



PISD UPDATE

NOVEMBER 21, 2022



@penascoisd

575-587-2502
penascoisd.com

*In need of coats? Let the
Nurturing Center know!
575-587-2502 ext 2004 or
PenascoNC@gmail.com*

WHAT'S INSIDE

Happy Holidays from PISD

In Memorium: Mr. Thomas Sanchez

PISD Shout Outs

Elementary Holiday Meal

**Santa and his elves visit Peñasco
Elementary**

Updated Basketball Schedule

HS Basketball Tournament Brackets

**Free Tutoring for Pre-K to 8th grade
students**

Photo & Dichos Project

Bus Driver Openings

Employment Opportunities

LOOKING FORWARD TO JANUARY...

School resumes on Monday, January 9, and the afterschool programs will resume on Tuesday, January 17. Reminder: student can be dropped off at 7:30 am, not earlier. Elementary students are dismissed at 3:20. Please be patient and remain in your vehicles!

Masks will be required for all students and staff. Thank you!

CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 21, 4:00

HS Girls B-Ball vs Clayton

Thursday, December 22, 4:00

HS Boys B-Ball vs Santa Rosa

December 27-29

HS Girls B-ball @ St. Mike's Tourney

December 28-30

HS Boys B-ball @ Tri-City Tourney

Monday, January 2

HS B-ball @ Coronado, 4:00

MS B-ball @ Escalante, 4:00

Monday, January 2, 4:00

MS B-ball vs Mesa Vista

January 5-7

HS B-ball @ NRG Tournament

Monday, January 9

First day of school in 2023

HS Boys B-ball vs ATC, 4:00

MS B-ball @ Questa, 4:00

Tuesday, January 10, 2:00

HS Boys B-ball @ SFIS

Thursday, January 12, 4:30

HS Girls B-ball vs Los Alamos

January 12-14

MS B-ball @ NRG Tournament

January 16

NO SCHOOL: MLK Jr Day

January 17-20: Homecoming Week

Friday, Jan. 20: Pep Rally & Bonfire

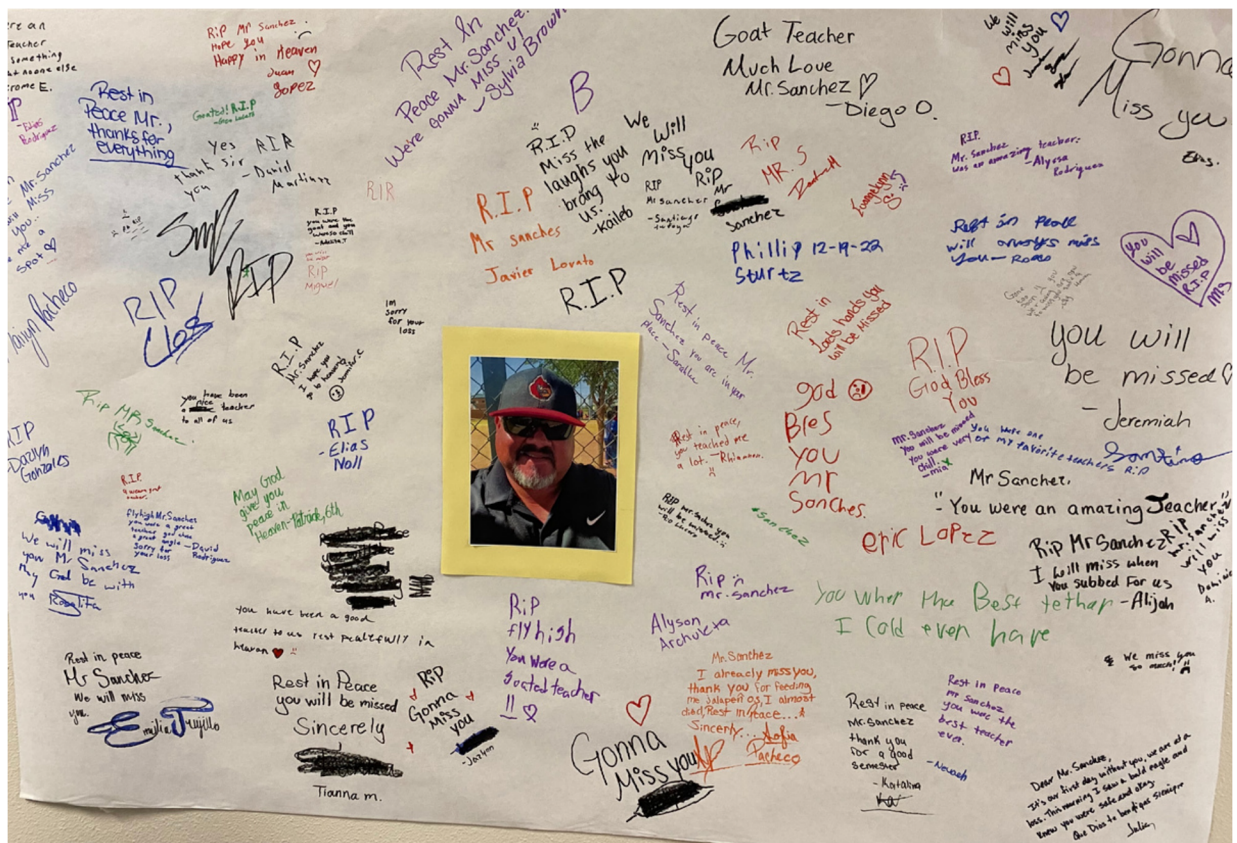
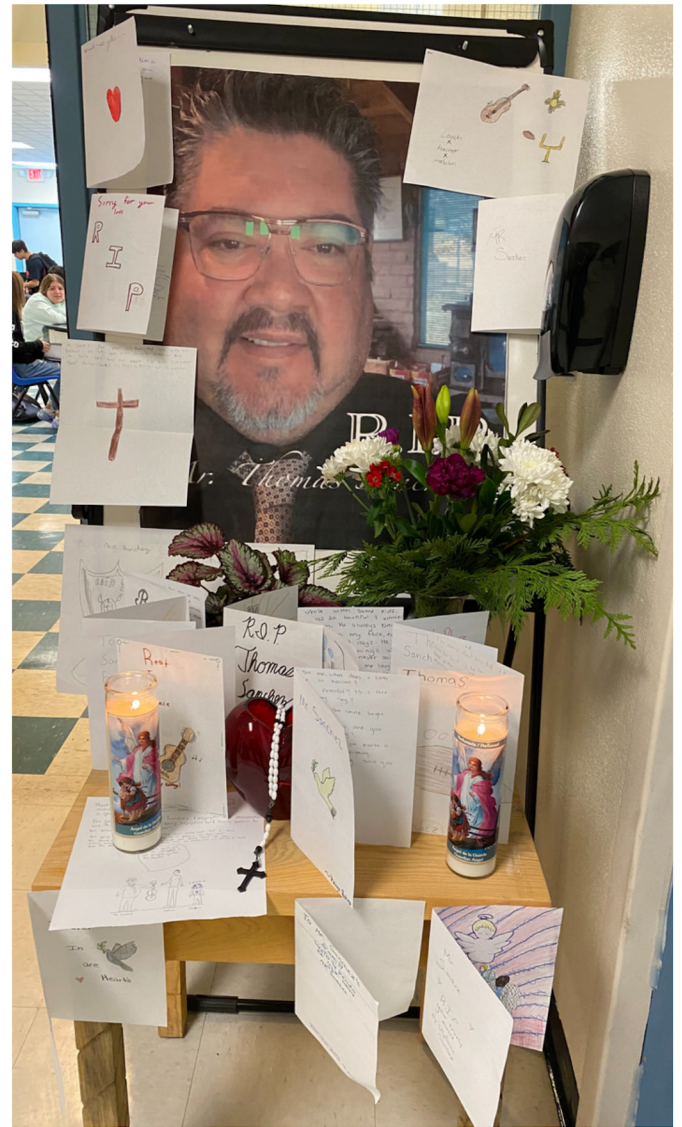
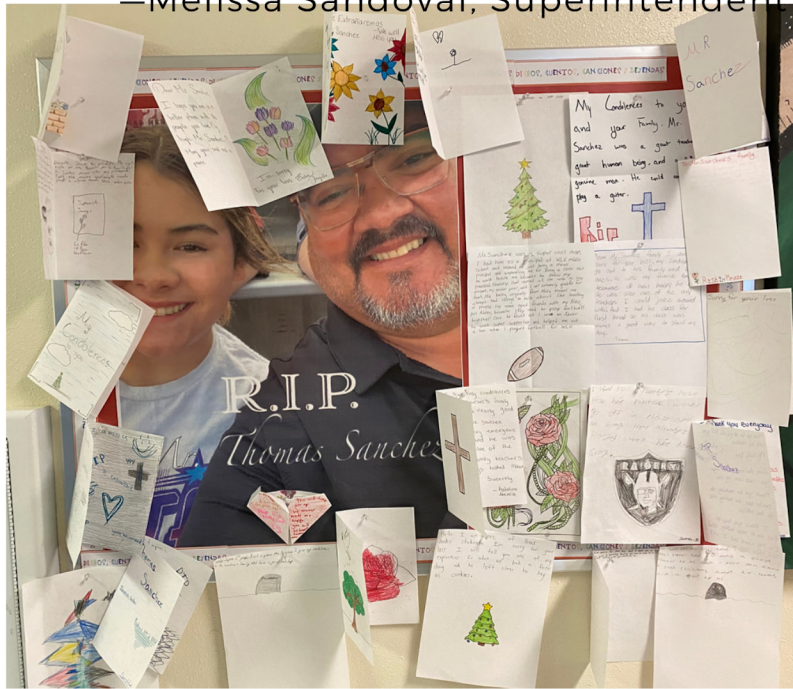
Saturday, Jan. 21: Dance

IN MEMORIAM: MR. THOMAS SANCHEZ



It is with great sadness I announce the passing our colleague, Mr. Thomas Sanchez, Spanish teacher at the middle/high school. Let us remember his kind spirit and honor his memory during his time with us, and please extend your prayers and sympathy to his friends, relatives and students during this time.

—Melissa Sandoval, Superintendent





WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

Thank you, everyone!

"Thank you to our staff, students and parents for their partnership in providing an environment in which our students and schools are safe and successful. All of our district staff wish you a safe and happy holiday break."

Melissa Sandoval, Superintendent

Elementary Staff and Students

"I would like to recognize students and staff for doing an amazing job first semester. I would like to THANK all of our parents for their unconditional support. We at Penasco Elementary want to wish all of our students and families a MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR."

Michelle Gonzales, Elementary Principal

Maintenance and Custodial Staff

"I would like to thank the team maintenance and custodial staff for all their hard work and the rest of the penasco staff happy holidays be safe."

Ray Pino, Maintenance Supervisor

Envirothon Team

"I want to give a shoutout to the Envirothon team for working so hard during first semester and being dedicated to show up to all practices."

Mercella Cordova, Science Teacher and Envirothon Coach

Norman Rodriguez, Security Guard

"I would like to commend Norman for a job well done through out the year and recommend him for employee of the year he has done an amazing job with our students and all the work he has dedicated to the district aside from his normal work duties."

Anthony Sandoval, Maintenance



From Ms. Nicaea Chavez, MS/HS Principal, and staff...

Middle and High School Teachers

"I want to thank you for the exemplary work you have done throughout the first semester. When I walk through the halls I see how happy students are and the comfort they find in our school. Each of YOU are the difference makers and have touched so many of our students' lives. Words can't adequately express my gratitude, so I leave you all with a simple wish....Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"

Educational Assistants

"I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all of the support and dedication that you provide to our students and staff. You always help when and where you are needed (without complaint) and have been our "go-to" individuals when we're in a bind and we can't thank you enough."

Middle and High School Secretary and Counselor

"Thank you so much for being the backbone of our school, for always willing to help students and going above and beyond what is required. I am so grateful for your support and all that you do for each and every one of us."

Maintenance and Custodial Crew

"Our students and staff truly appreciate all of the hard work you put into our facilities and realize the extraordinary amount of work you all do. We can't thank you enough for all that you have done and all that you continue to do."

Cafeteria Staff

"We are so grateful for the wonderful meals you provide for our district. All of you always have a smile and are eager to greet students and staff. We have been fortunate to have wonderful individuals working in your department because we had wonderful family meals provided by all of you. Thank you for all you do!"

Central Office Staff

"Thank you for all the work you do to help support our students. We appreciate all that you do!"



Bus Driver

"We know your job isn't easy and there are many times you are called to drive for activities or athletics. We appreciate all that you do for us!"

School Board Members

"Thank you for serving our students, staff, and parents. We appreciate your dedication to our school and the common goal to make PISD the best district for students and staff. We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!"

Parents, Caregivers, Family, and Community

"The students and staff would like to thank all of the parents, caregivers, families, and community for the unwavering support of our students. It truly takes a village to raise a child and our village is the BEST. We look forward to many more successful partnerships and collaborations."

Students

"I want to thank all of our middle and high school students for bringing the joy of learning into our school. I see each of you in the hallways, classrooms, cafeteria, and other places on campus and you bring such happiness to each of our lives. The students that you are now and the potential of what you become is the driving force behind what we do and why we do it."

Coordinators and Support Staff

"I want to thank our amazing coordinators and support staff. Your work has made so many dreams a reality for our students and staff. Most of the time you all take a quiet roll and help behind the scenes, but the truth is that none of our accomplishments happen without your support. You all are the best!"

Substitutes

"We want to thank all of our substitutes that help us throughout the district. All of you play an important role in helping our students and staff. From cleaning buildings to covering teachers' classrooms, you come at the drop of a dime and love and support our students just like we do. You are amazing!"



ELEMENTARY HOLIDAY MEAL

On Thursday, December 15, the cafeteria hosted a holiday meal for elementary families. More than 150 family members attended and ate lunch with their students. There was even an appearance by the Grinch!

Thank you to our cafeteria staff for the meal, to our elementary staff for pitching in to help things run smoothly, and to our families for bringing the holiday spirit to our school!



On behalf of our Elementary Staff and Students we would like to THANK the following people for all Donations, and for Helping Santa wrap and deliver presents for our Students.

Grandpa, the Senior Class, Coach Mandy's Basketball Team, Hogs and Heifers, Family Dollar, the SPOT, the Nurturing Center, Anonymous Donor, Mr. Noll, Taylor Harrison, and the Penasco Fire Department. To anyone we missed, please know it was GREATLY APPRECIATED!

SANTA VISITS PEÑASCO

ELEMENTARY! Santa Claus stopped by Peñasco Elementary to deliver gifts to all students, with help from elves borrowed from the high school girls' basketball team! Thank you to everyone who donated to make this fun event possible.





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Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Wed. 12/21	Clayton (Girls)	Home	4:00/5:30
Th. 12/22	Santa Rosa (Boys)	Home	4:00/5:30
12/27-12/29	St. Mikes Tournament (Girls)	Away	TBA
12/28-12/30	Dual-City Tournament (Boys)	Away	TBA
Mon. 1/2	Coronado	Away	5:00/6:30
1/5-1/7	NRG Tournament	Espanola	TBA
Mon. 1/9	ATC (Boys)	Home	5:00/6:30
Tues. 1/10	SFIS (Boys)	Away	5:30/7:00
Th. 1/12	Los Alamos (Girls)	Home	4:30/6:00
Sat. 1/14	Pecos	Away	2:00/3:30/5:00/6:30
Mon. 1/16	McCurdy (Girls)	Home	4:00/5:30
Th. 1/19	Mora	Home	4:00/5:30/7:00
Th. 1/21	McCurdy (Boys) Homecoming	Home	4:00/5:30
Mon. 1/23	Laguna Acoma (Boys)	Home	5:00/6:30
Th. 1/26	Escalante	Away	4:00/5:30/7:00
Sat. 1/28	Mesa Vista	Home	1:00/2:30/4:00
Th. 2/2	Questa	Away	3:30/5:00/6:00/7:30
Sat. 2/4	Mora	Away	1:00/2:30/4:00
Th. 2/9	McCurdy	Away	4:00/5:00/6:00/7:30
Sat. 2/11	Escalante	Home	1:00/2:30/4:00
Wed. 2/15	Questa	Home	4:00/5:30/7:00
Th. 2/16	Mesa Vista	Away	3:00/4:30/6:00/7:30
Feb 20-25	District Tournament	TBA	TBA
Mar. 4-12	State Tournament	TBA	TBA

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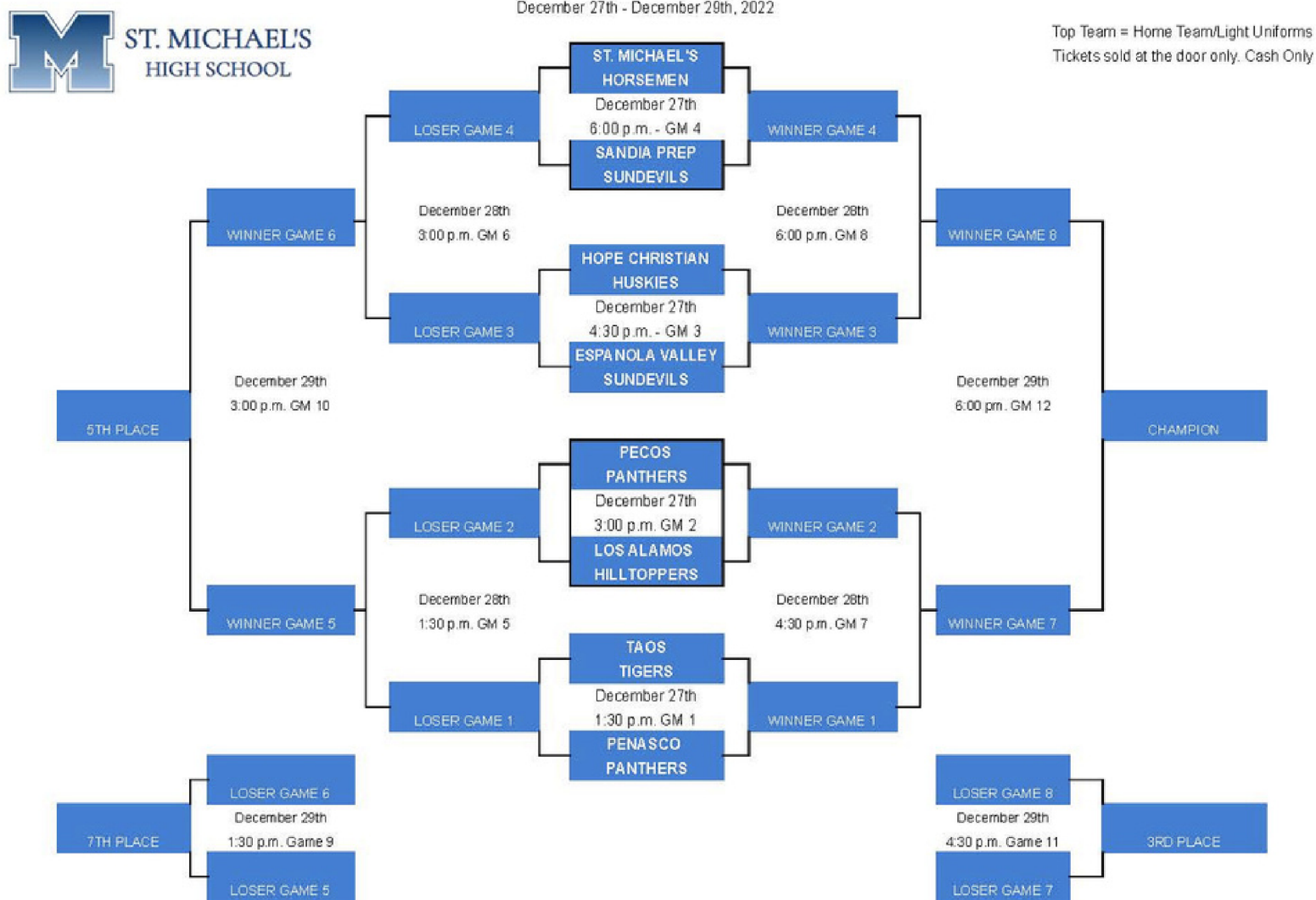




HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

The high school boys and girls basketball teams will both be playing in holiday tournaments. Check out the brackets below.

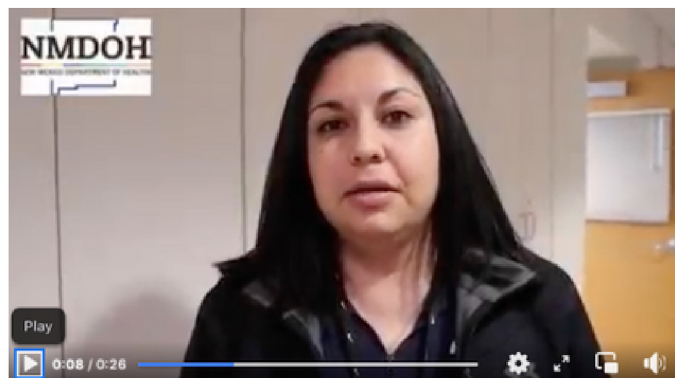
Bracket for the girls' tournament at St. Michael's High School



COACH MANDY FEATURED IN NMAA VIDEO ABOUT MENTAL WELLNESS

Girls basketball coach (and PISD Athletic Coordinator) Mandy Montoya was featured in a NMAA and NMDOH video about mental wellness. Watch the short video here:

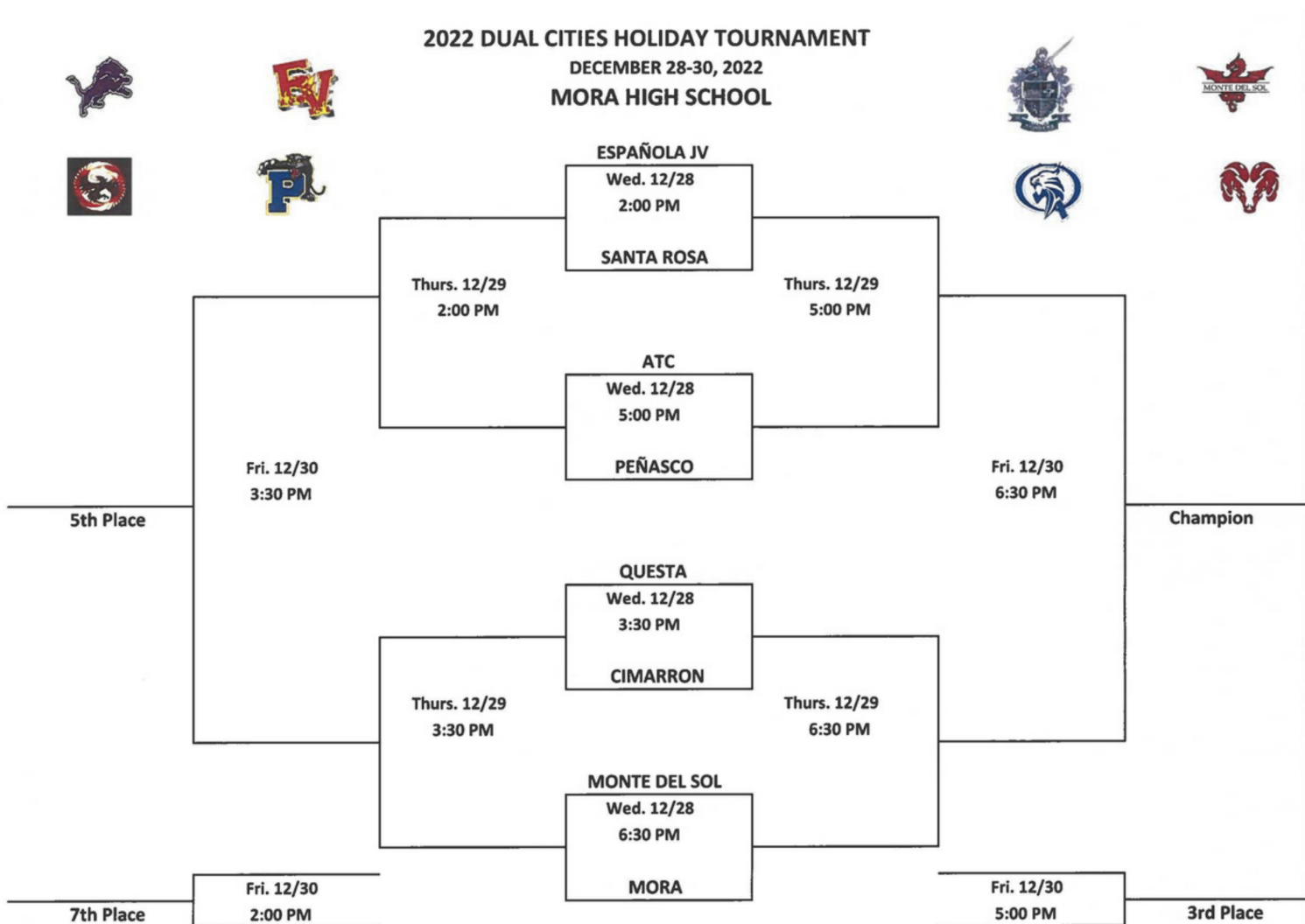
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=533614245306892>





HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

Bracket for the boys tournament at Mora High School



PEÑASCO BASKETBALL PLAYERS ATTEND NMAA REGIONAL MEETING

Rochelle Lopez and Kalieb Atencio represented Peñasco High School at the Northwest Region Student Leadership meeting for the NMAA.





FREE TUTORING FOR PREK-8 STUDENTS IN TITLE I SCHOOLS

PED announces its new tutoring service in partnership with Paper that focuses on mathematics, language arts and science. The program offers students in grades preK-8 from New Mexico Title I Schools access to free academic support from tutors on a secure platform. Participating students will receive 20 hours of tutoring at no cost to families.

Features include:

- Virtual tutoring.
- Can be scheduled before, after or during school.
- All learning abilities.

Parents can sign students up here.

Questions? Email OutofSchool.Tutoring@ped.nm.gov

ANNOUNCING

--- NMPED in partnership with Paper™ ---

NEW MEXICO
Public Education Department

PAPER

We are incredibly excited to announce that **New Mexico Public Education Department** has partnered with Paper to provide **FREE** tutoring support for students in grades PreK-8!

Visit bit.ly/PaperNM for free academic support!

Peñasco/Picuris Community Memory Project

Dear parents and guardians,

PISD has received a grant from the Library of Congress to engage our students and families in the rich history, culture, and traditions of our community. One way we will do this is by showing students photographs taken in our community in the 1940s by two of the most famous photographers in American history. These photos are collected at the Library of Congress. Many of the people in those photos have relatives still living in the community, their homes are still lived in, and the activities they're doing are still things we do today (sometimes with different technology).

Starting in January, elementary after-school students will be bringing home a tripod and case for a phone in order to take photos inspired by the 1940s photos.

The project:

1. Talk with your students about these photos.
2. Help your student take photos of your house or family that are inspired by the old photos.
 - a. Text or email those photos to Mr. Noll: 575-779-1466, mnoll@penascoisd.com.
3. Or, find old photos that you already have. We can scan them so you can have a digital copy copy. We will send the originals back right away.
4. Help your student write a short description of the photos (who, where, what) and how they might be inspired by the old photos. (A couple of sentences will do!)
5. The students will create displays that (with your permission) will be included in a school event for families and can be used to teach our community history at school in the future.

Over the break, talk to your kids about your family history. If you have old photos, take a look at them! Share your history and stories with your kids!



This project is voluntary. A permission slip will be sent home and will determine how your photos are used (if at all).

You can look up old community photographs!

1. Go to <https://www.loc.gov>.
2. At the top of the page, choose "Photos, Prints, Drawings" from the menu.
3. Type in your village.
4. Click the magnifying glass icon.

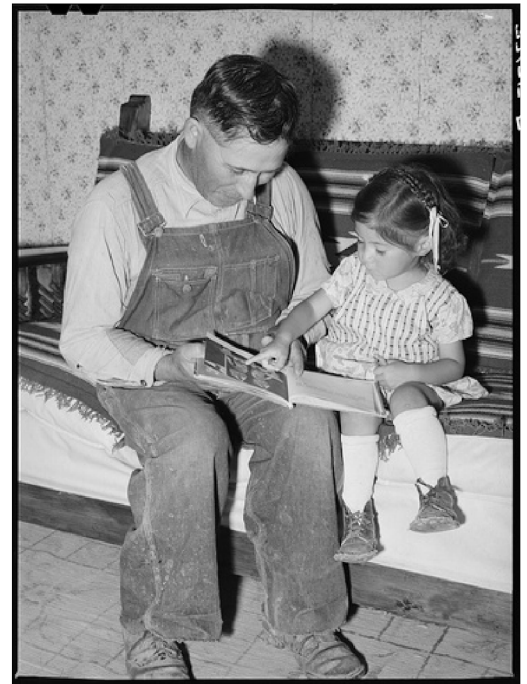


Numbers of photos:

- Peñasco (includes Rio Lucio): 584
- Chamisal: 236
- Trampas (don't include "Las"): 411
- Ojo Sarco: 66
- Vadito: 21
- Rodarte: 17
- Llano de San Juan: 10
- Llano Largo: 5
- Santa Barbara: 5

There are no photographs of Picuris Pueblo people or places in the Library of Congress, but you can find some at the Palace of the Governor's site:

<https://www.nmhistorymuseum.org/collections/photo-archives/digital-collections.html>



Los Dichos de Peñasco Project

The languages of Northern New Mexico—both the Spanish dialect and Tiwa—are unique to our region. In Peñasco and the surrounding villages, we have words and phrases that are known only here. In this project, students will be exploring these palabras, dichos, and cuentos. The goal is for students to learn Spanish and Tiwa *and* about the culture and history of their homes!

The Project

- Talk with your students about the example words and phrases below. They may have been used differently in your house. What do they mean to you?
- Tell stories about your grandparents, aunts and uncles, and family and the words and sayings they used.
- Help your student write down one (or more) words and phrases, with translations.
- We will use these words and phrases to create a book of dichos from Peñasco.

Examples: Dichos

- A volar sin alas: "To fly without wings." Used by parents to kids: get out of here, out of my hair.
- De tal palo tal astilla: "From such a stick, such a splinter." Used as: like father, like son.
- Tanto hizo el diablo consu hijo que lo hizo tuerto: "The devil did so much with his son that he made him cross-eyed." Used as: took things too far.

Examples: Palabras

- Jara: red willows
- Hito: contraction of hijito

Brainstorming Ideas

- Words that you don't know the English translation for—or that has no translation.
- Phrases used in these types of situations:
 - When someone is mad
 - When someone is hungry
 - When someone is sad or in pain
 - When it's raining or snowing hard
 - When it's hot and dry
 - When it's very cold
 - When someone doesn't know what they're doing
 - When something is spooky
 - When there is good or bad luck
 - When someone is lazy or a hard worker
 - When someone is a fool
 - When you've eaten too much
 - When someone is new to something
 - When someone has a bad temper
 - When someone runs their mouth too much

Once you start talking about these situations and phrases, you may be reminded of many more that aren't listed here. That's great! Help us preserve this part of our history!

Over the break, talk to your kids about sayings, jokes, and stories you heard when you were a kid. Talk with the grandparents and elders in your family. Share your culture and language with your kids!

JOIN PISD AS A BUS SUPER HERO!



We are Seeking Motivated & Friendly drivers to Transport our students

- To and from their residence
- Activities, Athletic Games, Field Trips

We Offer

- Competitive Wages
- Benefits
- Retirement

The Peñasco Independent School District will assist in obtaining your CDL License/Bus Endorsement. Penasco Independent School District will pay for you to acquire the following:

- Class B (General Knowledge, Passenger, Air Brakes, and School Bus Endorsement)
- First Aid/CPR Certification
- 36 Hour Pre Service Training
- Behind the Wheel Training

To assist with your Endorsement Peñasco Independent Schools requires a 3-year commitment of Transportation services either with Activity Driving or to/From Routes

Contact Information:

Web: www.penascoisd.com

Phone: 575-587-2502

Amy Garcia, ext. 1005
agarcia@penascoisd.com
(Human Resource Questions)

Veronica Gonzales, ext. 1004
vgonzales@penascoisd.com
(Training Questions)



**BEING A
SCHOOL BUS DRIVER
IS NOT JUST A JOB...**



IT'S AN ADVENTURE!



Certified Positions

Find the certified position application here:

<https://www.penascoisd.com/page/certified-employment-application>

- Secondary Math Teacher

Non-Certified Positions

Find the non-certified position application here:

<https://www.penascoisd.com/page/non-certified-application>

- Bus Driver/Activity Bus Driver/Substitute Bus Driver
- Educator Fellowship Educational Assistants (2 Vacancies)
- SFA Reading Tutors
- After-School Counselor (MS/HS)
- STEM/Robotics Afterschool Activity Leader
- PT .25 FTE Welding/CTE Teacher
- Drill Team Coach
- Substitute Cooks
- Substitute Teachers
- Substitute Custodians

For questions, email Amy Garcia at agarcia@penascoisd.com.