



PISD UPDATE

MARCH 2, 2023



@penascoisd

575-587-2502

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

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CALENDAR

Friday, March 3, 6:00

Girls B-Ball at Dulce

First Round: State Tournament

Monday, March 6, 5:30

Strategic Planning Meeting

Tuesday, March 7, 5:30

Second Round: State Tournament

Rio Rancho Events Center

For full schedule, see Page 4

March 13-16 SPRING BREAK

Wednesday, March 22

MS/HS PAC Meeting w/ barbecue

Thursday, March 23

4:00-8:00: Peñasco Community Baile

5:30-7:00: Elementary Literacy & Math
Night **(COME TO BOTH EVENTS!)**

Friday, March 24

Extended Learning Day

Friday, March 31

Parent Teacher Conferences

QUICK UPDATES

Strategic Planning Meeting Rescheduled for Monday, March 6, 5:30 pm in the high school library.

Spring Break: March 13-16.

A mail-in election will be held to determine the following question (more info on next page): Ballots will be mailed to voters by the County Clerk before April 15 and must be received in the mail by May 9. The latest information about the bond election can always be found at the top of the Peñasco ISD website.



Peñasco Independent School District

VOTE

FACTS

Intent to Replace District Facilities!



On May 9, 2023 Peñasco voters will decide on an \$2,975,000 bond that will help address critical infrastructure needs such as inadequate heating/ventilation and lack of fire suppression systems due to antiquated buildings and equipment. With new facilities built to meet safety and health standards, we can also upgrade our learning environment to create new and better programs to serve our students and community.

Mail in ballot

May 9TH

The table below shows an approximation of the \$4.40 per \$1000. The taxable property value is 1/3 of the property value.

Who can vote?
All registered voters within the PISD district boundaries of Taos and Rio Arriba Counties!

Property Value	Taxable Property Value	Yearly Tax Increase
\$60,000	\$20,000	\$92.80
\$90,000	\$30,000	\$139.20
\$120,000	\$40,000	\$185.60
\$150,000	\$50,000	\$232.00

www.penascoisd.com

Building a Better Future....



PISD STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

PISD is in the final phases of completing a strategic plan that will guide the exciting transformational work of the district for the next 3-5 years. The Committee is comprised of Peñasco administrators, teachers, caregivers, community members, and students. With the help of a professional facilitator, the committee is working through a collaborative process, which includes looking at survey data from the larger community, focus group data from students, and strategic conversations within the group to begin to identify the top goals, objectives, and action items that will move the district forward.

The process connects to the work that this learning community did a year and a half ago when it created a compelling purpose:

- A Peñasco education is rooted in school and community pride. We celebrate our community's diverse tradition(s), culture(s), and values. We bring unity to the school and community as we cultivate a positive and engaging learning environment, empowering students to explore and connect to the larger world.

The strategic plan will identify the concrete steps we need in order to help Peñasco move closer to becoming the district we've dreamed it could be.

Want to know more and help with this process? Join us Monday, March 6, at 5:30 pm in the high school library.

MS/HS PHOTO UPDATE

Thanksgiving photos for the Middle and High School will go out this week. Thank you to Mr. Michael Casados and the Photography Club for taking, printing and distributing the photos! Homecoming photos will be distributed next week.





Peñasco Independent School District

P.O. Box 520
Peñasco, New Mexico 87553

PHONE: 575-587-2502

FAX: 575-587-2513

Superintendent

Melissa Sandoval

Peñasco Board of Education

Dorthy Lopez/Sherman, Board President
Carlos Abeyta, Board Vice-President
Amanda Bissell, Board Secretary
Gwendolyn Simbolo, Board Member
Patricia Martinez, Board Member

Home of the Panthers

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Peñasco Independent School District is a nut-free school. The policy applies year-round in all areas of the campus. Please do not send students to school with snacks or lunches that contain peanuts, tree nuts (almond, brazil, cashew, chestnut, hazelnut, macadamia, pecan, pine, pistachio, and walnut), or sesame seeds. Foods containing peanuts, tree nuts, or sesame seeds as ingredients, (e.g., baked goods, hummus, tahini, crackers, sauces, and dressings) are also forbidden. If food is to be shared (e.g., birthdays, other celebrations), please do not send students to school with items processed in facilities that process peanuts, tree nuts or sesame seeds. Highly allergic individuals can experience anaphylaxis if they touch, inhale or ingest even the slightest trace or residue of the allergen. Our school community needs to ensure the safety of all its students and provide those children with this severe allergy a safe learning environment. We appreciate your cooperation. Please feel free to contact me with questions.

Yvette Pacheco RN

District Nurse

ypacheco@penascoisd.com

575-587-2502 ext. 2030



Peñasco Community Baile

A celebration of culture, music, and dance

Learn to dance la varsoviana, la vaquera, la cuna, valse de la escoba, el taleán, la camila, la marcha, las cuadrillas, valse de los paños, and more.

Hosted by Peñasco ISD

La Jicarita Gymnasium

Thursday, March 23

4:00-5:30: Dance Lessons

6:30-8:00: Public Dance

**With special
musical guest
Cipriano Vigil!**

Everyone is invited!

This event is the same day as the elementary literacy night. Learn to dance, go to the literacy night during the break, and then come back over to the dance!

Lone Piñon and dance instructor Lucy Salazar work together to teach and support the structure of music and dance that has been passed down in Northern New Mexico from generation to generation for many centuries.



Plus...

- **Performances by the PISD Mariachi group**
- **Food from the Peñasco High Culinary Arts Program**
- **Snow Cones from the Band/Mariachi Program**
- **STEM Activities from Twirl**
- **Fun activities for kids**

Sponsored by the NM Humanities Council



TO CELEBRATE DR. SEUSS AND READING...

EACH PEÑASCO MS/HS
STUDENT WILL
RECEIVE A FREE
BOOK!

DATE OF EVENT :
Thursday, March 2



The MORE
that you read,
the MORE things
you will know.
The MORE that you
learn,
the MORE places you'll go.



Sponsored by MS/HS Community Schools.
Please see Maryam Bordbari with any questions.



Save the Date

**Peñasco Independent Schools
hosts
*Los Alamos National
Laboratory
Challenge Tomorrow Trailers
for
STEM Day
May 10, 2023
8:30 am - 4:00 pm***

Traveling trailers that highlight the Lab's research and work environments.

Students participate in activities led by Laboratory staff on: outer space, materials science, bioscience, environmental protection and more.

Students interact with real tools and equipment, and explore jobs that exist right here in New Mexico.

We invite parents and families to join us for this hands-on STEM experience.



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



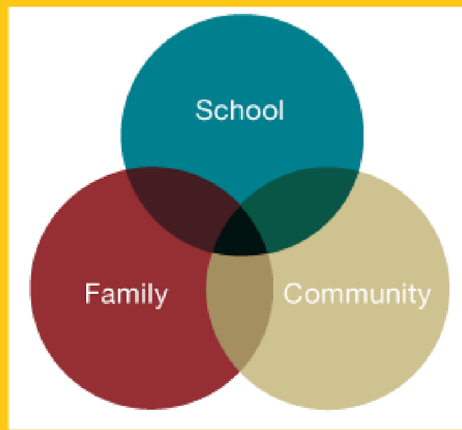
Peñasco Independent Schools hosts a

Parent/Family Institute

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2023

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

A LIGHT BREAKFAST AND LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED



Parents, families and students can learn about

**Student and Family Wellness
Healthy nutrition and sleep habits**

Prevention of Violence and Drug Abuse

**Strategies for helping students succeed
with homework and projects**

**Visit the College and Career Fair to learn about pathways
in various careers, training programs and job
opportunities**



PEÑASCO GIRLS HEADED TO STATE

The girls basketball team will play in the state tournament as a #11 seed. Their first game is Friday, March 3, 6 pm, in Dulce. The game will not be broadcast on the NFHS network.

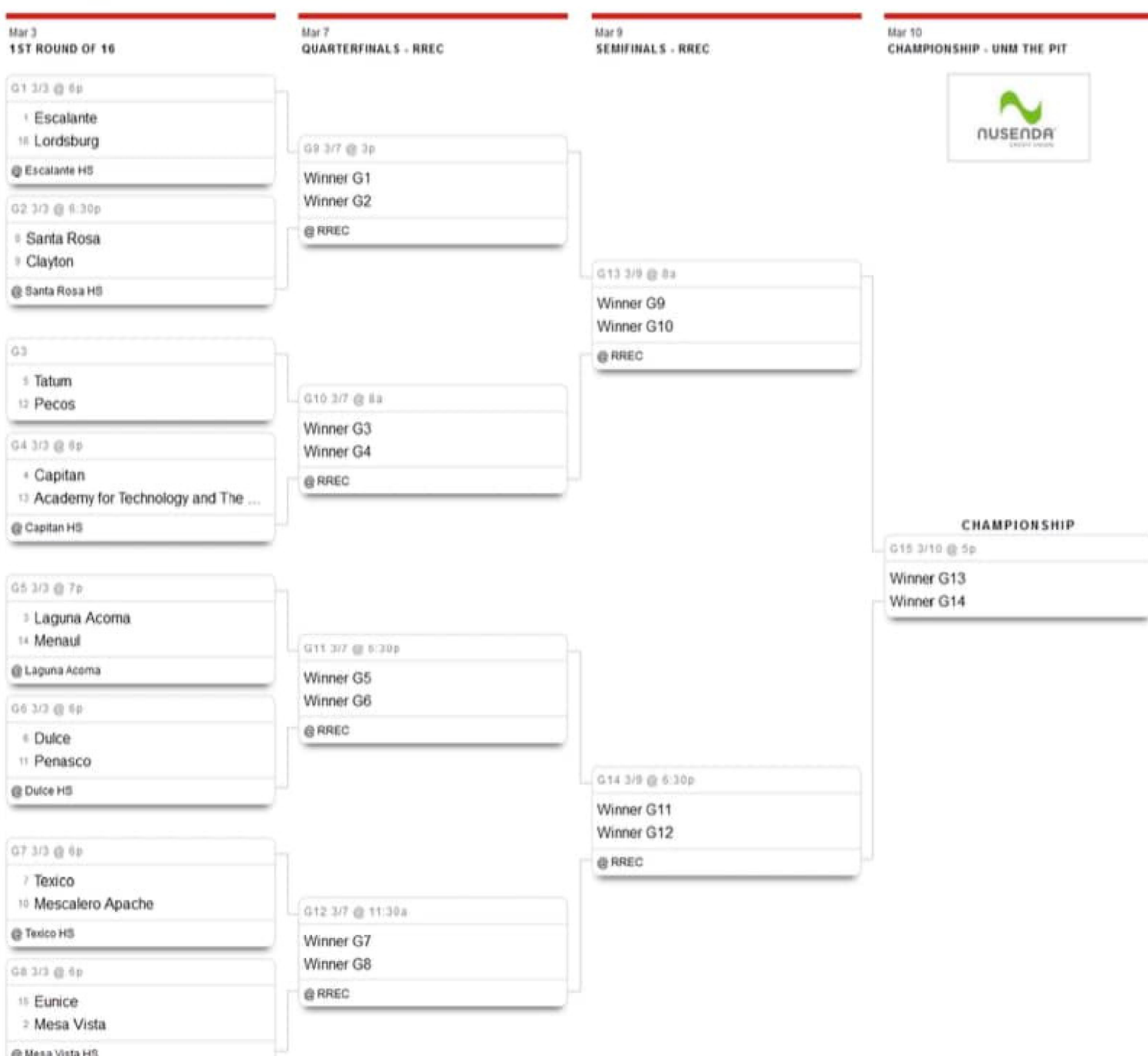
The winner will play Tuesday, March 7, 6:30 pm, at the Rio Rancho Events Center versus the winner of Laguna Acoma and Menaul. The semifinals will be on Thursday, March 9, and the championship game at the Pit will be on Friday, March 10.

2023 Nusenda Credit Union Girls Basketball State Championships - Class 2A

Location Various Cities, NM

Tournament Notes GIRLS

Bracket Notes Watch Qtr's, Semis and Finals Live on NFHS Network



PEÑASCO GIRLS NAMED TO ALL-DISTRICT TEAM

Congratulations to Analise MacAuley (#22) and Rochelle Lopez (#11) for making the All-District team, and to Charnelle Gonzales (#30) and Sierra Atencio (#1) for being named Honorable Mention.



PEÑASCO BOYS NAMED TO ALL-DISTRICT TEAM

Congratulations to Jeremiah Martinez (#23) for making All-District, and to Elias Archibeque (#1) and Kalieb Atencio (#00) for being named Honorable Mention.



3D printing instructor, Alex Simeti, has been working with Peñasco Elementary students since August, teaching them to create their own 3D designs and then slicing the designs and using 3D machines to print them. He gave the program a shout out in a recent *Taos News* feature! Thank you to Alex for working with our students!



5TH GRADE STUDENTS VISIT THE ROUNDHOUSE

Students from Mrs. Ortega's 5th grade class traveled to Santa Fe to see the legislature in action and talk about the importance of teaching forestry in our schools!



Spotlight on Ms. Noll

By Alicia Abeyta and Alexuis Romero

Stephanie Noll has been working at PSD since 2020 until now. She teaches high school ELA, journalism, and College English. During spring break of 2020 she began to set up her classroom when a district-wide notice got sent out that 2 weeks would be added onto spring break. She did not have the opportunity to teach in person until a year later. "I only knew students by the top of their head or their ceilings," Noll says about her experience teaching online.

Before teaching at Penasco, Stephanie Noll worked as a university lecturer at Texas State University for 12 years before coming here. She first came to New Mexico 25 years ago after going on a trip. She fell in love with the area and later on in life moved to Chamisal. "We decided to move here for a simpler life, a small community, we wanted to be close to nature and away from the city," Noll shared. She prefers to work with high school students because with college students they just walk in and get the grade. They just do their own thing. You don't get the chance to watch them grow and be a part of that. That is the main reason she came here to be a high school teacher again.

Ms. Noll always tries to make every year different and not do the same things every year for classes. The journalism class is always doing something. There is never a time where the students aren't doing anything for their articles. "For the first year of doing journalism the students have created something here that never existed before, and it just keeps getting better and better." Noll comments about the journalism class. The seniors at Penasco High School are creating children's books. They will read them to the elementary school as their last contribution to Penasco. Their books will be printed and kept in the elementary library. Even after teaching for 25 years, she is still learning new things and continues to try and be a better teacher.



Student Council Report

By Sylvia Brown

This year's student council is led by Ms. Maryam Bordbari. The student council members are President (Sylvia Brown), Vice President (Lyrik Montoya).

Student council cont.

Treasurer (Mireya Arellano), Secretary (Destiney Rodriguez), along with other people included. Some of the things the student council has worked on this year are homecoming and some fundraisers. The fundraisers were for homecoming and we've decided to fundraise for hoodies for the whole school. We are going to follow up with a meeting soon to see what else we can do to make the amount of money that we will need.

As we interviewed President (Sylvia Brown), she said, "I like being a member, but we can use some work in putting events together. It is a lot of fun though considering it's been a while that I've been in student council." We also interviewed the Vice President (Lyrik Montoya); he said: "student council is going good but there's those moments where it's stressful." Treasurer Mireya Arellano agreed but also said it's fun.

Student council members have done a great job getting through the stress and working on something that is successful.

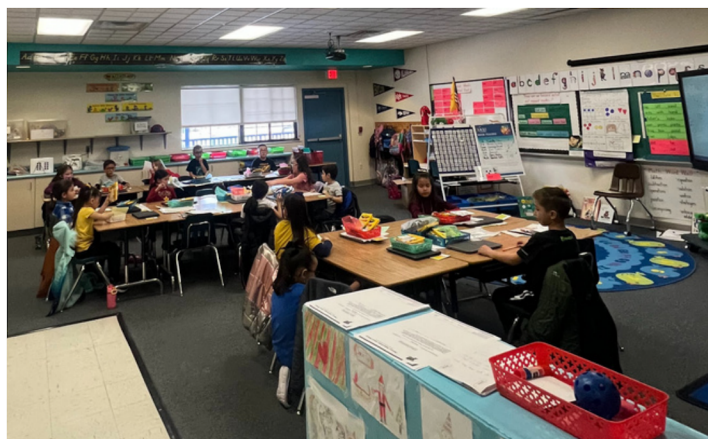
Spotlight on Mrs. Vigil

By Rochelle Lopez

This week's teacher spotlight is Ms. Sandra Vigil, Peñasco Elementary's first grade teacher. We want to appreciate Ms. Vigil's hard work and dedication to our school. Vigil has been working here the longest out of all staff, she worked here for 40 years in elementary education. Vigil did retire but decided to come back and teach again here at PISD, and this year is her tenth year back since her retirement. She's taught second grade for seventeen years, kindergarten for nine-teen years, and this will be her second year teaching first grade.

"This is my hometown and I will forever be loyal to this school," Vigil said. She said the biggest change in the school throughout the years she's been here is the people. The people that work here change and you'd have to adapt to the new people. Also, the expectations for students have changed. The students would do a lot of play time rather than now where students are expected to test, learn to read, etc. Vigil said, "it's almost like you're teaching a grade ahead because the expectations are more advanced."

"I love my students and I learn from them everyday!" Vigil enjoys her job and students, and she tries to make her class as fun as possible. Right now her students are currently working on a graphing activity with valentines candy to set the mood for valentines. "I will continue until I can't anymore," Vigil says. She doesn't know when she'll leave again but she wants to have more time to herself and for her family.



CON FUERZA Y QUERENCIA

2023 Acequia Culture Youth Leadership Institute



**CALLING YOUTH AGES 14-19
FROM NEW MEXICO ACEQUIA COMMUNITIES!**

JOIN THE 2023 ACEQUIA YOUTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

- Learn more about NM acequias and cultural traditions!
- Deepen your connection, and be a protector of the land and water!
- Grow your leaderships skills + build your resume + explore your passions and future career paths!
- Connect with other young people from across the state!
- Help build a healthy and just future for your community!

PAID Learning & Leadership Opportunity!

**Program Dates:
May-November 2023**

**8-10 ONLINE
Learning Sessions
(1-2 per month)**

**+ 2-4 HANDS-ON
Workshops/Field Trips**

APPLICATIONS DUE - MARCH 24, 2023

LEARN MORE & APPLY: www.lasacequias.org/youth-leadership

Questions? Contact: emily@lasacequias.org or (505) 995-



Summer 2023 Forest Stewards Youth Corps

Crew Member Positions

Job Announcement

Do you like the outdoors? Are you looking for a summer job? Then apply to be on a Forest Stewards Youth Corps (FSYC) Crew! FSYC is a program of the Forest Stewards Guild that provides employment and job training for youth in rural communities around New Mexico. FSYC participants complete natural resource management project and receive training and mentorship from USFS and Forest Stewards Guild employees. In addition, FSYC participants will receive CPR/First Aid certification and the opportunity to earn 2 college credits from Santa Fe Community College.

Duty stations for the summer program are Jemez Pueblo and the Mt. Taylor, Las Vegas/Pecos, Coyote, and Mountainair USFS Ranger Stations. While FSYC crews will be based out of Jemez Pueblo and USFS Ranger Stations, Crew Members will be employees of the Forest Stewards Guild.

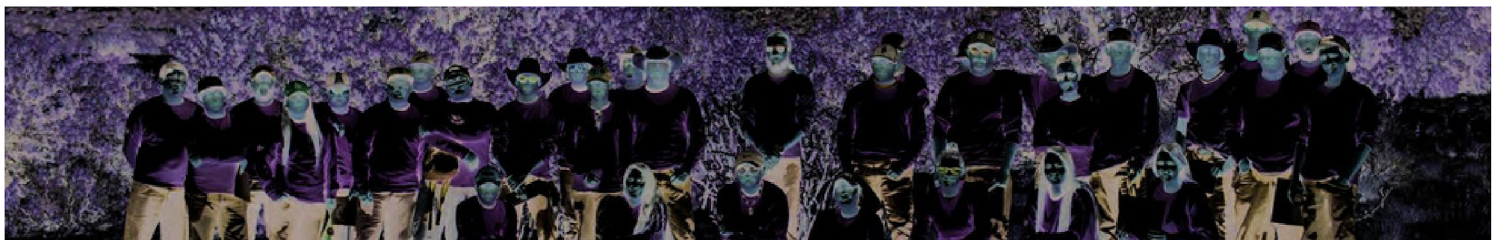


WHAT TO EXPECT

- *Position runs from June 5th- August 4th*
- *Mandatory overnight training June 5th-8th*
- *Members receive 14.00\$ an hour plus sick leave and paid holidays*
- *Must be able to work Mon.-Fri.*
- *Be a New Mexico resident between the ages of 16 and 22*
- *Be physically fit and able to work long days in the field under difficult conditions (heat, sun, rain, steep uneven terrain).*

APPLY SOON

The online application for our summer crews will open February 17th at
<https://foreststewardsguild.org/fsyc/>.



FSYC is funded by a long standing partnership between the NM Youth Conservation Corps Commission, Forest Stewards Guild, USDA Forest Service, National Forest Foundation, and others.



Watershed Management & Restoration Internship CREW SUPERVISOR Announcement

Applications due March 1, 2023

River Source is hiring Watershed Crew Supervisors to work with youth crews aged 15-25 years old in doing watershed assessment and ecological restoration for improving water and wildlife health. Each crew will have five crew members, a Crew Leader (aged 19-25 years old) and Crew Supervisor. This position is open to people who are 26 years or older with preference for applicants who have experience supervising youth crews or are high school teachers interested in water, land management, wildlife or watersheds.

The pay is \$25/hour for approximately 160 hours with the crew members plus approximately 16 hours of training and administrative work or up to \$4,400 for the hours worked.

The Crew Supervisor will be responsible for:

- Setting and following the River Source guidelines for crew member safety.
- Being present at all times alongside the crews or assigning the Crew Leader to supervise the group for limited periods when the Crew Supervisor cannot be present.
- Following and adapting the work schedule as needed to assist public agencies and private landowners with whom we are learning from and doing service projects.
- Provide oversight and, if needed, immediate feedback to crew members on learning-working related issues. Give crew members mentoring, learning opportunities and feedback on their performance of learning-working experience.
- Setting the example and tone for a positive, productive learning and working environment.
- Keeping accurate track of mileage when transporting crew members (reimbursed at \$0.50/mile) and expenditures from petty cash.

The Crew Supervisor works under the direction of the Director of River Source, Rich Schrader, or his assigned staff person. Successful applicants need to fully participate in order to receive payment up to 176 hours of work at \$25/hour for the four weeks at 32-40 hours per week.

The Crew Supervisor is required to have a clean driving record and a vehicle to provide their own transportation and ideally be ready to provide transportation for crew members if needed. Background checks are required to be hired for this job (River Source pays for these, but will need information from you).

The work locations for the crews include:

- El Rito - training June 2, crew starts June 5-June 30
- Pecos - training June 2, crew starts June 5-June 30
- Peñasco - training June 2, crew starts June 12 - July 7
- Las Vegas/Mora - training June 2, crew starts July 5 - August 2

[Apply here by March 1 so we consider your application!](#)

You can send questions about this to Rich Schrader at riversource1@gmail.com



Paid Watershed Management & Restoration Internship (Peñasco)-Summer 2023!

River Source is hiring for a paid internship opportunity in watershed management and ecological restoration. This position is open to 15-25 young adults for crew members and a crew leader.

5 Crew members: High school students in 9-12 grade, or students aged 15 - 18 or recent graduates with an interest in natural resources, environmental management, and/or water and watersheds.

1 Crew leader: Young adults who are 19-25 years old with experience working in teams and passion for water, watersheds, natural resources, and being a leader.

This is a paid internship, sponsored through River Source and Partners in Education Foundation, starting on June 12. The internship activities will take place in and around Peñasco, NM.

Work-Learn Activities may focus on:

- Collecting natural resource data using global positioning systems (GPS) and assessing potential locations for watershed restoration work;
- Learning and applying biological monitoring, stream ecology, and fluvial geomorphology for assessing the effectiveness of environmental management practices;
- Conducting ecological assessments in riparian areas;
- Building erosion control practices to improve soil moisture, vegetation, and wildlife habitat;

Crew member pay: \$15.00 per hour for an estimated 160 hours of service learning.

Crew leader pay: \$20.00 per hour for an estimated 160 hours of service learning.

Internship period & supervision: Internships will likely start on June 12th and end on July 7. The work will occur on Monday-Friday schedule from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm for most weeks, but on some we may work longer days and only work 4 days per week. .

The intern will learn under the direct supervision of River Source staff and a crew supervisor.

Crew Member



Crew member application: [Please complete the form here](https://forms.gle/TdzfQnbBTrPgsgCDA)
<https://forms.gle/TdzfQnbBTrPgsgCDA>

Crew leader application: [Please complete the form](https://forms.gle/msi58nJSReJmzcSn8)
<https://forms.gle/msi58nJSReJmzcSn8>

Applications are due on March 17, 2023

Crew Leader



2023 Forest Stewards Youth Corps

CREW LEADER JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Do you like the outdoors? Are you looking for seasonal employment? Then you should Apply to be a Forest Stewards Youth Corps (FSYC) Crew Leader! FSYC is a program of the Forest Stewards Guild that provides employment and job training for youth in rural communities around New Mexico. FSYC has summer and fall programs with crews based out of U.S. Forest Service Ranger Stations and Jemez Pueblo.

www.foreststewardsguild.org/FSYC

POSITION DETAILS

Summer FSYC

- ~ Position lasts from May 30th- August 4th (10 weeks) ~ Mandatory overnight trainings 5/30 - 6/1
- ~ Will supervise 4 Crew Members (ages 16-19)
- ~ Pay rate: \$17/hour, plus paid holidays and sick leave
- ~ Positions open in Jemez Pueblo, Coyote, Grants, Mountainair, and Las Vegas, NM

Fall Fire & Fuels

- ~ Position lasts from mid August until mid November. Exact dates TBD.
- ~ Mandatory overnight training in August (1-2 weeks)
- ~ Will supervise 4 Crew Members.
- ~ Pay rate: \$17.25/hour plus paid holidays and sick leave
- ~ Positions open in Mountainair, Espanola and Jemez Pueblo.
- ~ No-cost housing available in Mountainair.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Summer and Fall FSYC Fall Fire & Fuels

- ~ Experience in a leadership position working with youth. experience.
- ~ Ability to perform strenuous work outdoors for long hours in rough country and inclement weather. FFT2. Greater preference will be given to
- ~ Excellent oral and written communication skills. candidates qualified as FFT1 and/or that have previous
- ~ Ability to work independantly. wildland firefighting experience.
- ~ Pass a background check.~ Must be able to pass an arduous pack test.
- ~ Possess a valid drivers license and safe driving record.
- ~ Experience performing natural resource management projects.
- ~ No-cost housing available in Mountainair

TO APPLY

To apply for the summer and/or fall Crew Leader positions, please complete the online application at <https://foreststewardsguild.org/fsyc/> and email a resume, optional cover letter, and three references to cora@forestguild.org. All applications are open until filled so apply ASAP for priority consideration. Please contact Cora Stewart (cora@forestguild.org, 505-795-2551) with any questions.



FSYC is funded by a long standing partnership between the NM Youth Conservation Corps Commission, Forest Stewards Guild, USDA Forest Service and others.

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES



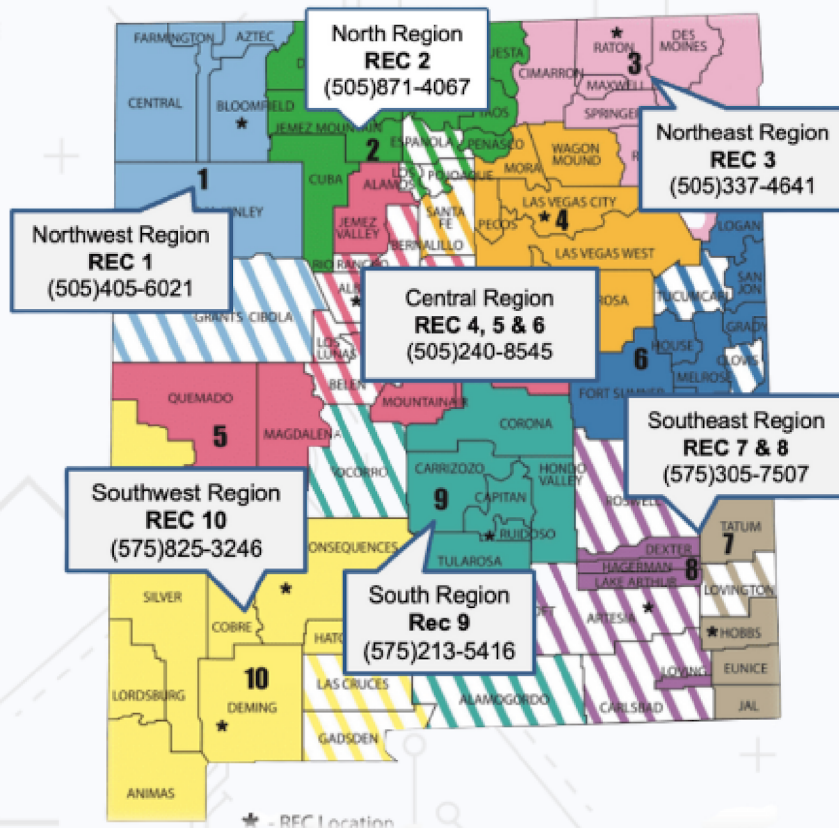
NMPED - ETCC

New Mexico Public Education Department
Education Technology Call Center

*If you live in New Mexico and
need education-related help with
technology, call, text, or live chat
with your region listed below.*



Hours of Operation
Weekdays 7 am - 7 pm
Weekends 2 pm - 7 pm



We Are Here To Serve You New Mexico

Students & Their Families

Teachers & Administrators

Charter & Private Schools

State Supported Schools

Indian Education & Home Schools





Certified Positions

Find the certified position application here:

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

- Secondary Math Teacher
- Secondary Spanish Teacher
- Secondary Teacher
- Social Worker

Non-Certified Positions

Find the non-certified position application here:

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

- Custodian
- Activity Bus Driver/Substitute Bus Driver
 - CDL/School Bus Endorsement costs will be paid with a 3-year commitment agreement.
- After-School Counselor (MS/HS)
- STEM/Robotics Afterschool Activity Leader
- Drill Team Coach
- Substitute Cooks
- Substitute Teachers
- Substitute Custodians
- Substitute Bus Drivers

For additional information or questions please contact Amy Garcia 575-587-2502 ext 1005 or email agarcia@penascoisd.com.

Community Employment

El Centro Family Health is hiring three positions at its Peñasco clinics:

- Dental Clinic Receptionist
- Dental Clinic Receptionist-PRN (as needed)
- Medical Assistant: Peñasco Clinic
- Medical Assistant: Peñasco Clinic/Peñasco School-Based Clinic

For more information, click here: <https://ecfh.isolvedhire.com/jobs/>



Peñasco Little League Teams Registration

**SATURDAY,
MARCH 25,
1-3 PM
PEÑASCO
SCHOOL FIELD**

**SKILLS CLINIC!
MEET WITH
COACHES!**

**BRING:
BIRTH CERTIFICATE &
PROOF OF RESIDENCY.
COST: \$85**

**MAJORS:
AGE 9-12**

COACHES

**DOMINIC GARCIA: 575-779-0815
MICHAEL NOLL: 575-779-1466
ADAM ARCHULETA: 575-779-2139**

**MINORS: 7-9 (&
10-11 FOR FIRST
TIME PLAYERS)**

**COACH:
TBD**

**COACH PITCH:
5-7**

**COACH:
ARON SANTISTEVAN: 575-779-7432**

**PRACTICES IN PEÑASCO
GAMES IN TAOS WITH TAOS LITTLE LEAGUE**