 5:30-7.

Players to watch include the seniors: Maricela MacAuley, Isa Gonzales, Martina Tafoya, Jenica Gurule, and Kaitlyn Romero as well as Sylvia Brown, a junior who has been working hard in her role as the team's setter.

The season got off to a challenging start; with some players out for the Pecos game, the team lost in three matches; against Cimarron, the JV won in two matches and the varsity lost in four very close matches. Players and coaches are excited about district play, so watch for the games against Mora, Escalante, and Questa.

Find the full volleyball schedule here:

https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/1524173/_Peñasco_Volleyball_5__2_.pdf

CROSS COUNTRY

The cross country team includes:

Maricela Mia MacAuley
Analise MacAuley
Sylvia Brown
Rochelle Lopez
Charnelle Gonzales
Tristanee Lucero
Rhyen Vigil
Alyssa Atencio
Felicianna Mitchel
Alyssa Calabaza
Ashley Madrid
Madison Archuleta
Amy Muñoz
Katalina Atencio
Gilbert Valdez
Jude Martinez
Jeremiah Martinez
Logan Romero
Angel Romero
Nehemiah Romero
Nicholas Lopez
Lucian Badash-Dyer
Matias Vigil
Shia Romero
Walter Trujillo

The coaches are Ben Sanchez and Tori Vasquez, and the manager is Haylie Martinez. The cross country team finished strong last year, in spite of a postponed season, with Gilly Valdez winning the 2A state championship. In the first meet of the 2021 season, Gilly set a course record here at Peñasco of 16:31. Both the high school girls' and boys' teams won the Peñasco Invitational, as did the middle school girls. Cross country practice happens every Monday-Friday from 4:30-5:30, and while masks are recommended they are not required. Players and coaches are excited for the district meets and state championship, and you can find the schedule below.

Please continue to support all of our fall athletes! Find the cross country schedule here: https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/1524006/Peñasco_Cross_Country_2021.pdf



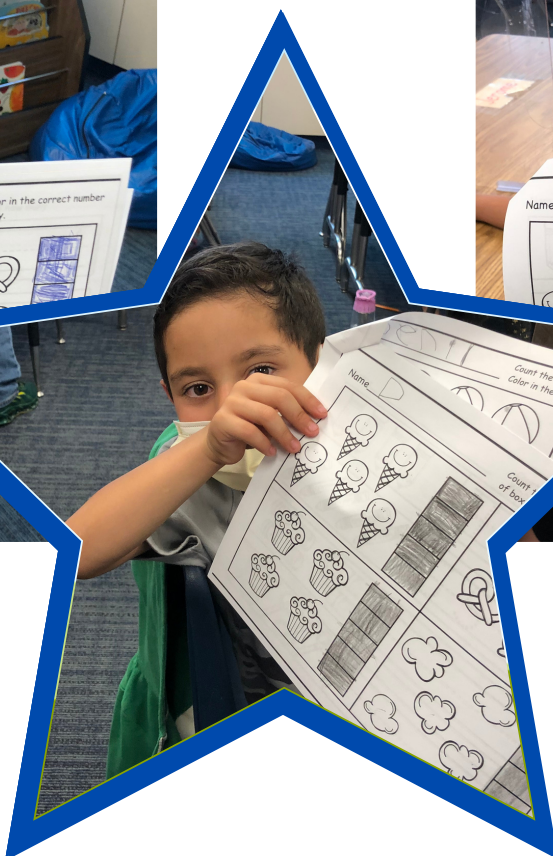
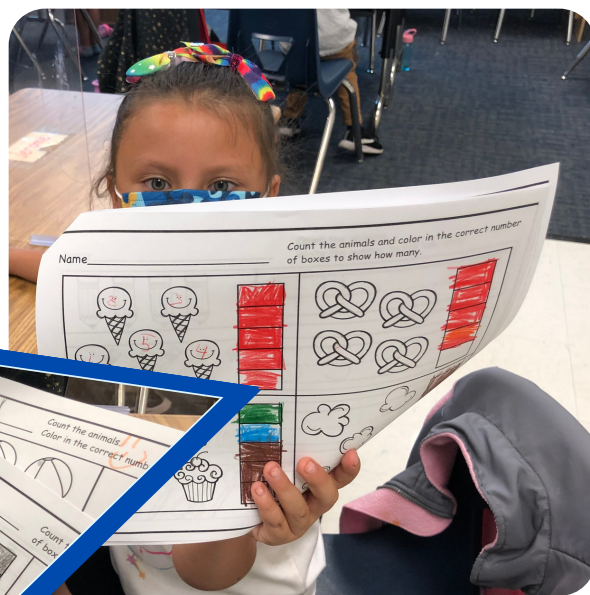
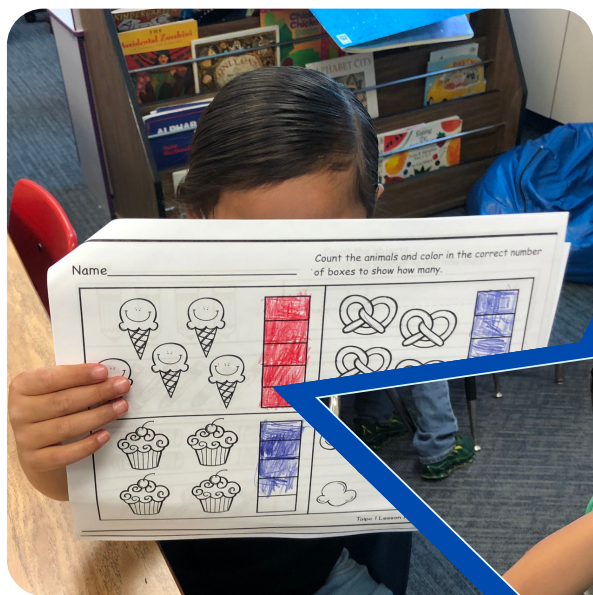
NEW WEEKLY FEATURE: SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT: ELEMENTARY



Mrs. Visarraga's Kindergarten class has been working hard to learn routines for school--both the in-person students and online students.



Check out the students' colorful math work!



DISTRICT JOB OPENINGS

**PISD Employment Opportunities 2020-2021 School Year:
School Counselor, Spanish Teacher, Kindergarten or Grade Teacher,
Bus Drivers, Custodians, Substitute Teachers, Substitute Bus
Drivers and Substitute Custodians, Afterschool Counselor**

For inquiries email agarcia@penascoisd.com.

Licensed staff positions will apply on the NMREAP website

<http://www.nmreap.net/>

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO

PISD Superintendent

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Elementary Principal

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Indian Education Coordinator

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Student & Family Engagement Coordinator

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