

November

Thank you, all, for the awesome turn out both at last month's Outdoor Open House and at our Student-Led Conferences!!! We had a blast hearing directly from our students, enjoying their performances, and sharing fun and food together.

Please pay close attention to the calendar as we head into the second half of the semester.

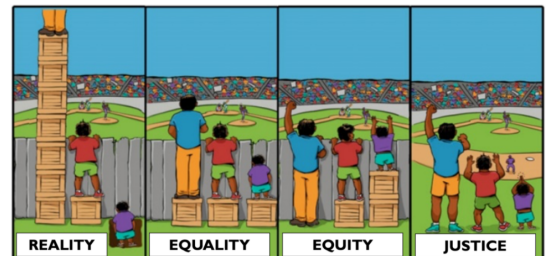


School Delays or Closings: Just a reminder that Taos Academy does not necessarily follow Taos Municipal school calendar or delays or closings. Please be sure to access our calendar online and watch for weather delays or closings on KOB news, KOAT.com and KRQE News as well as local radio. We also send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

On campus Parent Advisory/Equity Council Meeting

Please join us for the next parent meeting on Tuesday, November 16 from 5:30pm to 7:00. Food and drinks will be provided.

The goal of the Equity Council is to bridge the gap for servicing subgroups and the needs for equity in educational opportunities. This month's meeting will be focused on our English Language Learners. We want to get to know you better to involve you in the Equity Council.



Mr. Kelly and Mrs Cruz Duran will be available to translate if needed.

Reunión del Consejo Asesor de Padres / Equidad en el campus

La próxima reunión de padres es el martes 16 de noviembre de 5:30 p.m. a 7:00 p.m. Únase a nosotros en la escuela en el laboratorio principal (Main Lab), en persona. Comida y bebida serán proveídas.

Damos la bienvenida especialmente a las familias de los estudiantes quienes participan en el programa de aprendizaje del idioma inglés (ELL). Queremos conocerlos mejor e invitarlos a participar en el Equity Council. (Consejo de Equidad)

El objetivo del Equity Council es servir mejor a toda nuestra comunidad. Queremos escuchar de ustedes. Si prefiere hablar español, el Sr. Kelly y la Sra. Cruz Duran pueden ayudar a traducir.

Gracias. Esperamos verlos ahí.

TAOS ACADEMY Restorative Practices

The fundamental premise of restorative practices is that people are happier, more cooperative and productive, and more likely to make positive changes when those in positions of authority do things with them, rather than to them or for them.

(See parent advisory notes at the bottom of newsletter for more information)



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

<https://www.bbbsmountainregion.org/>

Keep an eye in this space, we hope to REBUILD our program for HS students to mentor MS students on site. We will be accepting applications soon. If you have any questions please contact : Melissa Montoya (mmontoya@taosacademy.org) for information on BBBS.



High School Student Advisory

We will be hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, November 9th, 2021 from 10a.m. to 2p.m. Vitalant BloodMobile will be on campus. Community members and Students 16 and older may participate. Permission slips are available in the STEM Office. If you would like to donate please email Mrs. Jamie Lucero-Martinez at jlucero-martinez@taosacademy.org or make your appointment online. <https://donors.vitalant.org/dwp/portal/dwa/appointment/guest/phl/timeSlotsExtr?token=Z5d6aagtEdfpcK8jteyoiUNC9ATG6W2N%2BG5M8OwUsk4%3D>

Thank you for helping us save lives within our community. All blood donations will go to Holy Cross Hospital here in Taos.

SENIORS - CAP and Gown Announcement



The representative from Josten will be on campus for a short presentation on **Tuesday, November 16th at 5p.m.** Please bring your parent/guardian to this meeting. Information regarding graduation regalia and other Class of 2022 special items will be available.

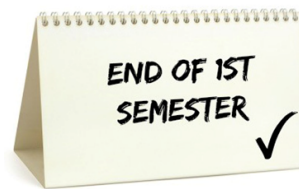
Middle School

We hope to celebrate the “Random Acts of Kindness” students are performing in Middle School Plus. These acts include picking up trash on campus without being asked, for example, and helping others in many different ways. When we fill the board with cards describing these efforts we will meet our goal and earn a pizza party.



Thanksgiving Break
No School

Thanksgiving Break 11/19-11/28 - The campus will be closed during this week, however students can continue working in Edgenuity and RosettaStone. This is a great time to get ahead or catch up because the Edgenuity clock stops for that week.



The end of the semester is December 16th. All coursework will be due Thursday, December 16th as per the assignment calendar in Edgenuity. Students should be fully prepared to take their final exams this week and the next. Use this time to study and plan to come into your final exam week on track and with the highest grades possible to demonstrate your mastery of the content learned this semester!

Digital Citizenship Corner

Parents, are you asking questions such as, “Should my child have a cell phone?” or “Should I demand the passwords to my child’s social media accounts?” We get it, things are changing rapidly and we all want the best for our children. Check out [this information from Common Sense Media](#) that may help you navigate this territory with your child and his or her technology.



We are halfway through our first semester of the school year! Seniors, the light at the end of the High School tunnel is getting bigger. It’s time to shift into high gear and finish up with strong scores that will

bring you to the culmination of your HS GPA. This semester's transcript will be the one you will attach to those scholarship and college applications.

Scholarships begin to open up this semester and the beginning of the first of the next semester. Mrs. Robin Shawver and Miss Pike have been providing you with information about college applications and college entrance exams along with some local scholarships. We all urge you to research the BEST colleges for you - use the tools provided to you in your Google Classrooms. This really takes lots of time and exploration. Make sure to book an appointment with [Bridges](#) and work with one of their staff to get the ball rolling!

The Spring 2022 UNM-Taos class schedule will be available online **November 8, 2021**. Browse your options then schedule a meeting with Miss Pike to plan and register for your dual credit classes that will begin in January. Remember, check your Career Cruising and transcripts to make sure you find dual credit classes that meet your graduation requirements and also interest you.

Next, if you have not taken a UNM placement assessment for a core class, you need to get this done in order to qualify for math or English classes at UNM next semester. Reach out to Miss Pike or call UNM student services for the information needed to get this done.

College Applications and Scholarship Information:

Seniors, please apply to colleges as soon as possible. The sooner you apply, the sooner you will get accepted, and the sooner you can begin applying for scholarships.

Daniels Fund Scholarship application is due November 15, 2021 at 4 pm.

<http://www.danielsfund.org/>

UNM Spring Schedule of Classes will be available online at UNM Taos website on Nov. 8, 2021.

College Entrance Exams for Seniors - The next SAT is December 4 and the registration deadline is November 4. The next ACT is December 11 and the registration deadline is November 5. Mrs. Martinez is available to help register and provide fee waivers for eligible students, stop by the counseling office or email smartinez@taosacademy.org

Seniors – If you have applied to UNM Main Campus, please apply for the UNM scholarships. The Regents and Presidential Scholarships deadline is December 1, 2021. Please see the website for more information: <http://unmscholarshipapp.unm.edu/>

School Counseling Corner

Hello Taos Academy parents, students and community. My name is Sara Martinez and I am a school counselor and the 504 Coordinator . I started in October and am already impressed with the school culture

that exists here to support the students. This is my 7th year in education. In addition to school counseling I have worked as a long-term substitute teacher, teacher of Culinary Arts and English Language Arts, and attendance success coach. I grew up in Taos County, graduated from Questa High School and have degrees from New Mexico State University, Colorado State University, Santa Fe Community College and New Mexico Highlands University. My husband and I love being able to raise our two kids in the mountains and close to family. I enjoy writing and cooking/baking. My goal is to help support students to live their best school lives but also to prepare for their lives after high school.

Ms. Melissa Montoya and I are excited to provide counseling services to all students covering a number of areas such as: college & career readiness, social & emotional development and support for academic struggles such as test anxiety and communicating with teachers. Melissa and I also have connections to a variety of resources in the community and will make referrals to those agencies. We look forward to serving you and your students. Please contact either one of us if you have any needs or concerns regarding your student.

Sara Martinez- smartinez@taosacademy.org

Melissa Montoya- mmontoya@taosacademy.org



ESPORTS UPDATE

Here is the updated schedule for games happening THIS MONTH!

League of Legends - 11/01 @ 5 + 11/02 @ 4

Madden - 11/04 @ 3 + 4

Super Smash Bros Ultimate - 11/03 @ 4

Rocket League - 11/04 @ 4

WATCH THEM WITH US LIVE ON OUR VERY OWN TWITCH CHANNEL:

<https://www.twitch.tv/taosacademyesports>



11/7 - Daylight saving time ends. Turn clocks back an hour.




11/8 – Governing Council Meeting 5:30

11/11 –  **Veterans Day**

11/12 - **Teacher In Service (No School, No SSL)**

11/16 –  **Parent Advisory Council Meeting**

11/19 – 11/26 –  **Campus Closed for Thanksgiving Break**



12/10 - **Celebration of Learning**

12/13 –  **Governing Council Meeting**

12/15 – 12/21 –  **Finals week – End of Semester**

12/21 –  **Parent Advisory Council Meeting**

12/23 – 01/12 –  **Winter Break**

PARENT ADVISORY –5:30 –7:00
Tuesday, October 26th, 2021
Taos Academy
110 Paseo Del Canon West
Taos, NM
575-751-3109

Taos Academy Parent Advisory Meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month. The Advisory committee welcomes parent participation. The mission of the committee is to help move the organization forward with strategic planning and quality assurance. Please review the norms, roles and agenda to further understand the structure of the meeting. Thank you and we look forward to ideas related to our mission.

Parent Advisory/Equity Council

Join with Google Meet 

meet.google.com/upc-gces-pcc

Join by phone

(US) +1 505-445-7678 PIN: 407 440 787#

Organizer: Taos Academy Public Calendar

Taos Academy Public Calendar

Recorded Meeting

Meeting Agenda:

5:30 Attendance - Cruz Duran, Jamie Lucero-Martinez, Warren Kelly, Pam Bishop, Tanya Martinez-Gurule, Elizabeth Leblanc, Racheal Gurule, Dr. Traci Filiss

Respect time, come with solutions, win-win, champion a committee. This is a virtual Parent Advisory and Equity Council meeting for Taos Academy. Due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) this meeting is being conducted in a Google Meet format.

Parent Advisory goals - Parents sharing ideas and concerns, championing a committee, finding a place in the school where you can contribute, encouraging other parents to participate.

Equity Council goals - Bridging the gap for servicing subgroups and the needs for equity in educational opportunities. Cultural responsiveness is part of the process for this group and working on a positive school culture.

5:45–7:00 Discussion items:

Equity Council Meeting:

- Recruitment
- Monthly Discussions - Communication to families regarding a culture of equity. Culturally Responsive Learning in Classrooms.
 - November focus EL
 - December - Special Education
 - January - Ethnic Subgroups - Native American, Hispanic/Latino
 - February - Economically Disadvantaged
- Needs assessment will take place after all meetings.
- Combining with Community Schools

Parent Advisory Meeting:

- **Digital Equity Survey - Closed**

- Hotspot needs were identified and all students have access to the internet outside of school.
- Identifies student's ability to access instruction
- **End of 1 quarter (new quarter)**
 - 225 in person, 45 flex academy
 - Student led conferences occurred Oct 22, 2021 . In person and virtually. Parent engagement improved with meeting options.
- **Welcome to Sara Martinez and Melissa Montoya in counseling office**
 - Meeting with students and working on the needs assessment including self referral.
- **STEM classes** - Quarter 2 Middle school session has begun. Last day to add or drop classes is tomorrow!
 - High school continues the Semester.
 - Classes end for the term on December 9th with our STEM Night!
- **Senior Events**
 - Senior Sunrise TBA
 - NHS - induction on campus tonight! Service learning projects are in process
 - Blood drive November 9th - Student 16 and over may donate
 - SATs offered at THS monthly
 - Ordering of regalia and senior items will take place in November.
 - HS Student advisory council will be planning and organizing senior events including PROM. This includes fundraising. Volunteers and support is needed from families. If you are interested in supporting our efforts contact Jamie Lucero-Martinez.
- **State testing.**
 - SAT is given in April to all 11th graders.
 - PSAT - Results will arrive in Late November
- **Facility changes**
 - Taos Academy is in the process of adding a 2900 square foot building. Construction has started on the Career Tech Ed, CTE building. Project has begun. Building delivery Nov 13th.
- **Restorative Practices** - The Social Discipline Window - Warren Kelly - see SUPPLEMENT below.
- **Other items**
- **Parent Q and A**

Next meeting agenda items:

November 16th-

- **Winter activity planning**
- **STEM Night**
- **End of term**
- **RP - activity**
- **EQ - Informative session - EL Group supports**
- **Facility Update**

- Community Schools update

Equity Council: Agenda -

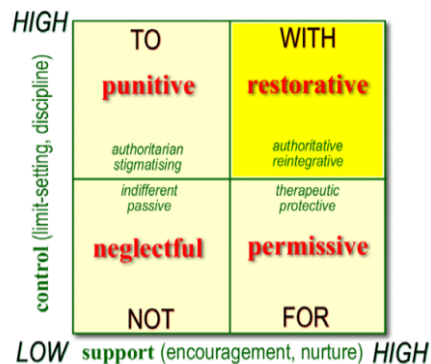
Traci Filiss Executive Director - Present
Jamie Lucero-Martinez - Program lead - present
H. Warren Kelly - ELL, Restorative Practices -Present
Cruz Duran-Economically Disadvantaged - Present
- Disabilities -
??? - Student -

Attendance:

We are working through year two of equity councils and refocusing our work statewide as we realize the impact the Pandemic has had on our schools and community. These guiding questions will be used to assist our council in redirecting our focus as students return to in-person learning.

Restorative Practices Equity Council 10/26 - *The fundamental premise of restorative practices is that people are happier, more cooperative and productive, and more likely to make positive changes when those in positions of authority do things with them, rather than to them or for them.*

November Practice - The Social Discipline Window.



Think about a school experience that left a lasting impression on you: What style do you associate with that experience?

The Social Discipline Window Two variables: Control and Support.

“Control” is discipline or limit-setting.

“Support” is encouragement or nurturing.

The **PERMISSIVE** approach (lower right quadrant) consists of low control and high support, a scarcity of limit-setting and an abundance of nurturing.

Opposite permissive (upper left quadrant) is the **AUTHORITARIAN** (or punitive) approach, high on control and low on support. Sadly, schools and courts have increasingly embraced the punitive approach, Such as zero tolerance policies.

The third approach, when there is an absence of both limit-setting and nurturing, is **NEGLECTFUL** (lower left quadrant).

The fourth possibility is **RESTORATIVE** (upper right quadrant). Employing both high control and high support.

The **restorative** approach confronts and disapproves of wrongdoing while supporting and valuing the intrinsic worth of the wrongdoer.

We are advocating high control of wrongdoing - of **deeds**, not control of human beings in general - **not doers**. Our ultimate goal is freedom from the kind of control that wrongdoers impose on us.

This social discipline window can be used to **represent parenting choices**.

For example, there are neglectful choices that are absent or abusive.

Permissive choices that are ineffectual or enabling.

“Authoritarian” choices are punishing and controlling without support.