



Welcome Letter and Information

The Taos Academy Governing Council, Administration, and TA Faculty and Staff would like to welcome all new and returning students and their families back to school! We are looking forward to an amazing year with exciting additions to our student body, faculty, curriculum, programming and facility. Thank you for joining us as we continue to grow and innovate!

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!

Please find the attached 2022-2023 calendar and supply list. Below is an overview of the month for you to plan. More information will follow next week. Please feel free to contact Amy Lucero if you have any questions or need further help at 575-751-3109 or alucero@taosacademy.org

Check out our website with this information as well as much more at www.taosacademy.org.



New Family Orientation

Taos Academy will be hosting a **New Family Orientation** on August 12th from 8am - 12pm. All new families are asked to attend this training and orientation at our school. If you are unable to make it, please contact Elizabeth LeBlanc at eleblanc@taosacademy.org to schedule a time to come in and receive your TA login information and mini-orientation.

School Starting Dates and Times: **HIGH SCHOOL ONLY**

HS SCHOOL STARTS THE WEEK OF:

Monday, August 15th – Thursday, August 18th

School starts at 8am and ends at 4pm

Monday 8/15 - School starts at 8am and concludes at 4pm for **High School only** this week. Students will participate in orientation activities and begin coursework. (CL Seniors only; sign up for CL labs.)

Tuesday 8/16 - School starts at 8am and concludes at 4pm for High School Only this week. Students will participate in orientation activities and begin coursework. (CL Juniors only; sign up for 3 CL labs.)

Wednesday 8/17 - This is a **TENTATIVE schedule and subject to change. Schedule will be confirmed in the August newsletter.**

- **Grade 9:** Will be participating in the Rocky Mountain Youth Corp Challenge Course. Students will meet at 8 am at Taos Academy Campus and pick up is at 3 pm at Taos Academy Campus.
- **Grade 10:** TA online coursework.
- **Grade 11:** Will meet at the Rio Grande Visitor's Center in Pilar at 8:30 am to raft the Rio Grande "Racecourse" with Los Rios River Runners. Parents and/or students will be responsible for transportation and lunch.
- **Grade 12:** Attend Taos Academy for advisory meetings, to develop your schedule, and to get set up in classes.



Thursday 8/19

- **Grade 9:** TA online coursework.
- **Grade 10:** Will be participating in the Rocky Mountain Youth Corp Challenge Course. Students will meet at 8am at Taos Academy Campus and pick up is at 3 pm at Taos Academy Campus.
- **Grade 11:** Attend Taos Academy for advisory meetings, to develop your schedule, and to get set up in classes.
- **Grade 12:** Will meet at the Rio Grande Visitor's Center in Pilar at 8:30 am to raft the Rio Grande "Racecourse" with Los Rios River Runners. Parents and/or students will be responsible for transportation and lunch.

College Link students: Ms. Robin Shawver and Ms. Kelci Pike will be working with you to develop your TA schedules during this Orientation Week.

Monday 8/22 – Thursday 8/25 – High School students only will NOT be attending TA campus this week. However, they are required to stay current with their pacing calendar for online coursework in Edgenuity. Students are highly encouraged to attend the Student Success Lab at Taos Academy Monday through Thursday from 8-12, if needed.

School Starting Dates and Times: **MIDDLE SCHOOL ONLY**

SCHOOL STARTS THE WEEK OF:

Monday, August 22nd – Thursday, August 26th

School starts at 8am and ends at 4pm

Monday 8/22 - School starts at 8am and concludes at 4pm for ALL middle school students, 5th-8th grades. Students will participate in a full day of orientation activities and begin coursework.

Tuesday 8/23 - School starts at 8am and concludes at 4pm for 7th and 8th graders; these students will participate in a full day of orientation activities and continue coursework.

School starts at 8 am and concludes at 12 noon for 5th and 6th graders; 5th and 6th grade students are then dismissed to pack and prepare for their outdoor ed camping activity and will meet at the proposed camping site at 2 pm. Directions, gear list, and site information to come in the August newsletter!

Wednesday 8/24 - School starts at 8 am and concludes at 12 noon for 7th and 8th graders; students are then dismissed to pack and prepare for their outdoor ed camping activity and will meet at the proposed camping site at 2 pm. Directions, gear list, and site information to come in the August newsletter!

5th and 6th graders will be picked up from their outdoor ed camping activity at 1 pm.

Thursday 8/25 - 7th and 8th graders will be picked up from their outdoor ed camping activity at 1 pm.

School starts at 8 am and concludes at 4 pm for 5th and 6th graders.

Parents will be responsible for transportation to and from the campsite. In addition to the items on their gear list, students will need a sack lunch the first day.



ALL STUDENTS:

Monday, August 29th – Thursday, September 1st

Beginning the week of August 29th, students will attend TA on their regularly scheduled days. Middle school students attend campus on Monday and Wednesday; high school students attend Tuesday and Thursday from 8 am to 4 pm. College Link will be scheduled around the UNM schedule.

***PLEASE NOTE: September 5th is Labor Day and the school is closed. This week only, Mid School Students will attend Wednesday and Friday.**





OTHER ACTIVITIES:

- Mid School Plus Program will be offered from 8-4 Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting August 30th.
- Student Success Lab will be offered from 8-12 Mondays and Wednesdays, starting August 29th.
- Probationary Enrollment: All students with a GPA lower than 2.0, having failed two or more core academic classes and/or not meeting proficiency in any academic area will be placed on probationary enrollment and must attend either MidSchool Plus or HS SSL on their off days. Additional tutoring times and STEM classes may also be part of your child's skills and credit recovery plan.
- STEM+Arts Institute classes will begin the week of August 29th. Schedule TBA. Material fee is \$10 for Middle School and \$20 for High School. Fee payment is required upon sign-up. Scholarships are available.

GET INVOLVED

Parent Advisory/Foundation Board Meeting

Parents interested in joining the parent advisory council or foundation board, please attend our first meeting on Wednesday, August 24th at 5:30.

If you have any questions feel free to call or email the contacts below:

Amy Lucero - Administrative Secretary: 751-3109 alucero@taosacademy.org

Traci Filiss – Director/Superintendent: 751-3109 tfiliss@taosacademy.org

Karin Moulton – Foundation Coordinator: 751-3109 kmoulton@taosacademy.org

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!! We look forward to seeing you all!



Dear New Families. If your child has an IEP please make sure that we know. If possible please share copies of their latest IEP and Evaluation report to facilitate their transfer meeting. As soon as I have documents and the information drafted into our system I will contact you to set up a transfer IEP meeting. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me. I am here all of July and available to meet with you. The Special Education TEAM looks forward to working with you and your child.

Special Education Coordinator, Jeanette Henshaw

Phone: 575-751-3109 x104 Email: jhenshaw@taosacademy.org

Here is this month's info/resource:

[7 good chrome extensions for students with dyslexia](#)



Hello families. My name is Sara Martinez, I am the 504 Coordinator for the upcoming school year. If you are new to the school, welcome. Please email me a copy of your child's 504 plan if you haven't provided one to the school yet.

Typically, 504s are reviewed annually on the date they were initiated, however you may request to have a review done at the beginning of the school year. If you need a copy of your student's 504 plan let me know. All of your student's teachers will get a copy at the beginning of the year.

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

Sara Martinez, 504 Coordinator smartinez@taosacademy.org

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).

■ 2022 OVERVIEW OF SECTION 504.pdf



We hope you are all having a fun and relaxing summer vacation! If you have any concerns about your student, please feel free to contact me, throughout the remainder of the summer. Email is the best way to reach me.

- Sara Martinez, School Counselor
smartinez@taosacademy.org



Seniors:

- Next Step Plans**
Please be on the lookout for an email from Sara Martinez, inviting seniors to work on their Next Step Plan. Next Step Plans are a great way for students to prepare for life after high school and are also a requirement of graduation. They must be completed by August 30th, final plans are signed off on by the end of April 2023.
- Check out the [Preparing for senior year checklist!](#)