

Conejos Connections

September 2024, Issue #40

5401 Homestead Dr NW Albuquerque, NM 87120505-897-5174 @ChamizaConejos on Twitter

Principal - Mrs. Heidi Dudley Dean of Students - Mrs. Christine Aguilar

Thoughts from the Principal

Happy September Chamiza!

We are excited to work with you all for the 2024-2025 school year! Such a great start to our school year. For those who weren't aware I'm so excited to share that we have a Pre-K program at Chamiza this year! What an amazing opportunity for us to work with students from as young as 3 years old up through our 5th grade students who are turning 11 years old! How much they grow, change, and learn during the time we have the opportunity to work with them.

We hope all of you can join us next Thursday, September 5th for our Annual Title I Meeting, which is also our Annual Open House...and we are partnering with PTA to host your first 2024-2025 SY PTA General Meeting this night! It's going to be busy - but a great opportunity for you to stay engaged and involved at Chamiza! Make sure to check out the attached flyer for the details. If you come right at 5:00 pm, we will feed you dinner as well.

We look forward to an incredible year of learning and working hard with and for your students - we can't wait to strengthen our partnership with each of you!

~Principal Dudley



Parent Teacher Association

PTA is an incredible way to stay involved at Chamiza! [Here](#) is a link to a volunteer sign-up sheet for all PTA events for 2024-2025!

Please sign up now so we can include you in the planning!



Campos Photography has officially set up the yearbook software for the 2024-2025 school year. Families can upload your Chamiza photos throughout the year to be considered for the yearbook! [This](#) is the link. The password is Chamiza2024-2025.

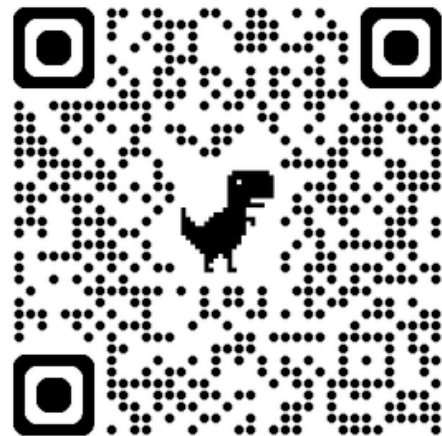
Upcoming Calendar Events

- 9/2 - Labor Day - No School
- 9/4 - Instructional Council @ 7:45 am
- 9/5 - Open House/Title I/PTA Meeting - 5-7pm
- 9/11 - Chamiza TEAMS Meetings
- 9/12 - 3rd Grade Field Trip
- 9/17 - DONUT Miss a Day of School!!! Reminder!
- 9/18 - Instructional Council @ 7:45 am
- 9/18 - Safety Evacuation Drill
- 9/27 - Jog-A-Thon (more details to come!)
- 9/30 - Fall Book Fair Begins!



Parent and Community Involvement

We know many of our families and community members like to volunteer in the school for field trips. We also know many of you would like to volunteer at additional times as well. To ensure we have the supports in place and scheduled accordingly please complete the [Chamiza Volunteer Sign Up](#) survey if you would like to volunteer on a regular basis. If you don't currently have a volunteer background check there is guidance provided on the second page on how to obtain one.



Chamiza Mission Statement

At Chamiza Elementary, our mission is to instill the love of learning to create lifelong learners who are academically, socially, and emotionally strong and who know how to advocate for themselves. We achieve this through purposeful communication, consistent teaching, and providing life experiences that help our students grow.



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Volunteering Guidance

There are two categories of volunteers who receive differing levels of background check clearances and badging: Unsupervised School Volunteers and Supervised School Volunteers.

If you want to help out in the classroom, support school-wide PTA events, such as Jog-A-Thon, and attend field trips then you'll need a Supervised School Volunteer Clearance. You can apply for this clearance online at <https://www.aps.edu/community/volunteer-with-aps>. You can attend field trips as a sponsor with this clearance.

If you want to volunteer in the above ways AND be a PREFERRED volunteer for field trips as a lead/preferred volunteer then the best option for you is an Unsupervised School Volunteer Clearance. You can apply by emailing Principal Dudley @ Heidi.dudley@aps.edu the following information and she will initiate the application process:

- Name
- DOB
- Phone Number
- Email Address
- Street Address
- Last four of SSN

Safety Supports

To ensure our continued site safety at the beginning of each year we practice four emergency drills. Two fire drills, a shelter-in-place drill, and an evacuation drill. We will be conducting our Evacuation Emergency Drill on Wednesday, September 18th. Our Evacuation Drill guidelines require us to fully evacuate our school site to a safe location. This drill will occur in the morning, to ensure students are not walking in the heat of the day. We anticipate the entire drill to last approximately 30 minutes. Please visit with your students to remind them of the importance of drills and listening/following directions provided by their teachers. Wearing tennis shoes is a plus!

Please remember that in our parent drop-off/pick-up lines, we ask families to stay in their vehicles. If you would like to give your students a hug and kiss goodbye or a hug to greet them at the end of the day, please park in the parking lot and walk to the front of the school. When families exit their vehicles in line it adds an additional risk for injury as well as significantly slows down the line.

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Successful Conejos read for at least 15 minutes each day! You can read a magazine, a comic book, a cook book, directions for video games. What's your favorite way to read? Write Principal Dudley a note to share your favorite way for a chance to win a \$15 Barnes & Noble Gift Card!

