

# Conejos Connections

December 2024, Issue #43

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

## Thoughts from the Principal

Happy November Chamizal!

There is such an excitement in the air this time of year. Students are a bit anxious for Winter Break to begin. They know that two weeks will be filled with a combination of down time, family time, friend time, and a whole lot of I'm not exactly sure - but they can't wait for it. Help them stay successful by keeping your routines as much as possible. Whatever their bed time is typically slated for, keep it - it will help them adjust when we return to school in January. Between now and winter break, ask them daily their favorite part of the day - and if they say recess - ask them why. If they say math - ask them why. All of these pieces of information will help you have a better understanding of what your student loves at school and we can use that to remind them of what they get to return to in January.

As our country continues to shift and find balances with the higher prices of so many things we know that many families are struggling with making ends meet. If you need any support for food, clothes, or gifts please don't hesitate to reach out to your classroom teacher, our school Counselor - Ms. Luna, or to myself. We are a family at Chamiza and we want to make sure your needs are supported as well.

We have a few different events coming up this month that we hope you can join us for. On Wednesday, November 13th we will hold our annual Title I F.U.N. Night and Winter Choir Performance. A light pizza dinner will be provided, you'll hear the amazing work your students have been doing in Music class with Mr. Arroyo and you'll have an opportunity to make memories with your students. Please join us from 5:00-6:30 on this night. The next evening event will primarily focus on the work of our 4th and 5th graders on the evening of December 19th. Our 4th and 5th graders have been working hard in their NDI classes are excited to share their progress at their NDI Winter Performance. This is their half way mark that builds up to their big performance at the Hiland Theater in April.

However your family celebrates the holiday that is most meaningful to you, I wish you each the best and will keep you all in my thoughts as we travel through the month of December and enter into 2025.

~Principal Dudley

## Attendance

The month of November was a bit of a higher absence rate, as our attendance rate at Chamiza was: 93.3%. It's extremely important to be at school every day and on time. For each day that a student misses school, it takes teachers at least 3 days to catch them up on missed content.

## Parent Teacher Association

Families can upload your Chamiza photos throughout the year to be considered for the yearbook! [This](#) is the link. The password is Chamiza2024-2025.

Please consider joining PTA if you haven't already joined! You can get additional information by visiting <https://chamiza.aps.edu/families/chamiza-pta>

## Parent and Community Involvement



Please complete the [Chamiza Volunteer Sign Up survey](#) if you would like to volunteer on a regular basis.



## Upcoming Calendar Events

12/4 - Instructional Council

12/11 - Title I F.U.N. Night and Winter Choir Performance

12/12-12/18 - M.O.Y. Assessments

12/18 - Instructional Council

12/19 - NDI Winter Performance

12/20 - Last Day of the Semester

12/23-1/6 - Winter Break

1/7 - First day of the 2nd Semester

## 7 Mindsets

The Passion First Mindset teaches us that we are all unique expressions of human existence. It's vital to find out what our individual strengths and talents are so that we might connect them with our goals and visions for the future. In this mindset, we work with students to understand their unique gifts, their skills and strengths, and how to share them with the world to the maximum extent possible.

## 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.