



Laguna Division of Early Childhood

Phone: (505) 552-6544 ✨ P.O. Box 207 Laguna, N.M. ✨ Fax: (505) 796-6909
87026

EHS

Sunnyside
Chinatown

New York

Turquoise Springs

PHS

Paguate

Village

Casa Blanca

Encinal

Family Service Providers

Health Aid

Disabilities Coordinator

ERSEA Manager

Social Worker

UPCOMING EVENTS

10/10- Take home activity

10/13- Indigenous Peoples' Day
(No School)

10/15- Nutrition Activity
(Pretzel & Cheese
Broomsticks)

10/17- Paraje Feast
(No School)

10/20- Parent Teacher
Conferences

10/22- S.T.E.A.M. Activity-
Colors In Nature

10/30- Costume Parade

10/31- Pumpkin Carving



October 2025



Sunnyside

October: We made it through the month of September. The children have adjusted well to their new environment and are getting into the routines of the classroom. The theme for the month was bags. The children explored the different types of bags and even got to place envelopes and toys into the bags.

Creative Curriculum: For the month of October, we are looking forward to exploring different types of clothes. What types of clothes are good for the different types of weather? How can we dress for the different seasons? Questions we will answer. The children will have hands-on learning with engaging activities. Home activities: Look around your house and see what types of clothes you have. Talk about what they are used for.

Social-Emotional: Still getting the children to adjust to the routines and also meeting more new friends.

Cultural Lifeways: We are in the month of feasts. These days are culture days - No School. Attend the feasts, watch the social dances, and support the local artists.

Conscious Discipline: Wishing the children well with the song, I Wish You Well.

Achievements / Milestones

We welcomed a new friend to the classroom. We have five children in class.

A.L- Taking steps on her own

A.P-Talking and saying more words

D.E-Taking a few more steps while holding hands

Two children are walking on their own.

Birthdays - D.E-10/04

Reminders to parents: Check folders for any flyers and information

*As the weather is getting colder make sure the children have jackets

Parent tip(s): Be patient and understanding, during separation.

Offer extra cuddles, reassurance, and saying good-bye.

Parent recognition: Thank you to our parents for bringing their children to school.

Andrea Lucario
a.lucario@lagunaed.net

(505) 552-6544 ext.5201

Makayla Sarracino
m.sarracino@lagunaed.net

Chinatown

Chinatown October 2025

Greetings! After two months of early head start, I am happy to say that our children seem to be comfortable with entering their classroom. We've had one or two criers; however, the children settle a little easier and sooner than before. Our Cozy Corner may become more of a Cozy Cave as we have children who seem to prefer closed-in spaces, this will be our safe place where children can settle down when their emotions take over. We have begun using the I Love You Rituals to engage with children on a one-on-one basis. The Teddy Bear Activity Board allows the child to choose what activity they want to help create a relationship with us. We will share these activities with our families during the parent-teacher conferences.

This month we will celebrate two of our kiddos turning 3! Happy Birthday JB and PH! They will take along with them their portfolio of the first 3 months of school; and, fun memories of their last days of EHS.

October is a fun month to have: the season is a little cooler, there's an energy of change & wonder, and, lastly, imagination & play is all around. As we look forward to singing new songs, saying different rhymes, and playing new games, we will begin a study about clothes. The children will engage in matching games, design socks, and learn about sizes. The dramatic play area can have different child-size clothes that are similar to the community helpers we see in Laguna.

Our Cultural Lifeway will introduce the time of harvest. Our children will learn the process of harvesting and possibly taste test some produce like pumpkin and squash. As they learn about harvesting, we will begin our Greenhouse Planting activities. We'd like to show our children how to cultivate vegetables and fruit, from seeds to plant-it will help children see how patience is needed to grow and nurture plants.

We look forward to sharing all we can with our families during the parent-teacher conferences! Thank you!

New York



We have made it through our second month of school (September) during this month we studied different types of bags and their uses, also in our cultural lifeways we learned about feast days, the Laguna traditions and activities that are celebrated during these days.

Our focus for the upcoming month of October will be clothes. The children will learn what types of clothes to wear. With the changes to the weather and how to dress themselves. This will help to develop their gross/fine motor and problem solving skills by working with buttons, zippers etc.

We will learn the process of Harvesting fruits and vegetables for our Cultural Lifeways for the month of October. We might even get to taste some.

Color of the Month is Orange.



Highlights of the month more of the kids are starting to say more words.

Some of the activities we will be having this month are:

10/10 Halloween Take Home Activity

10/15 Nutrition Activity Pretzel and Cheese broomsticks

10/20 Parent Teacher Conferences (NO SCHOOL)

10/22 STEAM Colors in Nature.

10/31 Pumpkin Carving



Happy Birthday to our Friend
JP 10/16

Reminders:

Please read to your child.
Please remember to check their folders for notes and flyers and to please return folders on daily basis.

Please dress your child accordingly due to the changes in the weather.



Turquoise Springs

September

Creative Curriculum: What fun we had using many different bags. Learning that we can use plastic bags, paper bags, cloth bags, cooler bags, and our own back packs to carry many different things, like our toys, books, clothes, food, and trash. We also felt the different textures in the bags, and learned that the bags can get heavy when we keep adding things to the bag.

Cultural Lifeways: Talking about our feast days and all the good food that we eat, along with the good treats as well. Looking at pictures of the traditional clothing that we use during our times of dancing. Thank you for completing the at home activity of “dressing your paper doll.”

Conscious Discipline: Power of Unity, has been working great with our group of kiddos; knowing that we are in this together, has helped our children to accept that coming to school is really not that bad, time away from their favorite people is hard but the day really goes faster than we think. Good job to the children and their families

Health / Nutrition Activities: We tried some guacamole dip, some liked it and some gave it a little taste and didn't want to finish. And Teacher forgot the tortilla chips, haha.

Achievements / Goals: Kuddos to S.A. for using those gross motor skills and wanting to walk everywhere, she is now moving freely around the classroom. Continue to encourage your children to use their walking feet/legs, it helps them daily.

Birthdays: Happy Birthday to our friend J.B. on Sept 21. Many blessings for many more birthdays to come!

Parent Recognition / Well Wishes: Thank You again parents for your time in completing the at home activities, we appreciate what you do for your child.



OCTOBER

Turquoise Springs continued....

Creative Curriculum: In this month our study will focus on “Clothes”. Of course, we will get to observe the many textures, the many colors, and the different sizes of clothes. We will discuss when we should wear a certain type of clothing, especially with our weather changing into the cooler/colder weather. Please also make sure to check your child’s cubbies, to see if they have extra clothes on hand, and to make sure they have a jacket. It is that time of year that we never know what our weather is going to be like.

Cultural Lifeways: Children will learn the process of “Harvest time”; looking at pictures of gardens where the vegetables grow; being able to have hands on with the vegetables such as corn, squash, melons, carrots, pumpkin, and chili. This month our color is Orange.

STEAM: “The colors in Nature”. When the weather changes to the much colder weather, we start to see the leaves on the trees change color, the weeds on the ground turn from green to brown; we will also observe through pictures the different colors that are out there in our natural world.

Conscious Discipline: Power of Attention: What you focus on, you get more of. What is it that we truly value, that we would want our children to focus on; walking more independently, increasing our vocabulary, using our hands and fingers to build our fine motor skills.

Health / Nutrition Activities: For our activity we will be making Pretzel and cheese broomsticks.

Parent Tips: Establish routines-consistent daily routines help toddlers feel secure and understand expectations; include meal times sitting at the table, 8 to 10 hours of sleeping (on weekends or school days off, make sure they are taking naps); allow play time instead of screen time.

- Encourage communication- foster language development by talking (refrain from using baby talk), reading books, and singing songs with your toddler, encourage them to use words, repeat words for them.
- Promote independence-encourage self-help skills, such as washing hands, throwing away their trash, picking up and putting away their toys.
- Set clear boundaries- use simple clear rules and explain to them the reason behind the rules; be consistent with discipline to help toddlers to understand consequences.

Parent Engagement: look out for flyers sent in your child’s folder for upcoming events or at home activities for you all to do, as always don’t forget to send the in-kind sheets back. Thank You!!

Again, please keep your child home if they are having illness symptoms, this helps to keep it from spreading to others (friends and staff). This group of children are at the age where everything and anything goes straight to the mouth, including boogers 🤢. Thank you and we appreciate the help.

Birthday Shout outs to our friends and Teacher, may you all be blessed with many more years:

October 1 J.P.

October 4 Teacher Angela

October 30 M.R.



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

Casa Blanca



Greetings Families.

And so, another month has passed us by. Although time does move at a constant pace, there is no denying that the school year is moving at light speed. September came and went with so many things happening, it seemed like a blur in our classroom. So let's look at a few things that were happening in our classroom.

First off, I would like to thank Ms. Loni Concho for being in the classroom. She contributed to the classroom by being here every day and taking care of the children. The children worked really well with Ms. Loni until Mrs. Pedro returned to the classroom. So, again, a big thank you to Ms. Loni Concho.

September brought many days that were hopefully spent with family and friends. We had a lot of feast days and a holiday to enjoy. Encinal Feast was a nice break. We took some of the children to the Laguna Feast Day Parade and received tons of candy from all the rocking Ozzy Osbourne fans in the parade. Mr. Levantonio and one student that we know about participated in the Follow the Leader dancing. And, as I am writing this, we will be celebrating the last of the September feast days in Paguete. These are really great times to be enjoying and celebrating our customs and traditions, the wonderful food, and visiting our families.

As we move forward to October, there will be plenty to look forward to next month. We have one more feast day in Paraje. Halloween is always exciting to look forward. Our curriculum will involve Buildings. With that in mind, we will be looking at all the different structures that are used around the world, in our country, and in our state. We will also go local and look at all the various structures that make our homes unique.

For our Culture Lifeways, we will discuss the harvest and what that means. If any families have a field that they would like to share a visit with us, please let Mr. Levantonio know. It is always a great way to share the actual farming and crops with the children. We are still learning our small words and phrases in the classroom with prayer, directions and everyday words.

As the weather gets colder, please remember to dress your children accordingly. We are at that time of the year where the weather is cold in the morning and warm in the afternoon. Light jackets, sweaters, and hoodies are perfect for this type of weather. Long pants might be better than shorts. However, as I said, the weather does get warm later in the day. Hopefully, we will keep everyone updated with classroom happenings. Thank you again for all you do for your child and the classroom. Please keep reading to your child in the evenings. When you can, speak with your child in the Keres language. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact us here at the school at 505-552-6544, ext.# 5113. Thank you.

Mr. Levantonio
Mrs. Pedro



Village

Greetings Families,

October is a new month of change. A change in nature's color, cooler mornings and evenings. This new month we will study on building as our theme. We will discuss the topic of buildings. As to follow with the color orange for the month of October. Children of Village Classroom have been adapting to the daily classroom routine, with little reminders as well as learning our meal and morning prayer. Our classroom will continue to focus on our daily classroom routine from home to school.

For the month of October our classroom will continue learning and practice the Creative Curriculum, Cultural Life Ways, and Conscious Discipline.

A big shout out to all grandparents who came to the classroom to celebrate the day with their grandchildren. Village Classroom teachers would like to thank the Parents/Guardians for engaging with your child with the take home activities and returning with a In-Kind form. Please continue to assist children with writing tools.

Please send children with a jacket as the morning is cool also, send a water bottle. Fridays, all water bottles will be sent home, check backpacks and blue take home folders as teachers will be sending activities home along with an In-Kind form for parents to fill out, continue to be consistent with potty training at home. Friendly reminder, if your child is showing any symptoms of illness please keep them home as we want to prevent the spread of germs, we want all of our friends and staff to feel better.



Encinal



Creative Curriculum: September, our theme was "Building the Classroom Community." Children are welcomed into a safe and supportive environment where they feel a sense of belonging and are valued. We engaged in activities to build relationships with our children in the classroom, giving children a voice and modeling positive behavior.



October Curriculum will be "Cameras", children will learn how to use a camera to take photos and videos, we will teach them basic skills, like how to hold the camera, study, and framing shots! I think they will really enjoy taking pics of each other!



Cultural Lifeways: "Harvest" is our lifeway! We will learn the process of harvesting. We plan on having a small community garden in our classroom soon, and the children will also be taste-testing vegetables grown locally. Keres Vocabulary: vegetables, squash, corn, pumpkin, chili, and watermelon. Our color of the month is Orange.



Nutrition Activity: for October, the activity will be pretzel and cheese broomstick. The children learn how to make a healthy, easy, fun snack using pretzels and cheese slices.



Highlights: Yay! Our playground is now open, and children are enjoying the spongy flooring, no more wood chips to get in their shoes. A new canopy that covers large musical instruments! Children are really showing their musical talent!!



Reminders to parents: The weather is changing, mornings are pretty chilly now, so please send a sweater or light jacket with your child. Our air conditioners are still on in the classroom, and it gets cold.

Please check your child's take-home folders and continue to read their books! And a reminder to keep your child home if they are not feeling well.

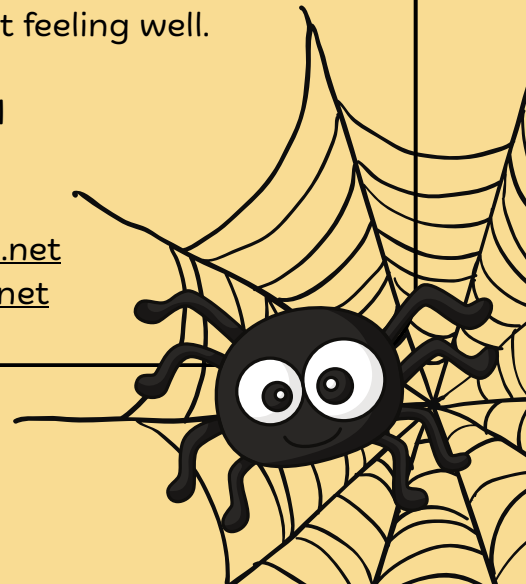
Happy Birthday to J. Gallegos 10/11

Teachers' contact Info:

Ms. Juana's email: j.natseway@lagunaed.net

Ms. Yvonne's email: y.francis@lagunaed.net

Classroom ext. 5110





SEAMA



SPOOKY SEASON IS FINALLY HERE!

Creative Curriculum: Our theme for the month of October is Cameras. We will be exploring with cameras and asking questions like..." What are Camera's used for?", "Do you know how to work a camera?", "Do you know what a 'Selfie' is?" We will be having the children take 5 photo's each of whatever they want and then comparing the pictures they took towards the end of the month. Teachers are planning to have families help their child on making their own camera's out of cardboard boxes. Be creative! Look out for notes soon!

Cultural Lifeways: We will be talking about Roasting Corn. To expand our curious minds, we will see what our friends' responses are on where or how roasted corn is made. How I corn grown? Who likes roasted corn?

Nutrition Activities: October 10, 2025. We will be making Pretzel and cheese broomsticks
Highlight student achievements/milestones accomplished: We are still practicing writing our names daily. Some friends are able to spell their names without looking at name tags. We are still learning how to share with friends and learning how to ask for help. Our friend N.C. and U.H. are still trying to get the hang of classroom routines.

Birthdays: No Birthdays

Reminders to parents: PLEASE check your child's folder/bag DAILY, as important notes/dates are sent home. If your child is showing symptoms of being sick, PLEASE keep them home to monitor or until feeling better. PLEASE be mindful of other children and teachers in the classroom.

Parent tip(s): With the cold season approaching fast, PLEASE parents, practice with your child on covering up when sneezing and coughing. Talk about how important hand washing can be.

Your contact information: Ms. Deutsawe: c.deutsawe@lagunaed.net

Ms. Raina: r.victorino@lagunaed.net



PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Greetings Families and Friends,

I hope this finds you doing well and enjoying the cooler mornings. Fall is here and it is time to get ready for the colder months.

After many months of patience, I am very pleased that our PRC has completed renovations and we will once again be able to utilize the building for activities. Many thanks to Les King, Project Coordinator of LDK Consulting, LLC for keeping on top of the progress. I appreciate your hard work in getting us back into the building.

I thank you parents for your quick response to get your children picked up when we had to send children home early and close school due to the health epidemic. Our custodians were able to give our campus a thorough cleaning and sanitization to keep your children free of the virus. Please help us reinforce the importance of handwashing by talking to your child and encouraging them to practice this simple task at home.

Thank you to all the grandparents that were able to attend "Grandparent's Day". It was an amazing turn out and we enjoyed providing an opportunity for you to join your grandchildren with a fun activity and a meal.

On September 9th, we successfully accomplished our first mandatory bus evacuation drill. The children experienced how to evacuate the bus through the front doors and back emergency exit. Our dedicated bus drivers educated the children on the scenario of the drill, bus rules and the distance from the bus they should evacuate. Essential bus monitors and support staff assisted in this very important drill to ensure safety of the children.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

1. Adhere to the 5 MPH school speed zone while on DEC campus.
2. Do not leave children alone in a vehicle.
3. Do not leave your vehicle running unattended.
4. Make sure you transport your child in a safety car seat appropriate for their age.
5. Do not bring outside food or beverages onto DEC campus. Thank you for keeping children free of allergens.
6. Sign your child in/out at the front office if it is outside the hour of drop-off or pick-up time.
7. Be waiting at your child's bus stop 10 minutes prior to pick-up or drop-off time. Some children may not attend and this shortens the route.

Our school will be closed:

October 13, 2025 - In observance of Indigenous Peoples Day

October 17, 2025 - In observance of Paraje Feast Day

There will be no school for the students on October 20, 2025 we will be having Parent/Teacher Conferences. I wish you all a great month of October. Come visit when you can. As always, should you need any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me. I will be happy to assist you or point you in the right direction.

Iris Gallegos, DEC Program Assistant

i.gallegos@lagunaed.net

505-552-6544 ext. 5100



HEALTH AID

Greetings families,

The dental, vision, hearing, and height/weight screenings have been completed, yay! Thank you all for your cooperation. I wish each and every one of you a safe and happy Halloween!

Reminder: Please keep children home if they are sick. Remember, if your child is out sick for 3 or more days, a doctor's note is required upon return to the program.

Also, if you received a letter for any missing health documents, please get those in as soon as possible. If you have any questions/concerns or need assistance, I can be reached at my contact information listed below.

Thank you!

Angelica Baca

DEC Health Aide

505-552-6544 ext. 5103

a.baca@lagunaed.net



DISABILITIES COORDINATOR

Information:

INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM GUIDANCE

Research and experience have shown that to improve results for children with special needs, Programs must:

- Have high expectations for all children regardless of abilities
- Meet each child's needs to enable children to participate with their peers in the general curriculum as much as possible
- Ensure that special education is a SERVICE, rather than a place

·The Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) or the Individual Education Plan (IEP) are the tools to document how each child's special needs related to his/her developmental concern will be met within their education environment

We're proud to share that our special education program here at DEC is making meaningful progress. Through individualized support, engaging activities and a nurturing environment, our students are developing essential skills in communication, social interaction, and early learning. We see growth every day- in confidence, curiosity and connection-and we are committed to continuing this positive momentum for each child at DEC

PLEASE NOTE:

Our Laguna Dept. of Education will be sponsoring a CHILD FIND for children in our Laguna community here at DEC. This will be for children ages 3 to 5 yrs. Information regarding dates and times will be available very soon and will be sent to families.



DISABILITIES COORDINATOR

CONTINUED...

TIPS

Supporting Children's Speech and Language

Helping young babies and toddlers develop language skills can be joyful and surprisingly simple. Here is an engaging, & developmentally appropriate activity families can do at home to boost those communication skills:

TALK, TALK, TALK

- Narrate daily routines. Describe what you're doing ("Now we're washing your hands") to build on words your child can learn.
- Name objects: Point to and name toys, foods, body parts and household items.
- Use real words: Avoid baby talk-use clear, simple language to model correct speech
-

Helping your children ages 3-5 yrs. old doesn't have to be an overwhelming task. Here is one effective activity families can do at home to support your child's speech development:

- Play Interactive games. Games like "Simon Says" or Charades, or Board Games that require conversation can be both fun and educational. They promote listening skills and expressive language.

Why it works: * These games require children to follow directions and express themselves clearly, encouraging communication in a playful setting.

TIP: Maintain the game to your child's interest so they stay engaged and excited about participating.

Other Information:

A flyer is included in this month's newsletter from the NM Public Ed. Dept. regarding an opportunity to attend an event in Albuquerque that provides information and support for families that may have children with special needs or are just interested in learning more about Special Education services.

HAPPY FALL!





NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

in partnership with the New Mexico Early Childhood Education & Care Department and the New Mexico Higher Education Department

Join us on

Friday, October 17-Saturday, October 18

Parent University

PARTNERSHIP FOR SUCCESS

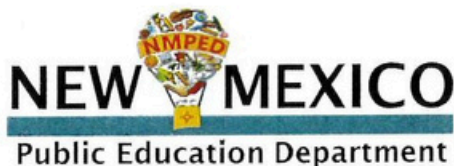
**EDUCATE, ELEVATE, AND ENHANCE
FAMILY AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

Berna Facio Training Center

33155 Louisiana Boulevard NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110



Parent University will equip families with knowledge, resources, and tools to navigate special education services and supports. This is achieved through highly qualified presenters and comprehensive resources.



NEW MEXICO
Early Childhood
Education & Care Department



Free Family Event Hosted by NMPED

More details to come.

Child Care

On-site child care will be provided at no cost.

Lodging

Families traveling over 60 miles can request financial assistance for lodging, available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Early registration is recommended.

Don't miss out!

Register [here](#) or scan the QR code to register!

We look forward to seeing you!

Questions? Contact:

nmparentuniversity@pcgus.com





ERSEA COORDINATOR / CHILD CARE MANAGER

Greetings Families!

I am back!! Hello everyone, my name is Patricia Charlie and I am the ERSEA / Child Care Manager for the Division of Early Child Care Manager for the Division of Early Childhood. I was previously employed with the Division of Early Childhood from 2012 to 2023 in the same capacity so I do have experience. I currently reside in the village of Paguate. When I am not working, I like to spend time hanging out with my Flosse Posse (you know who you are), attend concerts, go to the casino and most importantly spend time with my mom and 4 grandchildren.

Starting in September I will be tracking the monthly attendance per program. Per Head Start Performance standards, a program MUST be at 85% attendance or higher. For the month of August +2025, attendance for Early Head Start was 83.99% and Pre School Head Start was at 87.16%. I would like to give a shout out to the following classrooms.

Early Head Start: New York Classroom 89% attendance fro August

Pre School Head Start: Casa Blanca Classroom 93% attendance for August

Encinal Classroom: 86% attendance for August

Seama Classroom: 90% attendance for August

Village Classroom: 85% attendance for August

Thank you parents for sending your child/children to school everyday. If your child will be absent for the day, please call DEC Staff.

DEC is still accepting applications for children 6 months up to 3 years old for Early Head Start and 3 years to 5 years old for Preschool Head Start. I can be reached at (505) 552-6544 ext. 5004 or (505) 235-9286 and email address is: p.charlie@lagunaed.net

Child Care is accepting applications but children will be put on a wait list at this time. Any questions, please feel free to stop in to chat.

Respectfully,

Patricia A. Charlie

Division of Early Childhood – ERSEA Coordinator / Child Care Manager



FAMILY SERVICE PROVIDERS NEWSLETTER

October 2025

Greetings

Family Service Providers have begun and continue making contact with families to start the process of creating Family Partnerships.

Family Partnerships are based on a relationship-based approach that values different perspectives and contributes, explores options, and honors all types of family progress.

We look forward to working with you and your family.

Thank you's

Grandparents Day was a great turn out! We appreciate you all for joining us and painting some beautiful pictures.

Your time is greatly appreciated!!

Upcoming Events

- Walk around Parade 10/30
 - Wear your costumes
- Pumpkin Carving 10/31
 - Family Engagement

Contact Info

Tiffany Touchin

Email: t.touchin@lagunaed.net

Phone: (505) 220-2549

Kathleen Herrera

Email: k.herrera@lagunaed.net

Phone: (505) 290-9163

LAGUNA DIVISION OF EARLY
CHILDHOOD

HALLOWEEN COSTUME WALK AROUND PARADE

**PLEASE SEND YOUR
CHILD IN THEIR
COSTUME FOR ALL
OUR FRIENDS TO
SEE**

**OCTOBER 30, 2025
DEC PLAZA AREA**

**BEGINNING @
10:00AM**

FOR ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT:

**TIFFANY TOUCHIN @
(505)220-2549**



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Laguna Division of Early Childhood



SILLY FACE PUMPKINS

Date: October 31, 2025

Time: 9:30am-12:00pm

EHS Classrooms



CONTACT KATHLEEN HERRERA @ 505-290-9163

**Box Lunches
will be provided for all adults**



LAGUNA DIVISION OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

PUMPKIN CARVING



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY

Box lunches will be provided for all adults



Whether you're a pro or a beginner, come and carve the spookiest jack-o'-lantern to light up your Halloween night.

OCTOBER 31, 25

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

SEE YOU ALL
NEXT MONTH!!!

-DEC STAFF

