

Welcome to a brand-new school year to both our new and returning families! The Taos Academy staff has been working hard to prepare for a wonderful new year of building relationships and learning together. We know that positive relationships are the cornerstone of personalized learning and in creating an environment of true academic excellence. You will be hearing more on how we are working to achieve this goal throughout the school year as we support all of our students in reaching their highest potential.

As part of this goal and our work as a Community School, we are partnering more and more closely with families and community organizations alike to build more great learning experiences for our students. Watch for more opportunities for family input, training, community connection, and participation in TA activities!! Let's get started!



**Introducing Our Team:** We are excited to welcome several new staff members to the TA team! All staff members at Taos Academy have been actively working to set the stage for an amazing school year. Please see below for the many roles they play in making our school the great palace that it is for our students:

#### **Administration**

Dr. Traci Filiss - Executive Director/Superintendent Elizabeth LeBlanc - Principal Amy Lucero - Front Office Manager/Registrar Ashley Duran - Administrative Assistant Michelle DeHerrera - Attendance Officer Cruz Duran - STEM Secretary/ Registrar /Assistant Health Officer Pamela Rodriguez - Assistant Business Manager Jose Espinoza - Maintenance/ Facility Manager Chris Torrez - Security/Facility Support Kenneth Shannon - Technology Administrator Mark Richert - Dean of Students (Restorative Practices) / ELD Coordinator Jamie Lucero-Martinez - STEM Plus Director / Co District Testing Coordinator Lisa Joseph - Community Schools Coordinator Erica Olsen-Hensley - Administrative Intern

#### **Special Education**

Sarah Bradley - Special Education Director Jeanette Henshaw - Special Education Coordinator Patricia Meagher - Gifted Coordinator David Thibadeau - Special Education Teacher/Case Manager Sally Blair - CALT, Academic Special Education Student Support Sherry Arnowitz, School Psychologist (counseling for IEP Services & Evaluations) Deb Schmalbach - Occupational Therapist Marie LeCuyer - Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant Margeaux Hurtado - Speech and Language Therapist Aicha Froeschle - Physical Therapist

#### School Counseling Office \$ Nurse

Angelina Vialpando - School Counselor, SAT Coordinator, 504 Coordinator, Co-DTC Melissa Montoya - School Counselor, Small Groups, Restorative Practices April DeHerrera - School Nurse

#### Early College High School/College Link

Patricia Meagher - College Link Advisor Kelci Pike - Early College Coordinator/UNM Liaison

#### Career & College Readiness / 21st Century Teachers:

Jennie Begley - CCP2 10th Grade Career Pathways Steve Falconi - CCP4 Senior Capstone Megan Jenkins - MS SmartLab Elizabeth LeBlanc - CCP4 Senior Capstone Patti Kravitz - MS PE, Health and Wellness / MidPlus Intramurals Benjamin Mortensen - MS Sustainable Leadership / CCP2 10th Grade Career Pathways Billy Pepper - CCP1 PE, Health and Wellness Kelci Pike - MS Global Studies / CCP3 CTE Design David Thibadeau - CCP1 9th Grade SmartLab Gwen Thibadeau - CCP4 Senior Capstone Jason Weisfeld - CCP3 CTE Design / Internship & Work Study Coordinator

#### Academic Support Teachers:

Gayle Densow - Literacy Support for 7th & 8th grades Lisa Joseph - Literacy Support for 5th & 6th grades Jimena Ballesteros - Instructional Assistant

#### Academic Advisors:

5th & 6th Grade Advisors - Cal Van Willigen & Ben Mortensen
7th & 8th Grade Advisors - Megan Jenkins, Billy Pepper, & Liz Romero
9th Grade Advisors - Billy Pepper, Jennie Begley & David Thibadeau
10th Grade Advisors - Tami Martinson & Liz Romero
11th/12th Grade Advisors - Steve Falconi & Gwen Thibadeau
\* Curriculum & Rosetta Stone Coordinator - Tami Martinson
\* eSports Coordinator - Cal Van Willigen
\* FLEX Advisor- Bre Messerole

\* Dorota Witney - Math Enrichment, Math Lab and Forensic Science

All teachers may be reached via email using first initial and last name@taosacademy.org as follows: <u>alucero@taosacademy.org</u>. **Please reach out! We love to hear from you!** 

# Please read carefully: Parking Lot Flow & Safety Rules



DROP OFF each morning is from 7:45 to 7:55. School starts promptly at 8:00.

PICK UP each afternoon is from 4:00 to 4:15. Students not picked up by 4:15 will be escorted to the front office.

**All traffic is one way onto and off of the TA campus.** Cars enter through the west gate and exit through the east gate. Please note that traffic is low before 7:55 or after 4:05 if you prefer not to wait in line! Otherwise please follow the processes below:

## Drop Off/Pick up: By grade-

- 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades:
  - Drop off/Pick up

**STEM building along the turf -** Stay straight and continue to the back of the building. Stay to the right. Pull up to cones at the end of the turf.

• 7<sup>th</sup> Grade:

**Drop off in Front of Main Building -** Pull forward into the farthest space along the sidewalk and wait in the car for students. No parking in the front of the building. <u>No parking in front lanes.</u>

**Pick up in Back of Main Building -** Stay straight and continue to the back of the building. Stay to the left. Pull up to cones past the safe areas.

- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:
  - Drop off/Pick up

**Front of Main Building** - Pull forward into the farthest space along the sidewalk and wait in the car for students. No parking in the front of the building.<u>No parking in front lanes.</u>

• 9<sup>th</sup> Grade:

## Drop off/Pick up

**Front of Main Building -** Pull forward into the farthest space along the sidewalk and wait in the car for students. No parking in the front of the building.<u>No parking in front lanes.</u>

• 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> Grades:

## Drop off/Pick up

**Back of Main Building on Left -** Stay straight, stay to the left, and continue to the back of the building to the end of the sidewalk on the left.

- STEM Classes & MidPlus Program:
  - Drop off/Pick up

**Back of Main Building on Right -** Stay straight and continue to the back of the building. Stay to the right and pick up along the turf. Pull up to cones.

• HS SSL

## Drop off/Pick up

**Back of Main Building on Left -** Stay straight, stay to the left, and continue to the back of the building to the end of the sidewalk on the left.

# **Parking:**

- Stay straight or turn right (west) into visitor parking. First day overflow and special events parking to the south and east of the building.
- **Safe Zones** are marked with orange/yellow cones for students to wait for their parents. Students must be dropped off or picked up along the safe area ONLY.
- Students may not cross the parking lot for any reason during drop off or pick up times.
- Student walkers/bike riders will be released at 4:10 to avoid conflict with traffic and will be escorted across the street to the sidewalk.
- All students leaving early must be signed out by their parents



# <u>New Family ORIENTATION:</u> Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup> 9:00 to 1:00 at TA Campus ALL new students and families are asked to attend this very important orientation and training session!



# **Dual Credit Orientation:**

Friday, August 11th 2:00 - 4:00 pm at TA Campus All high school students and parents are encouraged to attend this informational orientation about our dual credit program and partnership with UNM Taos



# **TA Fall Semester: Starting Dates and Times**

# HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION (ALL STUDENTS) Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, August 17th

**Monday 8/14 & Tuesday 8/15 -** School starts at 8 am and concludes at 4 pm for all TA high school students this week. Students will participate in orientation activities, get started in their coursework, check their Next Step Plans, and meet their fellow students and teachers. Please be there!

PLEASE NOTE: All Orientation Days and activities are required for College Link and FLEX students as part of their participation in those programs.



# **HS LEADERSHIP DAYS**

<u>These are required instructional days for all HS students.</u> As stated earlier, Taos Academy is built on relationships and these trips offer students and teachers the chance to learn and get to know one another outside of the school environment. Parents and/or students are responsible for transportation and lunch. *All trips require a permission slip signed by a parent or guardian. Permission slips and gear lists are linked below and hard copies are available at the front office.* 

Wednesday 8/16 - High School Leadership Days

- <u>Grade 9</u> will be participating in the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps Challenge Course and on-campus team building activities from 8:00 am 4:00 pm. Drop-off and pick-up at Taos Academy Campus.
  - BRING WATER & LUNCH.
  - Challenge Course Participation Forms here
- <u>Grades 10 & 12</u> will attend TA campus from 8 am 4 pm for lab time and continued orientation, as well as individual advisory meetings to set weekly schedules, review courses and Next Step Plans, set goals and complete UNM registrations as needed. *This includes College Link students*.
- <u>Grade 11</u> will meet at 9:00 am at the Rio Grande Visitor's Center in Pilar for rafting the Rio Grande with Los Rios River Runners. Pick up time is at 1:00 at the same place. Parents and/or students will be responsible for transportation to and from Pilar.
  - BRING LUNCH
  - <u>Permission Slip</u> link here
  - Directions and Gear List links here

## Thursday 8/17 - High School Leadership Days

- Grades 9 & 11 will attend TA campus from 8 am 4 pm for lab time and continued orientation, as well as individual advisory meetings to set weekly schedules, review courses and Next Step Plans, set goals and complete UNM registrations as needed. *This includes College Link students*.
- <u>Grade 10</u> will be participating in the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps Challenge Course and on-campus team building activities from 8:00 am 4:00 pm. Drop-off and pick-up at Taos Academy Campus.
  - BRING WATER & LUNCH.
  - Challenge Course Participation Forms here
- <u>Grade 12</u> will meet at 9:00 am at the Rio Grande Visitor's Center in Pilar for rafting the Rio Grande with Los Rios River Runners. Pick up time is at 1:00 at the same place. Parents and/or students will be responsible for transportation to and from Pilar.
  - BRING LUNCH
  - <u>Permission Slip</u> link here
  - Directions and Gear List links here

## Friday School 8/18: 8:00 - 1:30

This is required lab time for all students on a Student Success Plan as well as for any student who is in credit recovery. It is also an open lab time for students to drop in and receive additional help/support as needed on any assignments, essays, or large projects.

## Monday 8/21 – Thursday 8/24: HS Students Off Campus

ALL high school students are required to stay current with their pacing calendar for all digital coursework in Edgenuity and to attend their scheduled UNM classes. Students are encouraged to attend the HS Student Success Lab at Taos Academy Monday through Thursday from 8-12. The assignment calendar will be in effect during this time. Attendance at SSL is required for students on a Success Plan or in credit recovery.



**COLLEGE LINK and DUAL CREDIT Students:** All dual credit *UNM classes begin the week of August 21*, and all College Link and Friday Early College Program students are required to attend their very first day of class. The last day to drop a class without receiving a W on your transcript is Wednesday, September 6. Make sure to accept the invitation into the Dual Credit Google Classroom and communicate regularly with Miss Pike to stay up to date on textbook ordering, important information, dates, etc. There will be an optional UNM tour for students new to the UNM-Taos campus - details will be released soon.



# **MIDDLE SCHOOL ORIENTATION & LEADERSHIP DAYS:** Monday, August 21st – Thursday August 24th

The Middle School Orientation and Leadership Days schedule is as follows:

- 5th & 6th Grade:
  - Monday, August 21st: 5th and 6th grade students attend Taos Academy from 8 am 4 pm.
  - Tuesday, August 22nd: 5th and 6th grade students attend Taos Academy from 8 am 12 noon. *They are dismissed at noon from Taos Academy campus and transported by parents to Agua Piedra Group Shelter B Campground*. Students should arrive at camp at

2:00 pm ready for their outdoor ed activities and overnight camping trip. Hiking, tent set-up, and games. Dinner will be provided.

- Wednesday, August 23rd: 5th and 6th graders have breakfast and outdoor ed activities. All 5th & 6th graders should be picked up from Agua Piedra Group Shelter B by 1 pm.
- **Thursday, August 24th:** 5th and 6th grade students attend Taos Academy from 8 am 4 pm for advisory, team-building, and academic support.
- 7th & 8th Grade:
  - Monday, August 21st & Tuesday, August 22nd: 7th and 8th grade students attend Taos Academy from 8 am 4 pm.
  - Wednesday, August 23rd: 7th and 8th grade students attend Taos Academy from 8 am -12 noon. *They are dismissed at noon from Taos Academy campus and transported by parents to Agua Piedra Group Shelter B Campground*. Students should arrive at camp at 2:00 pm ready for their outdoor ed activities and overnight camping trip. Hiking, tent set-up, and games. Dinner will be provided.
  - Thursday, August 24th: 7th and 8th graders have breakfast and outdoor ed activities. *All* 7th & 8th graders should be picked up from Agua Piedra Group Shelter B by 1 pm.

• Friday, August 25th: No School

\*Proposed camping site at Agua Piedra Campground, Forest Service Road 708, near milepost 50 on NM 518; Vadito, NM 87579.

\*Please review the <u>gear list and camping directions</u>. If you have any gear needs, questions, or concerns, please contact Kelci Pike at <u>kpike@taosacademy.org</u>.



# What to bring and expect for the first day:

Beginning the week of August 28<sup>th</sup>, ALL students will attend TA on their regularly scheduled days. Middle school students attend campus on Monday and Wednesday from 8-4; high school students attend Tuesday and Thursday (8-4). College Link lab times will be scheduled around their UNM class schedule and must accommodate one full advisory time (4 hours), enrichment for ELA and Math classes that are not being taken through UNM, and CTE Design or Capstone classes.

# \*\*\* Looking ahead, September 4th is Labor Day and the school is closed. During this week only, Mid School Students will attend Wednesday (9/6) and Friday (9/8).

The school day begins at **8:00 am** and concludes at 4:00pm. Students are required to be in class at 8:00 am or they will be marked tardy. **Please do not drop students off before 7:45.** 

Please be sure to bring:

- Your school supplies
- A full water bottle (labeled with the student's name). Access to the water fountain may be limited; please plan ahead!
- Lunch and snacks for the day
- STUDENT HANDBOOK SIGNATURE PAGE (SIGNED)
- FAMILY HANDBOOK SIGNATURE PAGE (SIGNED)

 $\bigcirc$  For the first day, students are asked to bring all personal items in their backpacks and to meet in the Gym in the MultiPurpose Building at 8:00 am for help in finding their first block classes.  $\bigcirc$ 



**REMINDER - STUDENT HANDBOOK:** Taos Academy provides an environment that promotes learning. Students and families accept the handbook as a condition of attending Taos Academy. Among other items, please remember:

• **Dress for being outside and inside.** Students will need to dress and wear shoes for the weather. You will take breaks outside and walk for 20 minutes each day. PLease plan for this each day you are on campus.

**Taos Academy Dress Code:** Torn, frayed clothing or clothing with holes, even with material underneath, does not follow the dress code. Hats, bandanas, hoodies, and sunglasses are removed inside school buildings. Messages and images that depict violence, weapons, illegal substances, or gender, racial and cultural bias are not welcome at school. Avoid over-loose or tight clothes and clothes that show undergarments, or are revealing. Take a careful look at the full dress code in the **Student Handbook** for this and other policies.

- Cell phones and personal devices including wireless earbuds: Personal phones and other devices are powered off and stowed in your backpack or a device container during class, not on your person. You can use your devices during breaks and lunch. You may NOT film or photograph other students on campus. *Wireless earbuds are not allowed on campus*.
- **Taos Academy is a closed campus.** Students remain on campus during the school day unless signed out by a family member at the front office. College Link students follow a separate schedule and policy.

- **Student Drivers:** Student drivers will park in the TA student parking lot and display a student driving pass. You will need to provide a copy of your license, your insurance, your registration and have written parent permission. You can drive yourself only to school. You will need a staff escort to visit your vehicle during the school day and students should not be in the student parking lot other than at the start of the school day or dismissal times.
- Lunch, water, and snacks: Please bring your lunch, healthy snacks, and a reusable water bottle with you in your backpack. Lunch is not provided by Taos Academy. There are vending machines available ONLY at lunch or with a teacher escort class time will not be used to visit the vending machines.
- Food and non-water drinks in designated areas: Food and drink are not allowed near computers, in the gym, or on the playing fields and track. To have a snack and refuel during class, you will move to a designated table. Water bottles will save you having to wait to go to the water fountain; just keep the water bottle closed tightly on the floor near you.
- **Rest Rooms:** There are gender-inclusive individual locking restrooms in each of our buildings. Bathroom passes will be used to keep these as safe spaces for students who need them.
- **Over-the-Counter Medications, Drug, Tobacco and Vape Free Campus:** Do not bring these things to school. Please report them to a staff member if you see them.
- Weapon free campus: TA is a weapons-free zone and this includes pocket knives and items you may use at work or home. Please be sure to remove these items from your bag and pockets before school. Please report them to a staff member if you see them.

## Thanks for your attention to these details to help us all have a strong, safe start!

# STUDENT SUPPORT

**HS Student Success Lab** will be offered for our high schoolers from 8-12 Monday through Thursday, starting August 21st. Please take advantage of our open computer lab staffed with tutors and get your Edge on! This is a great opportunity to get a jump start on the academic year. After Thursday, August 24th, HS SSL will only be offered Mondays and Wednesdays from 8-12.

### Student Success Planning:

All students with a GPA of lower than 2.0, credit recovery, a failure in more than two core academic classes in the prior semester and/or not meeting proficiency in any academic area, will be put on a Student Success Plan. Students and families will work with the advisor to create a plan for increased student achievement and success here at TA, which may include required attendance at SSL or MS+, and/or additional STEM class attendance to boost engagement and student skills.

At the 9 week mark, an appropriate placement meeting will be scheduled by the advisor with the parent, student, curriculum coordinator and director to discuss success at TA and continued enrollment.



Middle School Plus (MS+) is offered from 8-4 on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting August 30th for <u>grades</u> <u>5-8</u>. Attendance is <u>voluntary</u> and not bound to an 8:00 am arrival **UNLESS** a student is on a Student

Success Lab contract (SSL). For students who take only <u>one</u> STEM class in the afternoon, we recommend attending MS+ in the mornings as well.

In MS+, Taos Academy provides a learning service for middle school students on their optional days that is flexible and based on the needs of participating students. Service components include: student-driven progress tracking for meeting social and academic goals, field trips, support for completing coursework, restorative practice techniques, and other activities that provide a rich environment for students to interact with each other, our staff and our community.

There may be fees associated with some of the voluntary scheduled activities and field trips - these will be communicated in advance to students and families.

Parents are encouraged to contact Mr. van Willigen at cvanwilligen@taosacademy.org with questions about the Middle School Plus enrichment program. We welcome your ideas and support!



**Special Education:** Families of Special Education Students: If you are joining Taos Academy for the next school year and have an IEP, please drop off a hard copy of your last evaluation and current IEP or share it with us digitally. If you have any questions or want to check in prior to the start of school, we are happy to connect with you in person.

As documents come in, we will be developing a Transfer IEP and contacting you to set up a meeting. If you have any questions or concerns or to set up a meeting prior to the Transfer IEP, please contact Ms. Sarah Bradley. We look forward to working with you and your child. Thank you for your support & welcome to Taos Academy!

### Our new Special Education Team includes:

**Patricia Meagher**, who will be **coordinating our Gifted program.** Patricia has been an advisor and ELA teacher and will also be managing our College Link Program. She comes from many years of teaching in Chicago Public Schools. pmeagher@taosacademy.org

**David Thibadeau** will be a **Special Education case manager** as well as working with MaxScholar Tutoring and SmartLab. David started out in Special Education in Georgia then moved into Educational Technology - we welcome his return to education after being a Tech Specialist in the corporate world. jdthibadeau@taosacademy.org

#### Jeanette Henshaw

jhenshaw@taosacademy.org

**TA Special Education Coordinator**575-758-3109Ms. Henshaw will be focusing on more school level support for students and teachers.

Sarah Bradley

#### sbradley@taosacademy.org

#### TA Special Education Director

#### 575-758-3109 x 104

Mrs. Bradley will be our district level Special Education administration, focusing on compliance, processes, and oversight. She comes with Title I and Reading Intervention experience and most recently served as the Principal of Enos Garcia Elementary School.

Additional Parent Support/Resources:michelle.tregembo@state.nm.us505-841-4565OSEA FlierNM Parents Reaching Out



If you are new to the school, please email a copy of your child's 504 plan or drop a hard copy off at the front desk if you haven't provided one already! 504s are usually reviewed annually on the date they were initiated; however, you may request to have a review done at the beginning of the school year to support your child's transition to Taos Academy if needed.

For families of students who have concerns about a physical or mental impairment, please reach out to me.

Each student suspected of having a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities should be evaluated by the district or charter school, on a case-by-case basis, to determine whether they may qualify as having a disability under Section 504.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

To be protected under Section 504, a student must be determined to:

- (1) have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; or
- (2) have a record of such an impairment, (i.e., the person has a history of, or has been misclassified as having, a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, even though the person does not currently have a disability); or
- (3) be regarded as having such an impairment, (i.e., the person does not have an impairment but is treated as having an impairment).

504 Overview Information

With thanks!

Angelina Vialpando, School Counselor and 504 Coordinator avialpando@taosacademy.org

# **TA FLEX Program is back!**

Taos Academy will continue to offer a FLEX learning option for eligible students. Students should be on track in their studies, demonstrate excellent independent work habits, and have a family member who will serve as their learning coach who is available to support them in their work.

Interested families should review the handbooks and application packet. Applications may be emailed to Elizabeth LeBlanc at eleblanc@taosacademy.org or dropped off at the front office. These should be turned in by Friday, August 11th for high school students and Friday, August 18th for middle school students.

Regardless of FLEX status, all students should plan to attend their Orientation ON CAMPUS per the schedule posted above. This is part of your responsibility as a FLEX student. Those with questions can contact Ms. Elizabeth LeBlanc at <u>eleblanc@taosacademy.org</u> to learn more.



**MS STEM+Art Institute classes** are for 7 weeks and will begin the week of August 29th. Classes will be announced **Monday, August 14th** and will be first come first serve with a <u>\$10 materials fee required at signup</u>.

**HS STEM+Art Institute classes** are for a full semester and will begin the week of August 28th. Classes will be announced on Monday, August 14th and will be first come first serve with a <u>\$20 materials fee</u> required at signup.

Registration will open on August 21st no exceptions. Fees must be paid at the time of registration. All registration will take place in the STEM office.

Please contact Jamie Lucero-Martinez jlucero-martinez@taosacademy.org or Cruz Duran <u>cduran@taosacademy.org</u> for more information.



Taos Academy's Internship Program gives elective credit to high school students who are volunteering in the community, participating in a sports program, or gaining job experience. In order to receive credit, students must have the business or organization they are working with fill out these three forms and documentation or hours:

- 1. Memorandum of Understanding
- 2. Internship Responsibilities
- 3. Fall and Spring progress reports (2 per semester)

The first two forms are due within the first few weeks of each semester to the Internship Program and will be submitted in the Google Classroom.

- The "Memorandum of Understanding" is signed by TA's director and by the business at which the student is interning. This document is an agreement between the school and the business and it protects the business while students are participating in the internship.
- The "Internship Agreement" is a form that details the volunteer, sports, or job opportunity. It must be signed by the student, mentor, coach or job supervisor, the coordinator of the TA Internship Program, the parent, and TA's director.
- The Progress Reports are dated and must be completed by the supervising party- 2 for each semester of internship credit. They must include a supervisor signature and total hours to date.

A .5 credit requires 100 hours and a full (1) credit requires 200 hours.

ALL forms must be complete in order for the student to receive credit for their internship. Contact Mr. Weisfeld at <u>jweisfeld@taosacademy.org</u> if you have any questions.



**\*\* Mandatory Orientation** will be held for ALL students enrolled in a UNM fall course on **Friday**, **August 11 from 2-4pm**. Parents are **highly encouraged** to attend as well! We will be reviewing expectations of the dual credit program, important information regarding dual credit enrollment, how to log in and access courses, check your UNM grades, email your UNM professors, order UNM books, and answer any questions you may have.

UNM Classes begin the week of August 21st. UNM textbooks will be ordered during Orientation.



Welcome Taos Academy students, parents, and community! We hope you had a fun and relaxing summer vacation and that everyone is ready for a new school year filled with new possibilities and new experiences.

School counselors help all students. Here is an idea of what our counseling team does:

- Academics: Apply academic achievement strategies
- Social Emotional Learning: Help students manage emotions and apply interpersonal skills
- Career and College Planning
- Student academic planning and goal setting
- School counseling classroom lessons
- Referrals for long-term support
- Collaboration with families/teachers/ administrators/ community for student success
- Advocacy for students at individual education plan meetings and other student-focused meetings
- Data analysis to identify student issues, needs and challenges
- Acting as a systems change agent to improve equity and access, achievement and opportunities for all students

We want to assure you that your students will be supported and encouraged by the teachers and staff If situations come up that need another layer of support, the school counseling office is here for them as well. If you have any concerns about your student, please feel free to contact the school counseling office. Email is the best way to reach us.

- Angelina Vialpando, avialpando@taosacademy.org
- Melissa Montoya, mmontoya@taosacademy.org
- Sherry Arnowitz, sarnowitz@taosacademy.org (School Psychologist)

PICTURE DAY Picture day is coming!



Important Information: Taos Academy Charter School - 8/30/2023 & 8/31/2023

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# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!! Look forward to seeing you all!



## Mark Your Calendars!

- **8/11** New Student/Parent Training (9 am to 1 pm)
- 8/14 8/17 High School Orientation & Leadership Days
- 8/14 Governing Council Meeting 5:30
- 8/18 Friday School (8:00 am 1:30 pm)
- 8/21 8/24 Middle School Orientation & Leadership Days
- 8/23 Equity Council, Parent Advisory, & Community Schools (4:15 5:45)
- 8/28 STEM + Arts Classes begin
- **8/30 -** MS Plus Program begins
- 8/30-8/31 Lifetouch Picture Days



## Mark Your Calendars!

- 9/1 Friday School (8:00 am 1:30 pm)
- 9/4 Labor Day No School
- 9/8 MS Make-Up Day
- **9/11** Governing Council @ 5:30
- **9/15** Friday School (8:00 am 1:30 pm)
- 9/22 Teacher Inservice/ No Friday School
- 9/27 Equity Council, Parent Advisory, & Community Schools
- **9/29** Friday School (8:00 am 1:30 pm)
- 9/30 San Geronimo Day

If you have any questions feel free to call or email the contacts below: Amy Lucero <u>alucero@taosacademy.org</u> 751-3109 Ashley Duran <u>aduran@taosacademy.org</u> 751-3109