



Dear Taos Academy Families,

The new semester is off to a great start! Getting involved with school is the key to success. As a quick reminder, students have the opportunity to attend the **Student Success Lab Monday through Thursday 8-12** and **Math tutoring on Fridays from 8-12** with Math tutors available. We encourage students to come get help in Math if they are struggling.

The **STEM+Art Institute classes** are another way to expand programming and enrich their experience in school. We encourage students to sign up for these classes. Room is still available in some classes. See Cruz Duran in the STEM building.

School Delays or Closings: Just a reminder that Taos Academy does not necessarily follow Taos Municipal calendar for delays or closings. Please be sure to access our calendar online and watch for weather delays or closings on KOB news, KOAT.com and KRQE News as well as local radio. We also send out robocalls for delays or closings. Feel free as well to contact the school anytime to get the latest.



Sweet Slide Fundraiser – The last day of the Winter Activity Program, Friday, February 8, is our annual Sweet Slide fundraiser. This is a ski/board-a-thon, bake sale, bowl-a-thon, and skate/swim-a-thon event. Students gather pledges (IN ADVANCE OF THE EVENT) from their family and community for each ski run or lap around the skating rink they will perform on that day. Bowling participants will gather pledges for each point they score. It is also possible to swim laps at TYFC for pledges. Pledge sheets are attached to this form and available at the front desk at school. There will be registration tables set up at Taos Ski Valley, and Taos Youth and Family Center for participants to sign up and receive a bib. STUDENTS ATTEND THE SAME VENUE AS WINTER ACTIVITY DAYS. Family members, friends, and community members may participate. There will also be a bake sale at Taos Ski Valley during the event. We need volunteers to help with counting skiers/snowboarders and skaters as well as to work the bake sale. Please contact Karin Moulton at kmoulton@taosacademy.org to volunteer.

ALL FUNDS (or a pledge sheet) ARE DUE THIS MONDAY < FEBRUARY 4th. Our goal is to raise \$50 per student. All students are required to participate in the event - including College Link students and working students. Students may raise \$50 by either gathering pledges for laps, giving a donation, gathering donations from others (friends, businesses, relatives), or by selling \$50 of raffle tickets. Raffle tickets are checked out at the front desk with Ms. Amy Lucero.

For the bake sale at Taos Ski Valley (TSV) - Baked goods may be brought to Taos Academy campus on Thursday, February 7th or to TSV on Friday, February 8th. Students need family support in gathering their pledges and getting the funds turned in at school. We are asking for **100% participation**.

College Link - Students who are enrolled in Friday classes at UNM must bring in a UNM schedule to the front office in order to be excused. Participation in the Sweet Slide fundraiser is still expected. Please sell raffle tickets or donate \$50.

WE NEED HELP WORKING THESE EVENTS!!! If you want to volunteer for a two hour shift or ask a business to donate a prize for participants, please email Ms. Moulton at kmoulton@taosacademy.org. Funds raised are used for ski scholarships and lessons, leadership days, STEM+Art Institute classes, and student activities.



Re Enrollment and Lottery

Taos Academy will be opening our lottery process next month. We have grown each year by the recommendations from our parent and student body. Thank you for your support and please share some of the successes your children have done. Just a few successes to share:

- Ranked as one of America's Best High Schools by US News and World Report 2015, 2016, 2017 & 2018.
- Received an A grade for the past six years: 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018. TA is one of only 18 schools in the state to consistently achieve this level of excellence.
- Dual Credit options = Over 270 college credits were earned by TA students in our early college program and we continue to explore more ways to work with our partners at UNM.
- We have increased academic support and enrichment through our Middle School Plus Program, Student Success Lab, STEM classes, and live Enrichment classes in Math and LA.
- TA has expanded our extra-curricular classes and clubs: music, robotics, chess, Honor Society, writing workshops.
- Flexible programming to support student and family need: Take advantage of our flexible scheduling and expanded programming to build a 4.5 day week schedule. Students can work on campus or in a blended setting to meet family needs.

TACS Assessment Calendar

**These assessments are mandatory for all TA students.
Full participation is required by the NM Public Education Department.**

ACCESS2.0 Testing: Weeks of 1/21 and 1/28 - until finished
Who: Identified Students in 7,8,9

SBA Science: Week of 3/18, 3/19, 3/20, and 3/21
Makeups week of 3/25
Who: All 7th graders, All 11th graders

NMSR Science: 4/10 (Wednesday)
Who: All 8th graders

Hqto cnf 'hpqy p 'bu'RCTEE'' Full weeks of 4/22 and 4/29,
Spring '19 NM Transitional make-ups week of 5/6.
Assessment for Math/ELA Who: All students in all grades

End of Course Exams: End of 2nd Semester.
Who: 9th grade NM History,
others for graduation requirements.



RosettaStone news

Students foreign language courses are up and running. Remember to log in with your Edgenuity username and password. The website link for RosettaStone is available at our TaosAcademy.org (quick links) or TA Bookmarks in Chrome. Emails have been sent out via RosettaStone with instructions, and there is a Student Manual in Google Slides. A tutorial was held at school the week of January 28. Registration is still going on so if you want/need to register, let your adviser know ASAP. Last day to register for Rosetta Stone this semestr is February 15.

TECHnology Update: What Is Fake News?

*ōHcng'P gy u'ku'kphqt o cvkqp'vj cv'ecppqv'dg"
xgt kkgf. 'y kj qww'uqwt egu. "cpf "r quukdrf "
wpt wgtō"*

The topic of fake news is as old as the news industry itself—misinformation, hoaxes, propaganda, and satire have long been in existence, but with the rise of social media use fake news is being spread at record numbers and rates. Critical thinking is a key skill in media and information literacy, and we hope these quick tips will help to educate and advocate its importance when reading and sharing information."

We hope you are able to utilize this knowledge to help you be an accurately informed citizen. If you have a specific, technology related questions, please, feel free to contact any of the following TECH Team members:

Collin E. Miller: cmiller@taosacademy.org

Kelci Pike: kpike@taosacademy.org

Jamie Lucero-Martinez:

jluceroartinez@taosacademy.org

Cal VanWilligen: cvanwilligen@taosacademy.org

Sources:

[International Federation of Library Associations](#)



Light Lunch & Snack Program

Feb 5-6: Veggie Spring Rolls with Peanut Dipping Sauce

Feb 12-13: Frito Pie

Feb 19-20: Minestrone Soup (vegetarian)

Feb 26-27: Thai Green Chicken Curry

CASH ONLY – NO CREDIT!!!



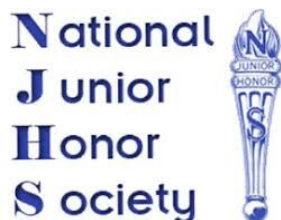
Middle School

Second semester Middle School Plus students will have the opportunity to participate in intramural sports, walking field trips, and bowling. Activities will be supported from student fees. Please remember to sign up for MS Plus in order to reserve your spot with a \$10 per quarter fee. Students so far this quarter have enjoyed a field trip to Guadalajara Grill and made breakfast to practice their use of measurements. We look forward to bowling, swimming, and many other fun activities.



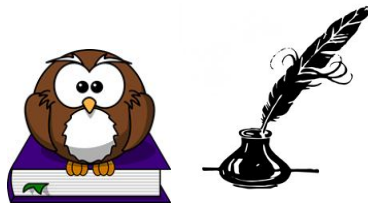
MS Student Advisory Council News

We're selling Valentine Candy grams. You can buy candy grams before school, at break, or during lunch. They are 2 for a \$1. Parents, you can buy from Ms. Amy at the front desk. Candy Grams will be delivered on Feb 11-14 to your afternoon advisory. We are also pre-selling tickets to our MS Winter Dance. It will be Thursday 2/21. Tickets are \$3, or 2 for \$5. (There is no discount at the door- just \$3 a person). You can invite a guest who does not go to Taos Academy but they must be in Middle School and their ticket will cost \$5. There will be refreshments, cool decorations, music and fun! Parents, we would love support in chaperoning, so please email Ms. Martinson if you are interested. (tmartinson@taosacademy.org).



February is a big month for NJHS. We are planning our **induction ceremony** for **Wednesday, February 13, at 5:00 in the main cafe here at Taos Academy**. Students are working hard to make this an entertaining event, so please come support our student leaders. We will be doing cookie grams throughout the month to raise money for the ceremony. Students will be able to purchase a cookie with a personalized message, to be delivered by NJHS students to friends and loved ones, in order to raise funds for robes and ceremony supplies. We are also moving forward with our community service project

in conjunction with Shared Table. **Each student will be responsible for a two-hour block during which time they will help sort and distribute food.** Parents of NJHS students will need to assist in taking students to and from the church, and we are looking for parent volunteers to oversee students on those days. More specific information and timing to come on this front!



CLUB LECTIO SCRIPTO

We will be meeting February 7 and 21 (the 1st and 3rd Thursdays) from 4:00 to 4:50 in purple lab. This club is open to new students at any time, and if you like to read or write, this is the club for YOU! You can also bring a friend, even if it is not someone who attends Taos Academy. Bring your writing utensil and love of words. Contact Miss Estelle (elaure@taosacademy.org) for more information.



CHESS CLUB will meet Wednesday afternoons in February from 4:00 to 5:15 in the main cafeteria with Coach Tim Martinson. Players of all skill levels are welcome to attend. Contact Mr. Martinson for more information (timmartinson@taosacademy.org).



HS Student Advisory Council (HS-SAC): We are currently in PROM planning mode and would like your input. Please complete the questionnaire by Tuesday, February 5th. Near the end of the month please look for information on how you can help with our Krispy Kreme fundraiser to purchase decorations and other PROM expenses. If you would like to assist in planning/decorating please join us at our Tuesday meetings after lunch. Please contact Mrs. Jamie Lucero-Martinez jlucero-martinez@taosacademy.org for more information.

21st-Century Classes

..

Ht qo 'Uo ct vNcd<'Students are exploring projects such as Photoshop, Flight Simulation, Coding Video Games, Google Earth, and Kinex. Mrs. Jamie Lucero is teaching grades 5-8 and Mrs. Karin Moulton is teaching high school. Tim Martinson is the assistant in all classes. Classes started January 14 and end March 7th. Students present their learning in an e-portfolio at the end of each project (two per class). We look forward to all the exciting projects happening this quarter.

"

7/8 Leadership - This month 7/8 Leadership is working with the confluence of the Arts and Leadership. Consider, for example, Robert Indiana's iconic image "LOVE" (1966) and the variation he created after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1968).

- 1 What are key differences between the "Love" '66 and "Love" after MLK's assassination '68?
- 2 What does the 1968 black and white version of Love mean in context? How is that message given?



From Global Studies: "We have begun our studies of the world which will include discovering culture, geography and world issues. Be sure to check your students Google Classroom to stay up to date on our weekly research and project development.



Internships - Internship Paperwork for Spring 2018 is due by March 8. If a student has an ongoing internship that started in Fall semester 2017, no additional forms are due (except the progress report by March 8).

All internship forms can be printed from the Taos Academy website under "Quick Links" then "Quick Forms". Forms must be signed by a parent and a supervisor and submitted to Mrs. Moulton. Grades for internship credit are based on progress reports and the log of hours. Credit can only be given when hours and two progress reports are SIGNED and turned in ON TIME.



Class of
2019

**Graduation is Friday May 17, 2019 2- 4 pm
at The Taos Center for the Arts (TCA)**

Graduation rehearsal will be on Thursday, May 16, 10 am - 11 am at the TCA. Attendance is required for all Seniors.

TAOS HIGH SCHOOL will be hosting a Transition and College Fair Wednesday, February 13, at 9am -10am for Taos Academy Juniors and Seniors. The fair will be held in THS gymnasium. Students and parents are invited to attend. Please RSVP to advisor or counselor.



Seniors, please go to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, FAFSA, and begin the application, for the 2019-2020 college year. <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>

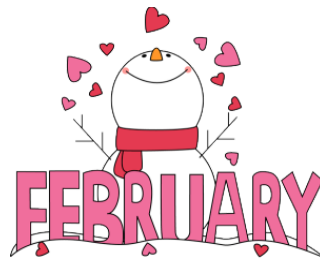
The completion of the FAFSA is required of all senior who plan to attend college after graduating high school.

COLLEGE LINK (CL) has continued to contribute to the success of the UNM dual credit program and to our students by continually raising the bar for their work and civic responsibilities. We began the year by raising the required GPA to 3.0 for participants along with the tacit and continued expectations that these students represent high character, diligence in academics, and a strong sense of 'giving back' to the community. **Discipline or academic problems at UNM-Taos or at TA will DQ a student from the CL program.**

NOTE: College Link students have CL lab schedule options M-Th. This is to allow students the flexibility to attend UNM classes and work internships and participate in various extracurricular community activities. **Not all high school students in CL will attend on Tu/Th due to space and schedules.** CL students will also serve SSL Contract (when they 'earn' it) on the regular SSL schedule which is on their OFF days (M/W/F). But this shouldn't be happening for CL students! **The goal is to engender learning to balance school/work/personal life in order to build a strong foundation for the college experience. About fifty percent of college Freshmen in the U.S. drop out due to not having learned this invaluable skill.**

This is a digital school and communication is primarily through email. PLEASE READ YOUR TA EMAIL Check the TA home page for the school calendar, important dates and meetings, and important updates that affect students and families.

It's going to be a busy second semester, so buckle your seat belts and be prepared for MAPs and EOC (End of Course, as applicable) exams in addition to EDGE, College Entrance Exams, and UNM requirements. This program is a commitment to doing one's best on all levels. Seniors are the veterans and are moving forward into post-secondary work. Juniors are stepping up to demonstrate this leadership for our TA students. Make it a strong finish to this second semester -- your personal BEST. ~Ms Densow & Ms Samoiel...




2/2 -  **Groundhog Day**

2/8-  **Sweet Slide Fundraiser**

2/11-  **Governing Council Meeting**

2/13 -  **NJHS Induction**

2/14 - **Valentine's Day**

2/18 -  **School Day (President's Day Observation)**

2/22 - **Teacher In-Service NO SSL**

2/26-  **Parent Advisory**



3/1- **Student Led Parent Conferences**



3/4 - **Governing Council Meeting 5:30**

3/7 - **End of 9 Weeks**



3/11 - 3/15 - **Spring Break**



3/26 - **Parent Advisory 5:30**

3/29 - **Teacher In-Service NO SSL**