

Isleta Elementary School

Phone: (505) 869-2321

www.isletaelementary.com

SEPTEMBER 2023

Welcome Principal Ceus!

Dear Isleta Elementary Family:

It is with great excitement that I write this letter of introduction to you as the new Principal of Isleta Elementary. I am humbled and honored to continue to build upon the existing culture of excellence, and to work collaboratively with our dedicated staff to provide an enriching educational experience for all students. Most importantly, I look forward to working with Ms. Etsitty on a smooth transition for my official start date on September 5.

Allow me to share a bit about myself. My name is Esther Ceus, and I have been dedicated to the field of education for more than 15 years. Prior to becoming the principal here, I served as a high school assistant principal, a Coordinator of English Learners (EL) and Migrant Instruction, and an elementary school teacher. Before all that, I was a television reporter who worked for different CBS, NBC, and FOX stations across the country.

Being a parent of two college-aged sons, I firmly believe relationships are built upon open communication. I assure you that my door will be open; so stop by for a smile and a hug and let us get to know each other.

Take the Pledge

Everyday at 8:20 am, you will hear our Isleta Eagles reciting the Eagle Pride Pledge throughout the school. Students start their day by promising to do their best and promising to demonstrate qualities of inspiring, young leaders.

Before students showed up for the first day of school, the staff and community partners pledge to support every student achieve success. Their words are posted in the hallway to show our students that we care and are here for them every day.

Families, we encourage you to make your own pledge and promise to your child. How will you help them reach their goals?



See you soon... Esther Ceus

Eagle Pride Pledge

*I pledge today to do my best
In Reading, Math, and all the rest.*

*I will follow all the rules
In my class and in school.*

I'm responsible, respectful, and safe, too;

I'll give my best in all I do.

*Today I'll try my best to soar;
I'm an Isleta Eagle to the core!*

Our School by the Numbers

16:1

95

184

360

Transportation Count Week

IES transportation program funding is calculated based upon the round-trip mileage from the student's home to school during the last full week in September (25 CFR § 39.700). This year, it will occur on September 25 – 29. During this time, afterschool transportation to the Recreation Center is temporarily suspended. All other routes will run as normal. For more information, contact the school.

Attendance Policy

New Mexico State law states that all students, ages 5 through 18, attend school. It is necessary that your child attend school regularly not only to comply with the law but to ensure that your child is successful in school. Our policy states that if a student has excessive absences and/or tardies or has a pattern of frequent absenteeism and/or tardiness, the school will take action, including a referral to the Isleta Truancy Office. **School starts at 8:30 am. If a student is going to be absent, parents should notify the school by 8:30 a.m.** Parents may call the front office or provide a written note when the child returns to school. If a child is absent due to illness, it is considered "excused". Other "excused" absences are death in the family or participation in a cultural activity.

2023 NM Grown Golden Chile Award Recipient

Isleta Elementary School has been awarded the New Mexico Grown Golden Chile Award in the category of Seed. We were awarded for our innovative programming where New Mexico Grown food is produced and served across the state. IES will be recognized at a statewide awards ceremony on September 13. We want to thank Janice Lucero from Cotton Blossom Gardens who played a crucial role in hosting our Family Agriculture Night earlier this year.



Promoting Healthy Students

Isleta Elementary School adopts a school wellness policy with commitments to nutrition, education, and physical activity. All students will be provided with a strong foundation of knowledge, fitness, nutrition and healthy choices in a challenging and changing world. Effective health education is a shared responsibility that begins in the home and is reinforced in the community by its citizens, health agencies, and school.

- Please make sure your child is wearing the appropriate attire for PE class. Students are encouraged to wear running shoes. 1st, 5th, and 6th Grade classes have PE on Mondays and Wednesdays. Kindergarten, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grade classes have PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Although the water fountains are now operational, students are encouraged to bring a clean water bottle to school each day.
- If your child is bringing a classroom snack to school, please consider the following:
 - Beverage consumption in the classroom should be limited to water, 100% juice and milk. **Soda, caffeinated beverages, and sugary drinks are not permitted.**
 - Healthy snacks should be packaged in appropriate portion sizes. Snacks containing peanuts, nuts, or seeds are not recommended. **Hot or spicy snacks (hot Cheetos, Takis, etc.) are not allowed.** Here are some examples of healthy snacks: Scan the QR Code or go to <https://www.cspinet.org/protecting-our-health/nutrition/healthy-school-snacks>



- Healthy party menus should be used. **Contact your child's teacher at least 1 day in advance to make sure birthday plans fit into the schedule and food is safe for all students.**

Join our School Team!

We are accepting applications for volunteers and prospective employees. Scan the QR code or go to <https://www.bie.edu/current-vacancies> for current vacancies.

