



PISD UPDATE

OCTOBER 27, 2021



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CALENDAR

Thursday, October 28, 1:30

Early release for students

Thursday, October 28, 5:30

PISD Halloween Carnival

Friday, October 29

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Friday, October 29, 4:30

District Cross Country Meet,
Cleveland High School

Saturday, October 30, 5:00

Volleyball at Escalante

Monday, November 1, 5:00

Volleyball at Mesa Vista

Friday, November 5

Extended Learning Day

Friday, November 5

Special board meeting and
retreat/workshop

EARLY RELEASE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28

Students will be released early this Thursday, October 28, at 1:30. Students and families are encouraged to return to school at 5:30 for the Halloween Carnival (information below).

NEXT EXTENDED LEARNING DAY

The next Extended Learning Day will be on Friday, November 5. Please plan on attending school that day as usual.



PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Conferences will be held Friday, October 29. Please plan to meet with your students' teachers.

Middle and High School: Conferences will be in person from 9-11 and 1-4. Come any time during those hours to meet with your students' teachers.

Elementary: Conferences will be online. Contact your students' teachers for more info.

MS and HS: Pick up your yearbook at the parent-teacher conference!

PISD HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL: OCTOBER 28

The Sophomore and Junior classes at Peñasco High School invite you to attend the Halloween Carnival on October 28. A morning session during school will allow students to celebrate the spooky holiday with games and activities.

Families and kids of all ages are invited to join us that evening from 5:30-7:30 in the courtyard outside the El Centro School Clinic.

- Games
- Candy
- Food

Wear your costume!
(School-appropriate outfits, please!)

Entry fee to the evening event: \$3
Tickets can be purchased for games and food.
Candy is free!



Want to donate candy to the event? Please leave your donations in the box at the PISD guard shack. Or, email math teacher Mr. Sandoval at msandoval1@penascoisd.com



HELP PISD HIRES FIND HOUSING

If anyone has housing for rent, please let Amy Garcia know (agarcia@penascoisd.com). PISD has people that are applying, but they are looking for housing. We don't have housing to provide but would like to have some information for them on rentals in the area.

Thank you!

SCHOOL UPDATES



PISD RECEIVES GRANT FROM LANL FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT TEACHER AND STAFF SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL HEALTH

PISD has received a grant from the Los Alamos National Lab Foundation to support SEL programs for teachers and staff.

SUPPORT OUR BASKETBALL TEAMS

The basketball teams are selling Peñasco t-shirts and other clothing and accessories. Please consider supporting them with purchases!

Find the online store here:
<https://fancloth.shop/WCPVS>



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF NEW MEXICO’S YEAR OF LITERACY

***WHEREAS**, IN AUGUST OF 2021, DR. KURT STEINHAUS WAS APPOINTED SECRETARY DESIGNATE OF THE NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT; AND*

***WHEREAS**, THE SECRETARY DESIGNATE HAS EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO SCHOOLS AND DISTRICTS ACROSS NEW MEXICO TO JOIN IN MAKING THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR THE “YEAR OF LITERACY”; AND*

***WHEREAS** READING AND WRITING ARE ESSENTIAL FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS IN EVERY CHILD’S EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY AND PATHWAY TO SUCCESS; AND*

***WHEREAS**, THE PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAS INVESTED IN THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATORS AND HIGH-QUALITY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS TO TEACH READING IN CLASSROOMS ACROSS THE STATE; AND*

***WHEREAS**, EVERY CHILD SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO GRADE-LEVEL CONTENT AND READING MATERIALS THAT ARE CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY RESPONSIVE AND SUSTAINING; AND*

***WHEREAS**, INCREASING LITERACY PROFICIENCY IS OF THE UTMOST PRIORITY OF EUNICE SCHOOLS; AND*

***WHEREAS** PEÑASCO INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS BELIEVES IT IS IMPERATIVE TO INSTILL IN OUR CHILDREN A LIFELONG LOVE OF LEARNING AND READING:*

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD, BY UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY ITS MEMBERS, HERETO DECLARES THIS:

THE YEAR OF LITERACY IN PEÑASCO INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS





Two Incidents Bring Law Enforcement to the Penasco Campus

Article written by: Maricela MacAuley, Analise MacAuley, Cheyenne Martinez,

Jeremiah Martinez, Dylan Lopez, Kalista Duran, Kaitlyn Romero

Interview of Norman Rodriguez by Jared Lujan and Lyrik Montoya

Interview of Ms. Chavez by Karizma Saenz

It was a regular school morning on October 26, 2021. Sophomores and juniors were taking the PSAT, and besides that, the schedule was just like normal. That all changed at approximately 11:10AM when the campus went into a shelter in place. From the elementary side of campus, a teacher thought they heard a gunshot in the distance, and teachers received an email to say that students were to stay in class but could go to the restroom as needed.

The shelter in place was lifted just before lunch. Principal Chavez visited every middle and high school class and explained what was going on. She let students know that there was a difference between a shelter in place order and a lockdown. A lockdown happens when there is someone dangerous on campus and/or in a school building. During that time, students need to hide, stay quiet, and teachers will follow lockdown protocols. In a shelter in place situation, students need to stay in their classrooms, go about their business as normal, and remain as calm as possible. A shelter in place order means that there is a possible threat in the area of the school but not directly at the school.

Ms. Chavez said that it's important that students aren't on their cell phones during these situations. "One of the things we learned is that when families are contacted, a parent might come for their kids, and it can put them in danger. We need to be able to let first responders access the school and do their jobs."

Norman Rodriguez, the campus security guard, said that the first thing that went through his mind when the shelter in place order was called was the safety of the students. He also stated that the incident was handled in a professional way. When asked if he would like to be armed in case of a dangerous situation, he said that he would not.

Around the same time, the police officers were on campus with a K-9 unit to deal with the recent drug situation that is happening at the middle school and high school. Recently, students have been bringing edibles that contain marijuana and sharing them and eating them during the school day. Ms. Chavez let students know that the drug dogs would be coming to campus more frequently until the drug situation ends. Ms. Chavez is concerned about the students' safety when it comes to doing drugs. "That's why we are working with the police department," she added. Norman Rodriguez stated "We need to do something about the drug situation for the kids. There are too many issues going on, and that's the purpose of the dogs."



Getting to Know Lucian By Maricela MacAuley

Although Lucian Badash-Dyer considers himself an interesting person, many people do not know him. In school Lucian is quiet, probably because his favorite things are done outside of school. These activities include fishing, mountain biking, skiing, and snowboarding. Lucian has been skiing since he was three and snowboarding since he was eight. Lucian remembers one of the first times that he rode a bike without training wheels. Six year old Lucian had a new purple bike and fell over with his grandparents. Since then he has improved a bit. He even knows how to ride a unicycle. He shares this passion with classmate and friend, Gilbert Valdez. Lucian shared a story of when he and Gilly got caught in a snow storm while mountain biking. Lucian made the call to go out that day, and he says it was not one of his smartest decisions. This winter both Gilly and Lucian plan to do ski patrol at Sipapu Ski Resort.

This year Lucian is a senior at Penasco high school. Lucian defines a good student as someone who works hard. He feels that the activities that he does outside of school makes him a better student because they provide a motivation to get his work done so he has time to do the things that he loves. When asked if school were a movie, what it would be, he said it would be "the most boring ever". Despite not enjoying high school much, he loves being on the cross county team. Lucian also does baseball.

After high school Lucian plans to attend a college in either New Mexico or Colorado in the healthcare field. He chose those locations because they have seasons that support his hobbies. He could not see himself living somewhere like a city.

Many people may not have had the pleasure to meet Lucian. He has a fantastic sense of humor and always has a sarcastic remark to make. When talking about the interview, Lucian wanted me to include that during the interview, I was "distracted by his amazingly good looks." Lucian is mostly quiet but has a lot of interesting and funny things to say. If you ever run into him make sure to ask for tips on riding a unicycle.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO

PISD Superintendent

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

MS/HS Principal

Nicaea Chavez
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nchavez@penascoisd.com

Elementary Principal

Michelle Gonzales
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Community Schools Coordinator

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

Indian Education Coordinator

Julia Geffroy
575-613-3822
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Student & Family Engagement Coordinator

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

About the SAFE Center

The Peñasco Independent School District Student and Family Engagement Center (SAFE Center) is a safe space that serves the social, emotional, academic, medical, and mental health needs of students and families in our school and communities.

All SAFE Center services are free and available to all children, youth, parents and families who live in Peñasco.



Peñasco Independent School District

Student and Family Engagement Center (SAFE Center)

Contact Us

575-587-2502

Ext. 2305

Coordinators:

Bonavita Quinto-MacCallum

Julia Gefroy

Michael Noll

Student And Family Engagement Center

Welcome Students and Families

Monday -

Thursday

8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Middle School Wing

Room A121



Community Closet

- clothes
- backpacks
- household kitchen goods
- toothbrushes
- toothpaste
- feminine hygiene
- soap
- behavioral health contacts
- COVID PPE



PISD believes communication and partnerships between the student, family and the community are critical to student success.

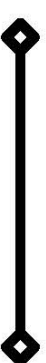
Welcoming ALL Families

- Communicating effectively
- Supporting Student Success
- Collaborating with parents and community
- Providing resources and information for the entire school community

Thank you to CAV Thrift Store, Taos and other private donors. for providing the donations making it possible to establish the SAFE Center.

School Resources

- dictionaries
- thesaurus
- free books for students
- career information
- college information
- parent Information (student handbook)
- bus & lunch schedules
- testing schedule)
- teacher resources (AVID library)



SAFE Resources

Community Closet
Hygiene & Wellness Closet
Reading Corner
Parent Information

Resource books for teachers
College & career readiness information