



*Laguna
Elementary School*



LAGUNA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



*Laguna
Middle School*

Parent Newsletter

Issue #1

September 2022

WE'RE BACK!!

2020 is in our rearview mirror and we are back in school! It has been quite a journey getting here, but it looks like a wonderful year of learning and rebuilding our community is ahead of us.

Thank you to all the caretakers, family members, and tribal leaders out there who have kept our children healthy and safe, we couldn't have done this without you!

And a big shout out to all who have worked so hard getting our schools ready to host children again. We are so excited to be here and grateful for the beautiful facilities and equipment we have to work with!



WELCOME TO OUR NEW SCHOOL LEADERS

We'd like to take a moment to welcome our new school Principal, Ms. Maureen Torrez. Ms. Torrez comes to us with 35 years of experience in general education, teacher leadership, and early childhood education. She has a Masters degree from Harvard and was the Director of Academics and Accountability for the South Bend Empowerment Zone in Indiana. A New Mexico native, Ms. Torrez is excited and honored to be working for the Laguna people.

At her side is Assistant Principal, Dr. Drew Dooley. Born and raised in Albuquerque, Dr. Dooley has worked in education for 30 years. She has a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction from NM State University and has been a classroom teacher as well as a teacher instructor at UNM and CNM. Drew is looking forward to bringing her expertise to the students and staff at both our schools.

We invite you to introduce yourself to them when you drop by the school and give our new administration a warm Laguna welcome!

OPEN HOUSE IS COMING!

Yes, it's really happening!

Open House will be held at the elementary school on Tues. Sept. 27 from 5:30p to 7:00p.

The middle school will host their open house on Wed. Sept. 28 from 5:30p to 7:00p.

We are excited to have you visit our schools and hope you will stop by to see what is going on and enjoy the festivities!

Masks and temperature checks are REQUIRED for entry.

“Education is not preparation for life: education is life itself.” John Dewey

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

Parents and guardians, if your student is going to be absent—even for partial days, please be sure to contact the front office of your school and report the absence **EVERY DAY** they are absent.

In order to keep our teachers in front of their class and not interrupt instruction, teachers will need at least 24 hours' notice to create homework packets.

Students are responsible for making up and turning in all missing assignments.

More than 10 unexcused absences will result in disenrollment and a report to the Tribal Prosecutor.

Thank you for your understanding and for your assistance in keeping your student in the classroom.



LMS EAGLES

Our LMS Eagles will be flying across the fields competing in their first cross-country season in 3 years! The schedule is posted below. Come on out and cheer our Eagles to victory!



LE'S BRAVES

Unfortunately, our K-5 students will not have cross-country this Fall due to the majority of pueblos still closed to the public. We are hopeful we will be able to offer basketball in the winter. Stay tuned for more information!

DATE	SCHOOL	TIME
September 7	Cochiti	3:00
September 8	Red Ribbon Run/Laguna *	9:00 am
September 9	Laguna Acoma	3:00
September 14	Edgewood	3:00
September 28	Desert Ridge	4:00
October 5	Santo Domingo	3:00
October 12	Bernalillo	2:00

*Red Ribbon Run will be held at the KAWAIKA Center on September 8.



Help Wanted!

We are looking for a few good people to work in our schools! If you would like to join our staff, we want to talk to you! We have openings for: 2 custodians, 1 counselor, and a substitute teacher. We offer competitive pay and benefits! Interested? Check the LDOE website or call the LDOE office for more information. We can't wait to meet you!

Let's Get a Shot!

With COVID cases on the rise and hospitalizations going up, too, we need your help keeping our kids in school and our pueblo healthy.

What can YOU do?

Get your student vaccinated! Let's take care of each other, protect our people from this deadly virus, and join together and ensure our culture and people stay alive.

Safe a life! Keep our kids in School!

Shots will be administered at the Laguna Community Health Center on

Wed., Sept. 7 from 2-4 pm

Sat. Sept. 17 from 10:30a to 2:00p

Contact Kortney Lucero 505-238-3198 to set up an appointment



Dress Code

Please be sure your student(s) are dressed appropriately for school. Students must wear a shirt with a collar and no excessively baggy clothing or torn jeans will be allowed. We do not allow shirts or hoodies with logos from professional teams.

For additional guidelines and regulations, please consult the updated student handbook on the LDOE website.

LES Playground Update

Our new playground is almost complete! New shade structures have been built and the wood chips are spread. There are just a few more items we need to put in place before our kiddos will be able to swing and play on the new equipment. We are hoping to open it the week of September 12. Fingers crossed!



Picture Day is Coming!

Smile!

*It's that time again – picture day!
Our photographer will be here on*

Tuesday, October 18th

Mark your calendars now!

Birthdays and other Celebrations

Now that we are back in school again, many of you will want to have your little one share their special day with their classmates.

In order to minimize classroom interruptions as much as possible, we ask the following:

- Please send/deliver cupcakes **ONLY** (no full cakes or ice cream please!)
- Please be sure there is enough for all students in the class (ask the teacher for an accurate count)
- Cupcakes will be served during the final 30 minutes of the day only

Thank you for sharing with our kiddos and for respecting classroom and school procedures.





Coffee with the Principals!

Stop in every 3rd Wednesday for conversation, questions, and good coffee with our school administrators.

Ms. Torrez and Dr. Dooley will have fresh coffee and donuts in the LES teachers' lounge beginning Sept. 21st at 7:30.

Feel free to stop in and offer a warm Laguna welcome to our new school leaders

Up, Up and Away!

On Wednesday, October 5, there will be a visitor from above on our campus. Mr. Gavlak from LMS will be hosting a balloon visit for our students to enjoy. The balloon will be here at approximately 7:30am and will offer our students a taste of the balloon fiesta. Please feel free to join us if you can!



Shout Out!

Thank you PARENTS! You have done an excellent job dropping off your kids at 7:30am. We appreciate your efforts to follow school policy by not dropping them off early.

Kudos to Ms. Paquin and Ms. Casaus at LES for turning in 100% of your health and consent forms! Way to go!

At LMS in Mr. Gavlak's GATE class, D'miko Morenike built a tower with 24 index cards that was able to hold 103 pounds! That's amazing!

Congrats to all our bus drivers for their efforts to get our students picked up and to school on time. Excellent job!

And a super huge shout out to the Laguna parents, administration, School Board, Superintendent, staff, and all those who have made the start of our new school year successful! It's going to be a great year!

