



PISD UPDATE

END OF 2021



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Inside: Photos
to make you
smile!

WHAT'S INSIDE

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Dec. 8 Community Meeting Notes

CALENDAR

Saturday, December 18, 4:00

MS B-Ball at Questa

December 17-18

Ben Lujan Tourney: Boys B-Ball

Monday, December 20, 4:00

MS B-Ball at Mora

Tuesday, December 21, 4:30

HS Girls B-Ball at Pojoaque

December 28-30

St. Mike's Tourney: Girls B-Ball

December 30, 5:00

HS Boys B-Ball at Laguna Acoma



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM PISD!

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY!

To end the school year, the Peñasco Fire Department delivered gifts to all of our elementary students, and Santa and his elves visited each class and the Picuris Education Center to deliver gifts. Thank you to our community members, Family Dollar, Hogs N Heifers, and Twirl Toy Store for helping donate more than 200 gifts!

Thank you so much to the students and staff who helped out Santa. Students: Elijah Garcia, Isaiah Garcia, Elena Kreykenbohm, Christina Martinez, Santino Martinez, Lyrik Montoya, Xavier Noll, Destiney Rodriguez, and Kaitlyn Sanchez. Staff: Shannon Cordova, Taylor Harrison, Michael Noll, and Racheal Pyne.

THANK YOU TO CIPRIANO VIGIL!

This fall, grades 4-6 had the great fortune to work with Chamisal native and music legend Cipriano Vigil and his wife Susanna. They helped 87 students and five staff make guitar-box guitars and taught the basics to play them. The immense respect that our students and staff had for Mr. Vigil was on display every time he walked in the room.

Pictured: 6th grader Natalia Duran with her guitar.



FOND FAREWELL TO THREE STAFF

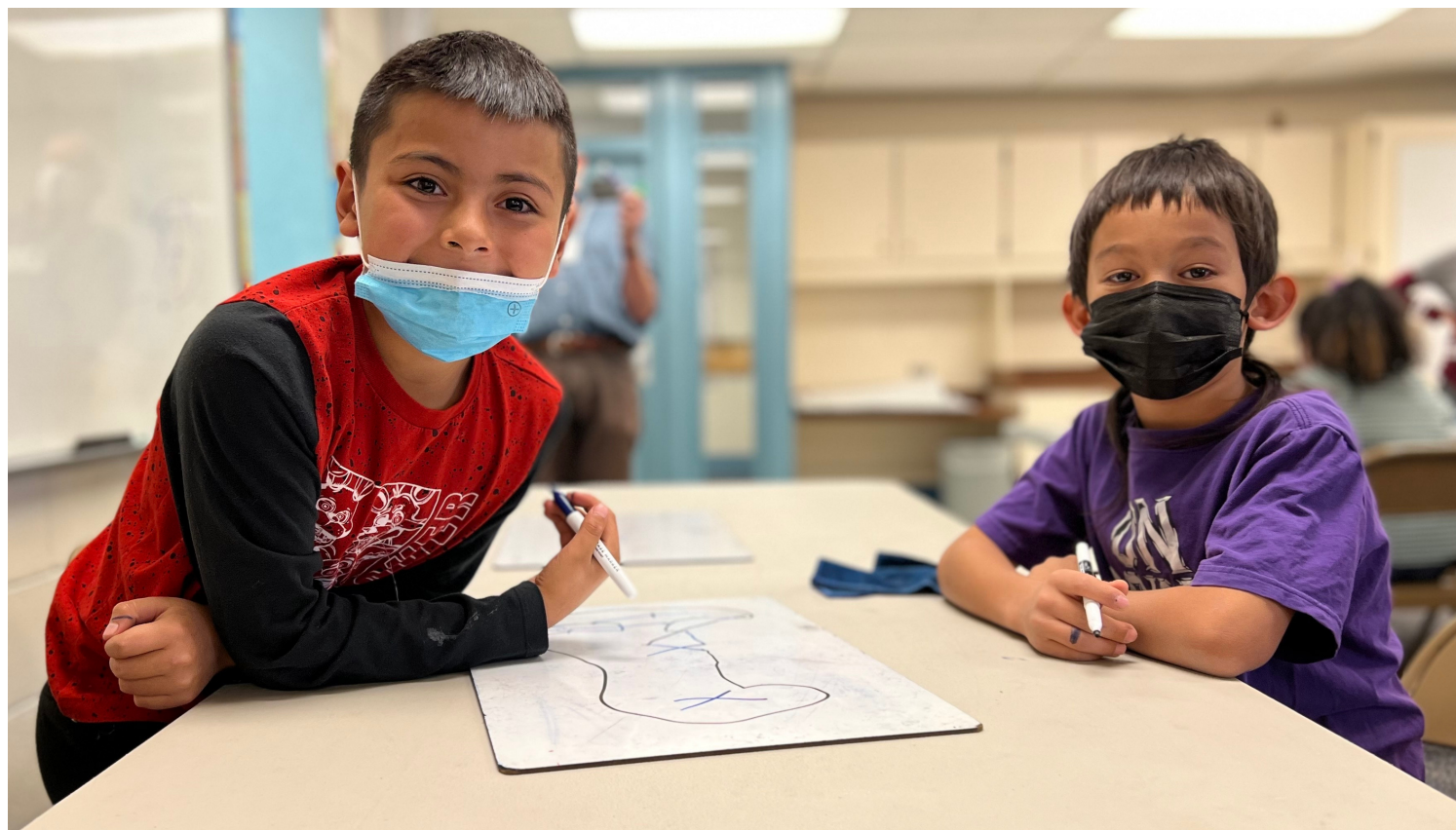
To end the school year, we bid farewell to three staff members: Teachers Kaori Lopez and Carlos Pacheco and Nurturing Center Coordinator Enselman Vasquez. Mr. Pacheco and Ms. Enselman have worked in our school and others and in the community, touching the lives of hundreds of students and several generations of families. Ms. Lopez brought creativity and ingenuity to her teaching at the middle and elementary schools these past few years. All three staff will be very much missed, and we wish them the best in their retirement and next pursuits!

FUN AT ELEMENTARY EXTENDED LEARNING

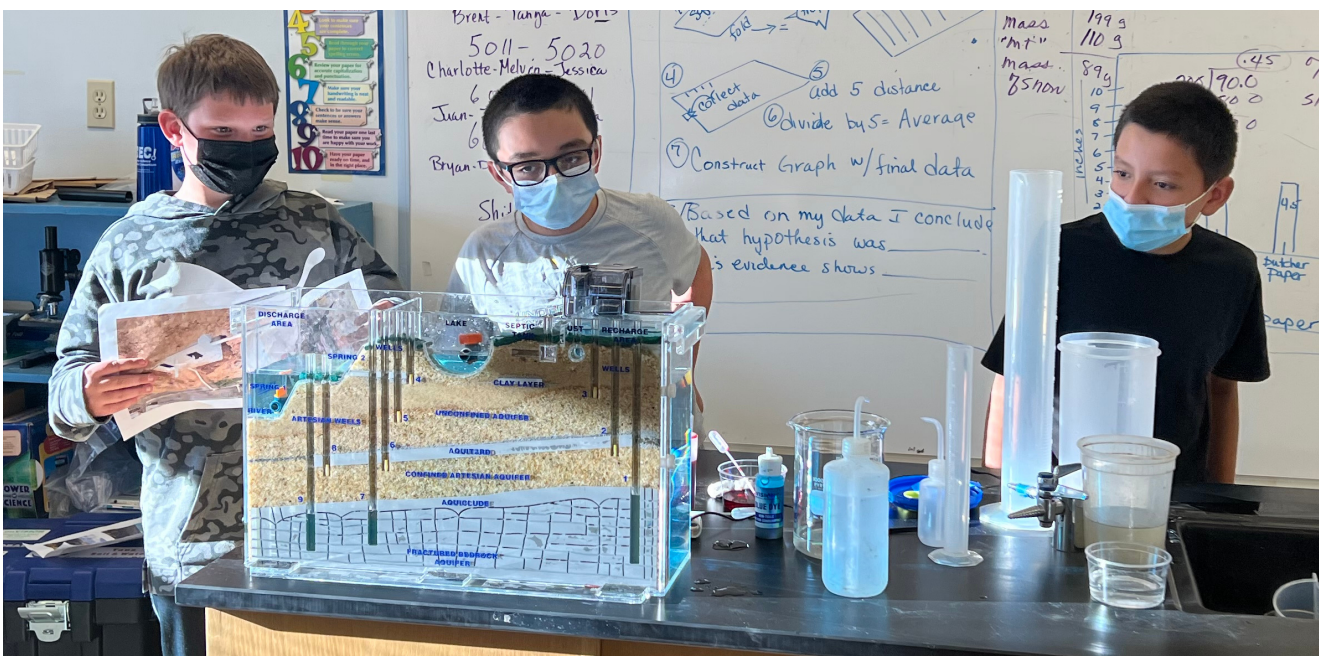
At the December 3 Extended Learning Day, the after-school program, Student Council, and the Natural Helpers took over at the elementary.



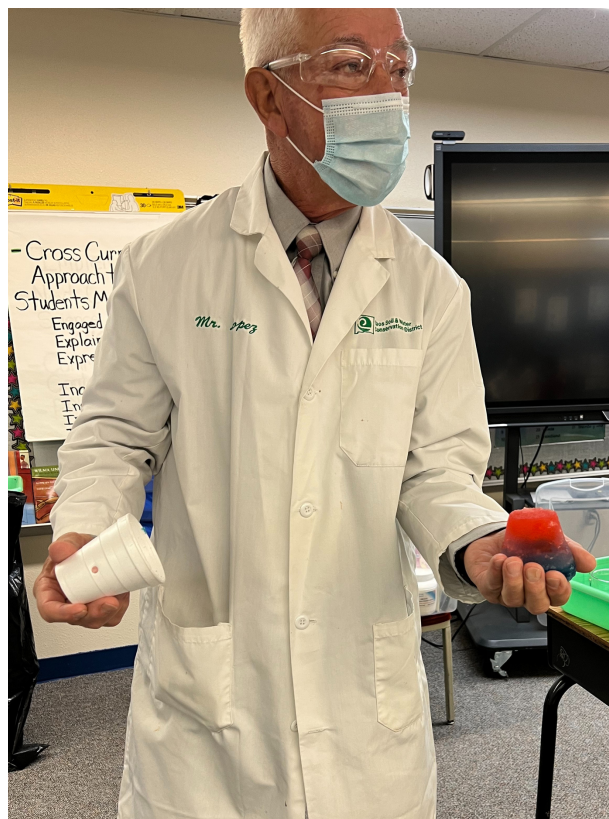
FUN AT ELEMENTARY EXTENDED LEARNING



A photograph of four children in a classroom, all wearing face masks. They are holding up colorful, hand-drawn mandala-like artwork. The boy on the left wears a red Spider-Man shirt and a black mask. The girl on the right wears a pink jacket and a blue mask. The background shows classroom shelves with various art supplies and posters.



FUN AT ELEMENTARY EXTENDED LEARNING

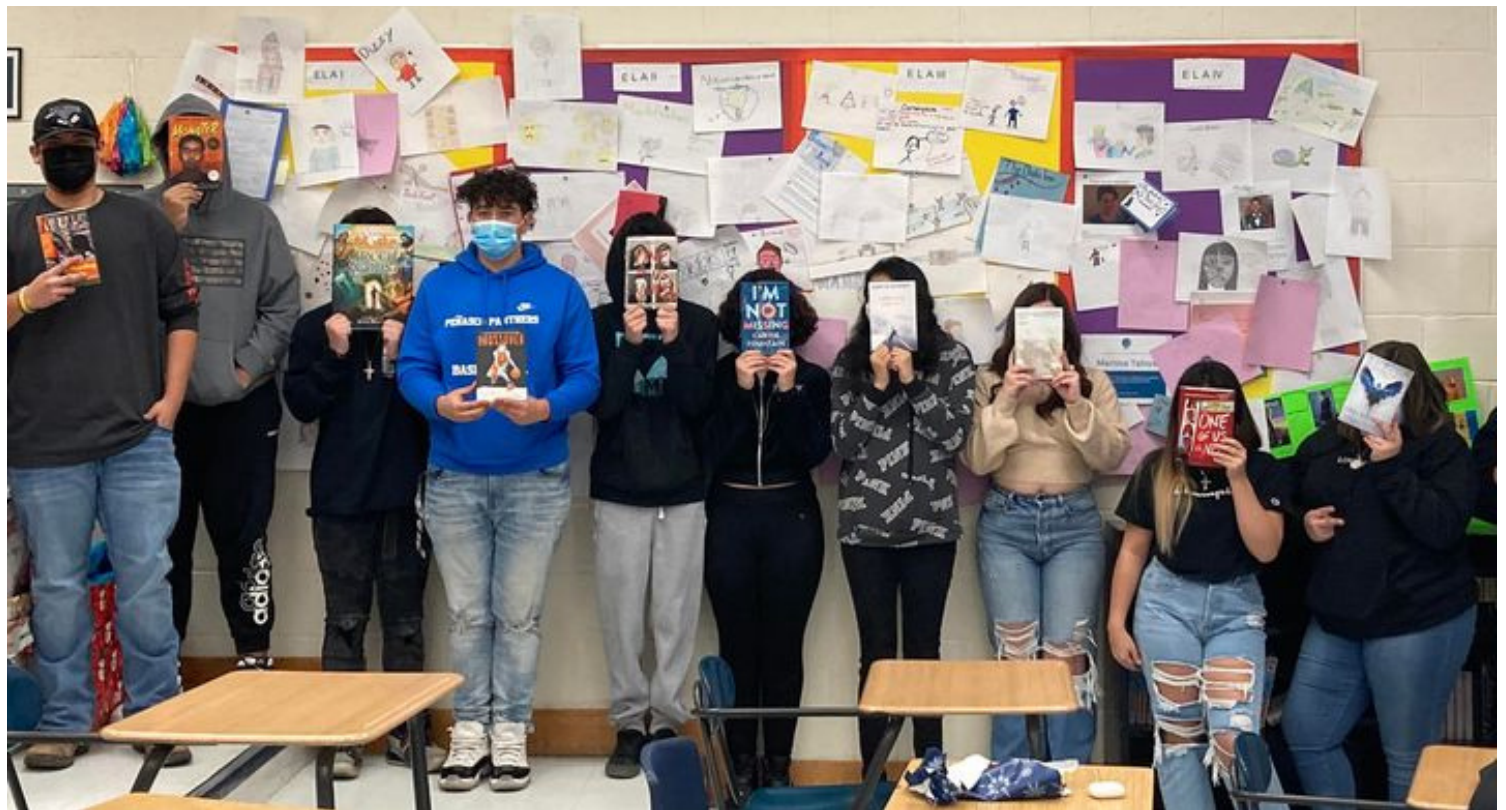


FUN AT ELEMENTARY EXTENDED LEARNING



BOOK GIFTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

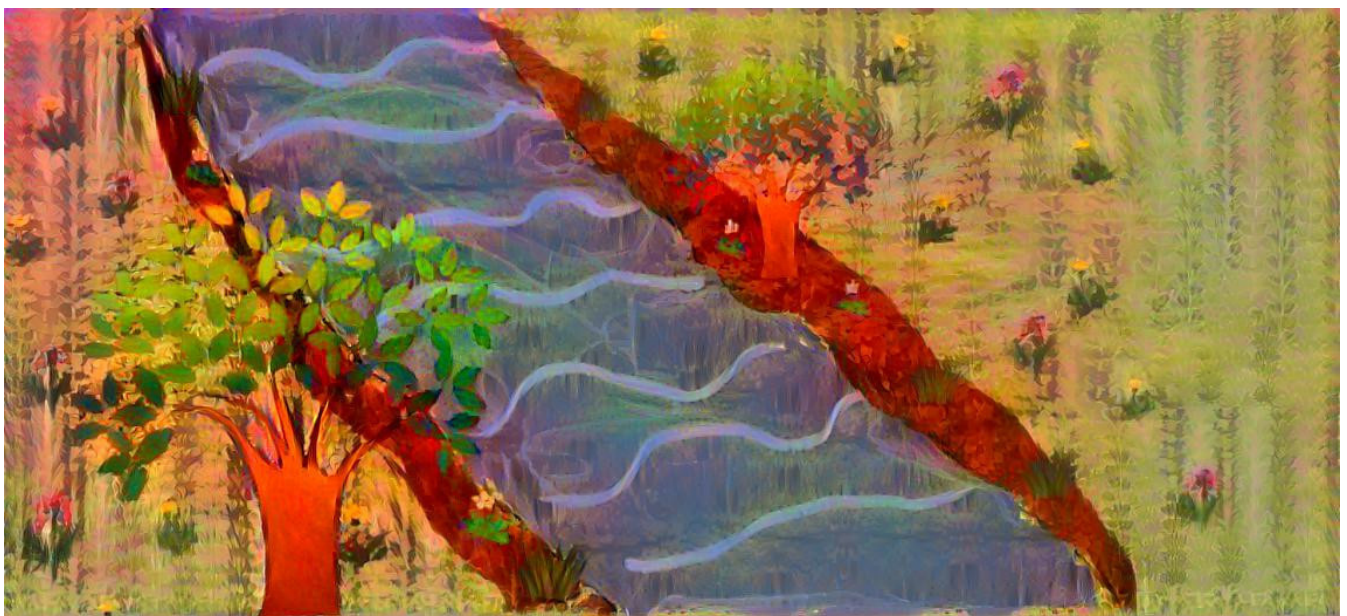
High school English teacher Mrs. Noll crowdfunded books for each of her students in five classes. The books were given to students based on their personal interests and other books they had enjoyed. Below: the senior English class shows off their books!



HS/MS STUDENTS WIN ACEQUIA ART AWARDS



Art created by (clockwise):
Jeremy Rodriguez and
Jeremiah Martinez, Katelynn
Sanchez, Feliciano Mitchell,
and Isabela Gonzales.





Home Alone Review: Nostalgia or Not?

Written by: Jerome Espinoza, Anthony Naranjo, Kaitlyn Romero, Lyrik Montoya, and Kalista Duran

Last week, Ms. Noll's 6th period journalism class watched a classic Christmas movie loved by many. As the first movie in the Home Alone trilogy, we wanted to see if the movie is a classic because of people's nostalgia or if it's a really good movie.

This movie is mainly about Kevin McCallister, an eight-year old intelligent little boy who gets left home by his family at Christmas. The day the entire family is leaving for France, it was chaotic because the night before, the power was knocked out so the family's alarms didn't go off. In their rush to leave for the airport, they forgot him in the attic. At first when he wakes up, he thinks he made his family disappear because that's what he wished for the night before. At the beginning, he was excited to be alone: he jumped on the bed, ran around the house, made a mess, ate an entire cheese pizza, and even went shopping. But then he starts missing his family and has to take down two men who are trying to rob his house.

Some things that definitely make this a good movie are the parts that are funny, especially when Kevin is outsmarting the robbers. At times, the movie seemed to drag on; for example, in the beginning it takes the family a long time to get it together and leave the house. However, the actor who played Kevin, Macaulay Culkin, is really talented. For only being ten years old when the movie was made, he is a really good actor.

One thing we noticed is that not all of the characters are very important. There are cousins and aunts and uncles who never return at the end of the movie and didn't have many lines; they were simply background characters.

Some people might say that this is a Christmas movie, but we discussed how the only thing that really makes it one is that it's set during Christmas. They don't really celebrate Christmas, and the family isn't together on Christmas Eve. On the other hand, some might say that the lesson Kevin learns—that family is important—is something we all think about at Christmas.

Overall this was a ***—three snowflake movies—that most people probably watch year after year for nostalgic reasons. We would recommend this to kids ages 8-12 and their families.

WATCH THE PISD WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ABOUT THE RETURN TO SCHOOL IN JANUARY.

Information about school schedules and remote learning will be posted to the school website and sent out via the alert system (phone, text, and email). If you do not receive alerts from the school, please contact your school secretary in order to update your information in our systems.

NOTES FROM THE DECEMBER 8 COMMUNITY MEETING

You can find the agenda and notes from the December 8 Community Meeting here: <https://5il.co/13c4f>

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