



# PISD UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 21, 2021



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## CALENDAR

**Tuesday, September 21**

Volleyball at Coronado

**Tuesday, September 21, 6:00**

Board Meeting

**Wednesday, September 22, 6:15**

PISD Community Meeting

**Friday, September 24**

Volleyball at Jemez Valley

**Saturday, September 25, 3:00**

Volleyball: Home vs Santa Fe  
Waldorff

**Saturday, September 25**

Cross Country: Nick Martin Invite,  
East Mountain

## PISD COMMUNITY MEETING

Everyone is invited to attend our first PISD Community Meeting of the year. We will discuss Community Schools, PTO, and the Equity Council.

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

Google Meet joining info:

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

## PISD BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 21, 6:00

Google Meet joining info:

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

# **DID YOU MISS THE BACK-TO-SCHOOL EVENT! HERE ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS.**

Thank you to the maintenance and custodial staff for helping set up and break down for the event. Thank you, too, to Pacheco's for donating two gas gift cards, to Valerie Rodriguez from Hoshimi Slimes, LLC, for donating bags for the food, and to St. David's Episcopal in Taos and Enselma and Ennemias Vasquez for the food!

Information for all these highlights is included in this newsletter.

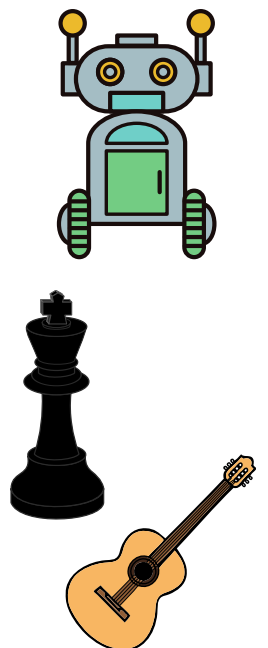
- All PISD families will now receive a bag of food every two weeks
- Register for elementary after-school programs:  
<https://forms.gle/UAFo27Y36ndPukdg8>
- Verify your address for the P-EBT cards:  
<https://forms.gle/HsekCwDvLxANE8T99>
- Apply for the Emergency Broadband Benefit
- The district is hiring!
- Taos Behavioral Health can help your kids with academics and behavior issues.
- New Resource: Student and Family Engagement Center

## **AFTERSCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Registration for Peñasco afterschool program is open. The program is free and open to all students. The program will 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. The start date will be announced; PISD is waiting for budget approval from the state.

Elementary Registration: <https://forms.gle/UAFo27Y36ndPukdg8>

Middle and High School registration:  
<https://forms.gle/Ckq7uKoTzkhsbvJ49>



## **VERIFY YOUR ADDRESS FOR THE P-EBT CARDS**

Please take one minute to fill out this short form confirming your mailing and physical addresses. The mailing address is used by the state to send out P-EBT cards. Form: <https://forms.gle/HsekCwDvLxANE8T99>

## **PISD EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

- Kindergarten Teacher
- School Counselor
- Secondary Spanish Teacher
- Afterschool Program Counselors
- Supper Program Cook
- Bus Driver
- MS Special Education Teacher
- Concession Stand Worker
- Substitute Cooks
- Substitute Teachers
- Substitute Custodians
- Substitute Bus Drivers
- Nurse's Aid
- Custodian
- Elementary Drill Coach

Contact Amy Garcia: [agarcia@penascoisd.com](mailto:agarcia@penascoisd.com) or 575-587-2502

## **EL CENTRO FAMILY HEALTH JOB OPENINGS**

ECFH has four job openings in its Northern Region: Taos, Penasco, and Embudo. Links to job descriptions below. Open the last link to apply.

- Peñasco Clinic Medical Assistant FULL TIME: <https://ecfh.org/site/wp-content/uploads/Medical-Assistant-Penasco.pdf>
- Peñasco Clinic Receptionist FULL TIME <https://ecfh.org/site/wp-content/uploads/Clinic-Receptionist-Penasco.pdf>
- Taos MS/HS Clinic Coordinator FULL TIME: [https://ecfh.org/site/wp-content/uploads/Clinic-Coordinator\\_Taos-School-Base-08262021.pdf](https://ecfh.org/site/wp-content/uploads/Clinic-Coordinator_Taos-School-Base-08262021.pdf)
- Peñasco Dental Receptionist AS NEEDED: <https://ecfh.org/site/wp-content/uploads/Dental-Receptionist-PRN-Penasco.pdf>

Apply here: <https://ecfh.org/careers-espanola/>

# TAOS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Registration for Peñasco Elementary's afterschool program is open.



***We support all ages. Our services include:***

- Adult, Children & Family Counseling
- Couples Counseling
- Family Navigation and Kinship Guardianship Support
- Youth & Adult Comprehensive Community Support Services (CCSS)

**Taos Behavioral Health is here for you with the largest staff of credentialed and licensed Behavioral Health workers in Northern New Mexico.**

**105 Bertha St., Taos, NM 87571  
(575)758-4297 | Fax: (575)751-7237  
[www.TaosBehavioralHealth.org](http://www.TaosBehavioralHealth.org)**

**Schools We Serve:**  
*Enos Garcia Elementary  
Ranchos Elementary  
Arroyos Del Norte Elementary  
Taos International School  
Taos Charter School  
T.I.S.A.  
Anansi Charter School  
Questa Public Schools  
Peñasco Public Schools  
Taos Middle School  
Taos High School  
And more to come...*



Superintendent Sandoval and the Board of Education would like to show their appreciation to all Coordinators at the Peñasco Independent School District. Thank you for always going above and beyond what's expected of you! Your work and dedication is outstanding - we really appreciate you!

Michelle Esquibel, SFA Coordinator

Julia Geffroy, Indian Education Curriculum Coordinator

Taylor Harrison, After-School Program Coordinator

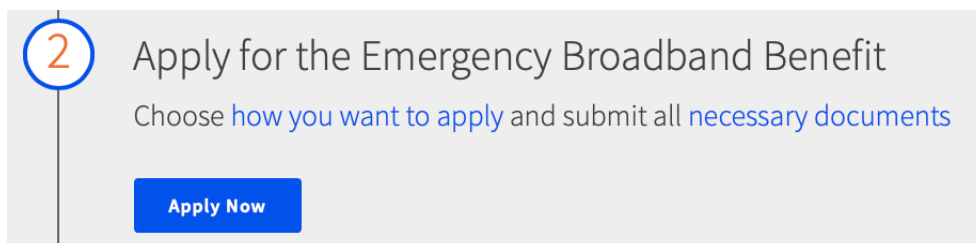
Michael Noll, Community Schools Coordinator

Bonavita Quinto-MacCallum, Student and Family Engagement Coordinator



# HOW TO APPLY FOR THE EMERGENCY BROADBAND BENEFIT

All families in the district qualify for a new federal program that will pay \$50/month toward your Internet bills (\$75/month for families living on tribal land). To apply, click here: <https://getemergencybroadband.org>. Scroll down the page until you see this:



You will need the DOB of the parent and child and the last 4 digits of the parent's SS# and child's SS#.

Once you create your account, you'll start the application. Select "Free School Lunch" as the qualifying factor.

A screenshot of a web form titled 'Is your child or dependent in any of these?'. Below the title is the instruction 'Check all that apply.' followed by a list of checkboxes. A red arrow points to the checkbox for 'Free and Reduced Price School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program in the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 school year'. The other options are: SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or Food Stamps, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance, Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit Programs, Federal Pell Grant in the current award year, Experienced a substantial loss of income since February 29, 2020, and Tribal Specific Program (only choose if you live on Tribal lands).

Be sure to write down the child and address that you submit.

Submit the application. You will receive an email from Lifeline Support with the subject line "You Qualify for the Emergency Broadband Benefit." If you get Kit Carson Internet, forward the email to [nvarela@kitcarson.com](mailto:nvarela@kitcarson.com) along with this exact info:

- Your Name, Address, Phone #, Date of Birth, Last four of SSN.
- Your Child's Full name, Date of Birth and Last 4 SSN.

If you use another Internet Provider, you will need to call them to find out where to send the qualification email. Questions: Call Michael Noll: 575-779-1466

# **Student and Family Engagement Center**

## **RESOURCES**

Information, resources and help  
for students, parents, families and  
the community.

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**COMMUNITY CLOSET - CLOTHES  
WELLNESS INFORMATION  
STUDENT SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
EDUCATION RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS AND  
EDUCATORS  
CAREER PATHWAY INFORMATION FOR  
STUDENTS AND FAMILIES**

**LOCATED IN MID/HIGH SCHOOL RM A121  
PHONE: 575-587- 2502 EXT. 2305**

**PEÑASCO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Coordinators:**

**Bonavita Quinto MacCallum  
bmaccallum@penascoisd.com**

**Julia Geffroy  
jgeffroy@penascoisd.com**

**Michael Noll  
mnoll@penascoisd.com**



# HOUSING INFORMATION FORM

## New Mexico Student Enrollment Form

School Name \_\_\_\_\_ School District \_\_\_\_\_

*Your child may be eligible for additional educational services depending on your housing situation. Additional services and rights include the right to stay at the same school even if you move and access to free meals at school. Eligibility can be determined by completing this questionnaire.*

The information on this form is required to meet The Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) program, authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.), also known as the McKinney-Vento Act.

**This form is to learn more about your family’s current housing situation. Please begin by signing and completing your contact information. Your signature indicates that you have completed this form to the best of your knowledge.**

Print Parent/Guardian Name/Adult Caring for Student \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Area Code) Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Where do you and your family currently live? Check only one box.**

**Section A**

☐ Live in my own home (rent or own) with immediate family (spouse/partner, children, parents).

**STOP: Please return this form without completing the remaining sections.**

**Section B**

- ☐ Temporarily with another family
- ☐ With an adult that is not a parent or legal guardian
- ☐ Rent in a temporary space (for example: motel, hotel, trailer park or campground)
- ☐ In a place that lacks water, electricity, or heat; is infested with vermin or mold; lacks working kitchen or a working toilet; presents unreasonable dangers to adults, children, or persons with disabilities.
- ☐ In a temporary shelter or other temporary housing
- ☐ Other (please note): \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTINUE: If you checked a box in Section B, complete the remainder of this form.**

**2. If you checked a box in Section B, your child(ren) may be eligible for additional support. Please list their information below.**

Student(s) Name			Gender	D.O.B.	Grade	School Name
First	Middle	Last				

**3. You may be contacted by a member of your school system’s educational support staff. Please check the box below if you do NOT wish to be contacted.** ☐ No, please do not contact me.

*\* Referral made to Homeless Liaison on this date: \_\_\_\_\_*



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



## GILLY'S PASSION

Gilbert “Gilly” Valdez is a fast runner who is passionate and determined. Last year, Gilly won an individual title in the class 2A state championship meet with a time of 17:04.78. Gilly’s fastest 5K time is 15:29, which he described as a road race with ideal conditions. Recently, at the first cross country meet of this season, Gilly set a course record with a time of 16:31. Gilly’s main focus this year is to defend his title, and with the numbers he’s already putting up, we are expecting great results. His confidence in himself and others shines through when he talks about wanting to see the boys’ team go to state.

“I believe we have a great squad this season. I have hope that this year we can bring home the first boys’ team title,” said Gilly.

Another goal that Gilly has set is to post faster times. He plans to compete outside of the school season, and would like to run at the Nike XC Regions, the Foot Locker XC, and the USATF regionals and nationals, where he hopes to receive another All-American Title. He would also like to run in the World Championships. After high school, Gilly wants to attend a Division 1 school and has a few colleges in mind.

Also, Gilly is the kind of athlete who knows he can do better. He wants to perform well at other races outside of the school season.

Gilly said, “Of course my cross season goes on a bit longer, and I do want to perform better at the national level, so right now that’s a major focus for me.”

We have high hopes that Gilly will achieve his goals and get into a school that will appreciate his hilarious personality and his running skills. Good luck, Gilly!







# ENVIRONTHON AND ALL ITS BENEFITS

Environthon is a hands-on, outdoor STEM program that is led by Miss Cordova. There are four categories that students can compete in: aquatics, wildlife, forestry, and soils. There is also a special topic each year that relates to all four categories. This year's special topic is "Waste to Resources." The Environthon team meets one to three days a week, and the meetings happen more frequently as competition approaches. Practices meet both indoors and outdoors. Students who want to participate need to follow the same expectations as any other extracurricular activity: they need to have a 2.0 grade point average and no Fs. In addition to keeping good grades, students must maintain good behavior and be committed to representing Peñasco well.

Former alumni who have participated in Environthon include Ariana MacAuley, currently attending Stanford University, and David Lucero, currently attending University of New Mexico. They both agree that Environthon is worth a student's time. When asked what the best part of Environthon was, Ari shared that she enjoyed going to the state competition and hanging out with teammates. David expressed that he enjoyed meeting new people by going to the state competition. Also, Ari said that what she liked about the competition was that there are definite right and wrong answers in Environthon.

"You feel smart when you win," she said.

Both former participants shared that there are lots of benefits to participating in Environthon.

"There's not too much to do in Peñasco, so you have to take advantage of what there is," David said. "It's something else to do other than sports."

He added that participation gives a student an ecological perspective, and Ari shared that "you get a better understanding of the natural world, and it makes you have a better appreciation for the place where we live."

Both talked about how valuable it was to work with professionals in the field, and David added that participating will open your eyes to different job opportunities. Another benefit is that preparing for competitions can help you learn how to study in college. Finally, Environthon looks good on your college application because, as David shared, "it shows that you can balance your grades with Environthon." Take it from David and Ari--Environthon can be helpful in life beyond high school, and it is fun as well.

**Students who want to join Environthon should contact Miss Cordova at [mcordova@penascoisd.com](mailto:mcordova@penascoisd.com).**



# SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT: NATURAL HELPERS



On Friday, students from grades 6-9 met at Sipapu for the Natural Helpers retreat. These students were trained in peer-helping, leadership, and suicide prevention skills. They will be meeting throughout the year and leading their classes in developing these same skills through class projects.



Student Participants: Jonaya Funmaker, Nicholas Lopez, Ashley Madrid, Julian Martinez, Jessica Mérmajo, Amy Muñoz, Sofia Pacheco, Elias Rodriguez, Logan Romero, Evangelynn Sandoval, and Walter Trujillo

Staff Participants: Jordan Fragua and Michael Noll

Facilitator: JoAnn Sartorius, Prevention New Mexico



## **IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO**

### **PISD Superintendent**

Melissa Sandoval  
(575) 587-2502  
msandoval@penascoisd.com

### **MS/HS Principal**

Nicaea Chavez  
(575) 587-2502 ext. 2010  
nchavez@penascoisd.com

### **Elementary Principal**

Michelle Gonzales  
(575) 587-2502 ext. 2101  
mgonzales2@penascoisd.com

### **Community Schools Coordinator**

Michael Noll  
575-779-1466  
mnoll@penascoisd.com

### **Indian Education Coordinator**

Julia Geffroy  
575-613-3822  
jgeffroy@penascoisd.com

### **Student & Family Engagement Coordinator**

Dr. Bonavita Quinto MacCallum  
575-587-2502 Ext. 2305  
bmaccallum@penascoisd.com