

Dear Penasco Elementary School Families,

Welcome to the 2023 - 2024 school year! I am excited to welcome our students back to school, in addition to working with an amazing group of educators and staff. I hope that you were able to relax and make special memories with your friends and families. Now it is time to look forward to a wonderful new school year as we work together to ensure your student blossoms academically and emotionally.

I am beginning my second year at PISD and feel this is such a special place for your children to learn and grow. I am proud of our beautiful school and thrilled to be a Penasco Panther. I have high expectations for each student, and see that our students are kind, compassionate, and eager to learn. Together with our dedicated staff, I strive to make connections with students to help them feel valued, accepted, and safe.

I would like to help instill in your child, forward thinking, encourage their passions, help them to develop as a Responsible Citizen, and prepare them for tomorrow's opportunities. I will continue to work with my colleagues to help guide our mission and promote a rigorous and joyful inclusive school environment.

Partnering with families is crucial to promote a healthy transition to school both socially and emotionally. I recognize that students may be feeling anxious with the start of a new school year and will continue to place a strong emphasis on social emotional learning while focusing on community. I encourage you to reach out, as needed, to help with any of your child's needs. Penasco Elementary has a plethora of resources and support; I am happy to help you and your student/s navigate those resources.

Feel free to call me at 575-587-2502 ext 2024, or email any questions/concerns to katherineduran@penascoisd.com

Respectfully

Katherine M. Duran, M.A
Elementary School Supervisor/Counselor