



Taos Academy Parents,

5/1/19



Our annual GALA event was once again a success!!! Thank you to our tremendous TA parent and student cooks for your contributions to the potluck and thank you to TA staff for your help setting up, serving and cleaning up our potluck. We loved celebrating the amazing projects and accomplishments of our students with all of the STEM Institute teachers.

Congratulations to Taos Academy community for another year of recognition as one of America's Best High Schools!! A job well done!

This morning, U.S. News released what we believe to be the most holistic and comprehensive evaluation of U.S. public high schools ever published. Your school is part of the story because it ranked high enough to be recognized for excellence in U.S. education as one of America's "**Best**" High Schools.

Here are some details, along with a link to our school's profile page:

High School: **Taos Academy**

Eligible ranking: **National and Charter**

State, national, and other rankings are posted on the school's just-updated [U.S. News profile page](#).

STATE STANDARDIZED TESTS:

PS: Thanks for your support and patience with standardized testing.

There is one more important exam for HS graduation:

5/7 Tuesday May 7: End of Course Exams at 10:00 AM (Second Block) for

- **9th grade students in the Main Lab - this is a NM Graduation Requirement!**
- **HS NM History for 9th grade**
- **Other 8th, 10th, 11th students ALSO test - notified individually for an EOC.**

ALL SCHOOL NEWS



No Shots? No Records? No School.

The NM Department of Health is requiring that no child will be admitted unless an immunization record is on file and immunizations are up-to-date. All 6th grade students who have not received a Tdap must acquire one this summer before entering the 7th grade and furnish an updated record. For parents who waiver immunizations, the waiver request form must be mailed in to NMDOT in July requesting an August 12th start date on the form. Go to <https://nmhealth.org/about/phd/idb/imp/sreq/> to access information about immunization requirements. You can get the waiver online at this address, or request one from Cruz Duran at cduran@taosacademy.org



Join us for TA Summer Session

I know it is hard to believe, but we are in the last quarter of the Spring Semester and summer will be here before we know it. Registration for Summer Session is now open and forms may be obtained from advisers - or just click [here!](#) Registration closes on May 28th. Forms are also available at the Front Desk.

Summer Session at Taos Academy is an opportunity to have students recover credits for on-time graduation, to go ahead and get their World Language requirements out of the way, and to work ahead in their coursework if they are on an accelerated path (or just want to keep in practice over the summer!). We have all Rosetta Stone and core Edgenuity classes offered as well as Electives!

Classes begin on Tuesday, May 28th and end on THURSDAY, August 2th. The fee for all summer school classes is \$200, of which \$100 will be refunded when the student passes the course. Students may only register for one class at a time. If a student wishes to take more than one class, they must complete the first class before starting the second.

ORIENTATION and prescriptive testing will take place on TA Campus from 9-4 TUESDAY, May 29th. Students must come and meet with their adviser, take their prescriptive tests, be sure all log-ins are working and that they have all the materials needed and sign that they understand their responsibilities during the summer for successfully completing their classes. After your May 29th meeting, your adviser will be your primary point of contact for you for any issues, questions, or troubleshooting. They will be

sending progress notes every two weeks as well.

Students who do not appear for Rx testing and who do not make alternate arrangements in advance with their adviser will forfeit their chance at Rx testing. Their coursework will be activated on May 29th without that option.

For questions, please contact Ms. LeBlanc at eleblanc@taosacademy.org.



Our yearbook is now INTERACTIVE!! - Videos will be available on your printed copy of the yearbook through a FREE app on your phone!

- ❖ Download the app “HP Reveal”
- ❖ do a search for “kmoulton”
- ❖ Then click “follow”.

This will unlock all the videos in the yearbook.

Find the highlighted photos and open the app on your phone. Point your phone at the photo and a video plays! You can get this exciting new yearbook online. Just go to treering.com and click on Buy Yearbook, click on NM put in the school pass code (below), click on Taos Academy Charter and follow prompts from there.

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Don't miss this chance to get your interactive Taos Academy Yearbook!!



FRESH LUNCH MENU

No more Fresh Lunch for the rest of the school year because STEM+Art Institute classes end May 2rd.
The regular lunch items will be available for sale until May 9th.



OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP DAYS:

May 10th Attendance is required for Leadership days.

Families are responsible for transportation to and from the hiking field trips.



Middle School: Hike at Amole Canyon 9am-3pm

- Students must be dropped off at Amole Canyon Trailhead **at 9 am and picked up by 3 pm.** School transport is not provided.
- Directions: Head southeast on Paseo Del Canon W toward Paseo Del Pueblo Sur - Turn right at the 1st cross street onto NM-68 S/Paseo Del Pueblo Sur - Turn left onto NM-518, continue for 14.2 miles - Turn left onto Amole Rd, destination will be on your left.
- Bring water and lunch.
- Be prepared for rain showers (rain jacket, umbrella, etc).
- Wear appropriate clothing for hiking and being outdoors all day.

High School: Bandelier National Monument Trip: 9am-4pm

- Reservations for the bus must be made before the trip, and the cost to reserve a seat is \$5 per student. Seats are limited, so save your spot by bringing your money to the front desk ASAP.
- Permission slip must be completed, signed and returned to front office by Thursday, May 9th. Printed copies are available at the front office.
- YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GO WITHOUT \$5 AND PERMISSION SLIP.
- Bus will leave at 8:30 am from Taos Academy and return by 4 pm.
- Bring water and lunch and be prepared for rain.
- Wear appropriate clothing for hiking.

Campus Crew: For MS and HS Students who cannot attend the off campus trips: 8am-4pm

- Students will have Edgenuity time from 8-12. Lunch on campus from 12-1. Student led games and fun activities on campus will be planned from 1-4.
- Bring lunch.

Middle School



Students who participated in the Intramural program have a great start to physical fitness this spring. We hope to continue offering this program next year. Encourage your Middle School student to exercise and play sports this summer.

Thank you for your support and participation this year to make our MS+ program successful. Students shared their feedback on this year's program & made suggestions for improvement. We encourage you to participate next year to see your suggestions implemented. Ms. Joseph and Mr. V wish you a very joyous & restful summer break!



MS Student Advisory Council: Wow what a successful year! Hope everyone had fun at the MS SAC end of the year party. Unfortunately our Spring Dance was cancelled, but we had a successful Winter Formal in February, co-hosted a fabulous fall fair, raised money for Pennies for Patients, sold glow sticks, and candy grams, and had a lot of fun. We just finished inventorying all our decorations and we are pretty set for next year. We have even more fun activities in mind for next year, including selling sno-cones and having a bake sale. We have been very busy, active, and productive and are looking forward to continuing and building on our successes and activities next year. Student Advisory Council is open to anyone in 5-8th grades, please come join us next year! Email Ms. Martinson if you have any questions or ideas: tmartinson@taosacademy.org.



NJHS

What a great initial founding group of NJHS initiates! They have been busy this spring. Besides keeping up with their course work and all of their extra curricular activities they have: planned and held Initiation Ceremony, volunteered at: Taos's Dr. Seuss day, helped with set up and clean up of empty Bowls at St. James, helped with set up, serve and clean up of TA's Gala, gone to Girl's Model UN Camp, submitted travel request for next year's Leadership Conference, researched by laws and charters of both TA and NJHS, and initiated a campaign to allow 9th grade members by writing to the National Board with their well researched, documented & convincing arguments. We are now calling all, 6th -

8th (and possibly 9th!) graders look for the application process starting mid Sept. next fall and come join this prestigious organization! Get you community involvement and volunteering on this summer. NJHS is more than just good grades. You do need a 3.0 or higher GPA but you also need to demonstrate: citizenship, service, leadership and character. Each chapter is required to publish its qualifications for membership, which is based on the five pillars of NHS:

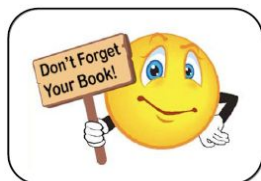
- **Scholarship:** Per national guidelines, at a minimum, students must have a cumulative GPA of 85, B, 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, or equivalent standard of excellence. (Each school chapter is allowed to require a higher cumulative GPA.)
- **Service:** This involves voluntary contributions made by a student to the school or community, done without compensation.
- **Leadership:** Student leaders are those who are resourceful, good problem solvers, and idea contributors. Leadership experiences can be drawn from school or community activities while working with or for others.
- **Citizenship:** The student who demonstrates citizenship understands the importance of civic engagement; has a high regard for freedom and justice; respects the U.S. form of government; respects the law for all citizens at the local, state, and federal levels; and demonstrates mature participation and responsibility in activities such as scouting, community organizations, or school clubs.
- **Character:** The student of good character is cooperative; demonstrates high standards of honesty and reliability; shows courtesy, concern, and respect for others; and generally maintains a clean disciplinary record.

Students who meet the scholarship requirement will have an opportunity to complete a form detailing their accomplishments in and commitment to service, leadership, and character.



Rosetta Stone must be 100% done by **Thursday, May 9 @ 4:00pm**. This is the Thursday before finals week. This is also the week that all non-Edgenuity courses final grades will be posted. If you have any questions or concerns, please talk to your adviser. If you have questions about how RS works, see the **Student Manual in Google** Slides first and then you can email Mme. Emanuelli (aemanuelli@taosacademy.org). However, by the time this newsletter goes out you should be at least 80% done with your lessons.. If you have technological issues with the program, please consult RS tech support at <http://support.rosettastone.com>.

A HUGE Congratulations to the CLASS of 2019...



College Link Juniors and Seniors, please return your UNM textbooks immediately following your UNM finals or by Thursday, May 9, 2019.

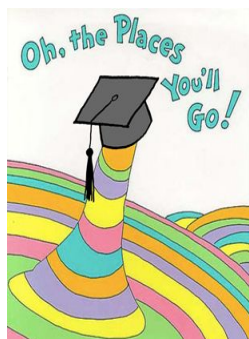


Incoming SENIORS can register for their Fall UNM classes early! Please go online and check out the UNM schedule for Summer and Fall 2019.. Please see Ms. Senescu or Ms. Densow for more information.

JUNIORS will have a presentation with Dr. Quinto-McCallum from UNM on May 2, 2019 in Main Lunchroom.

Graduation is Friday May 17, 2019

2- 4 pm @ TCA



SENIOR GRADUATION - Graduation is Friday, May 17, 2019 at Taos Center for the Arts (TCA), 2:00 - 4:00 pm. SENIORS need to be there by 1:30 pm! The TCA address is 133 Paseo Del Norte & is located just south of Kit Carson Park in beautiful downtown Taos. Please join us in celebrating the culmination of high

school with the Class of 2019.

SENIORS – GRADUATION REHEARSAL will be Thurs, May 16 at the TCA, 10:00 am to 11:00 a.m. **Seniors are required to attend rehearsal & graduation ceremony.** Afterwards, we head to GUTTERS to bowl and have some FOOD!

***Also, ALL SENIORS** need to double check their **CAREER CRUISING** academic plans and transcripts. No surprises! Remember, **ROSETTA STONE** classes will close May 9th @ 4:00 pm, the WEEK BEFORE Final Exams.

AND...more for SENIORS -- Since graduation is May 17 and rehearsal is May 16 you MUST be finished with your EDGE FINALS no later than MAY 15...preferably the week BEFORE which

was the original Finals Week for TA. That way, you'll have time to 'chill' before all the ceremony practice/party planning, getting your cap and gown presentable...etc. :o)

FINALLY...to each SENIOR -- You've worked so hard over these high school years and this is a rite of passage in our country. You are to be commended for your efforts and you should be proud that you have prepared yourself for the next big adventure post-high school! Lessons learned... and you'll have plenty more in life. But, you have a great foundation on which to build and create your own path. Thank you for sharing these years with us. We've grown along with you in wisdom and appreciation that you are an amazing group of young adults who will make this world a better place for all. ~



TECHnology Update:

As the school year comes to an end you may be looking for resources to help you organize your workload for that final push or study hints to do the best you can on your finals. You may also be looking for some great support sites to keep engaged over the summer. Please use the suggested list of support links below:

Support For finishing classes and Finals Prep:

- [How Should I Prepare for Tests and Final Exams?](#)
- [20 Study Strategies for Finals Week](#)

Summer practice and sites:

- [21 fun, educational websites for students when they're out of school](#)
- [Fun and Free Summer Learning Resources](#)
- [48 Ultra-Cool Summer Sites for Kids and Teachers](#)
- [10 Summer Learning Apps and Games for Tweens and Teens](#)
- [Ultimate STEM Guide for Kids: 239 Cool Sites About Sci, Technology, Engineering & Math](#)
- [10 Great Free Websites for Middle School](#)
- [Great Websites for Kids: Appropriate for Middle School aged youth](#)
- [10 Excellent Educational Websites for High School Students](#)
- [Websites for Middle School Students and Younger](#)
- [Great Websites for High School](#)
- [Khan Academy](#) (math practice and lessons)
- [ReadTheory.org](#) (reading practice and explanations)
- [StudyJams](#) (math videos and lessons)

- SpellingCity (spelling and Vocabulary practice and lessons)
- EdHeads (science games and virtual activities)
- SheppardSoftware (logic problems/games & academic games, practice and lessons)
- World Geography Games

Here is one more for parents: <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>. Look for our continued updates in the monthly newsletter. If you have a specific, technology related question, please, feel free to contact any of the following TECH Team members:

Collin E. Miller - cmiller@taosacademy.org
 Kelci Pike - kpike@taosacademy.org
 Patti Kravitz - pkravitz@taosacademy.org

Cal vanWilligen- cvanwilligen@taosacademy.org
 Jamie Lucero - jlucero@taosacademy.org

May

5/1 - 8th Grade Passage to HS Ceremony 5:00-6:00

5/7 Tuesday May 7: End of Course Exams at 10:00 AM (Second Block) for

- **9th grade students in the Main Lab - this is a NM Graduation Requirement!**
- **HS NM History for 9th grade**
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5/9 - ROSETTA STONE Classes close @ 3:00 p.m.

5/10 - Leadership Day

5/13 – Governing Council Meeting

5/13-16 – Finals Week

5/16 - Seniors graduation rehearsal at TCA

5/17 – Graduation @ TCA 2:00 – 4:00

5/17 - Last Day of School