

# Conejos Connections

April 2025, Issue #45

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

## Thoughts from the Principal

Happy April Chamizal

April is a busy, busy months for school. A quick synopsis of why? Well - state testing begins for 3rd-5th graders, 2 days of Parent Teacher Conferences are being scheduled, Vernal Holiday is day off, we'll have two PTA meetings this month, Spring Book Fair - that has two different family events connected to it - one in the morning and one in the evening, field trips are beginning to happen, and we've very much begun planning for the 2025-2026 school year. What does this truly mean for you though? Lots of flyers will be coming home in the coming weeks, so make sure to read them all and WE GET TO SEE AND HEAR FROM YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Testing - Our testing season has officially arrived. Our state testing will begin on April 7th with our 5th graders only. Our 3rd and 4th graders will join in on the testing beginning Monday, April 21st. Students who arrive after 9:30 will not be able to test that day with their peers, instead they will join a younger class and support student learning until testing has finalized for the day. They will then make up their missed test at a later time. 3rd-5th grade students will be tested in the areas of reading and math, and 5th grade students will also be tested for their readiness in science. Some key ways you can help your student do their best on the test is by ensuring they have a great night sleep each night, wake up in time for breakfast, encouraging words by your family and reminders that this is a test to let us (the adults) know how we are doing teaching them. At this time, these tests for elementary do not determine if a student moves on to the next grade - we just want students to show us what they know.

Parent Teacher Conferences are being identified as asynchronous learning days. This means we will provide you lessons/activities for your children to complete at home. We understand that everybody's schedule during those days are different, so we will not be collecting or grading the work your students complete. This is a great time for your students to practice previously learned skills. Please see the attached document to the email portion of the school messenger titled "Spring PTC Learning Lessons".

School Wide Field Trip - Many of our 4th and 5th graders have been working hard in their National Dance Institute Classes and will be performing at the NM Hiland Theater, near Highland Highschool in May. Chamiza has been granted a large amount of tickets for us to take many of our other students to watch on Friday, May 16th. Unfortunately, this is a busy time of year for busses, which means we can't reserve busses to use for a field trip. I was able to confirm that we can have parents transport, pending they have unsupervised background clearances AND appropriate insurance coverage. If this is something you are interested in supporting a school wide field trip with please scan the QR code below and complete the survey with your information.

Books & Burritos - one of our family events during our Spring Book Fair will be a morning event on Friday, April 11th. We would like to invite families and students in early to enjoy reading books, browsing/shopping the Book Fair, and eating a breakfast burrito. To make sure we have enough burritos please complete the Books & Burritos survey with the second QR code below by next Friday, April 4th.

~Principal Dudley

## 7 Mindsets to support SEL

The 100% Accountable Mindset teaches that we are in control of our own story and outcomes. It helps students understand that their success in school and life depends on the choices they make and the actions they take every day. With this mindset, students learn to improve their skills, tackle challenges with a problem-solving attitude, and take responsibility for achieving their goals. Research indicates that students who believe their abilities can improve through effort are more resilient and achieve higher academically.

## Parent Teacher Association

PTA will be holding two meetings this month. The first one is scheduled for this coming Wednesday at 5:45 pm via the zoom platform. Please join using the link/QR code on the attached flyer. We will be discussing many topics including the executive board roles for the 2025-2026 school year and the upcoming family events sponsored by PTA (Love Literacy Night & Spring Fiesta).

## Upcoming Calendar Events

- 4/1 - Monthly iReady/iStation Assessments
- 4/2 - Instructional Council @ 7:45 am
- 4/2 - Monthly PTA Meeting via Zoom @ 5:45 pm
- 4/7 - 4th Grade Grande Nature Center Field Trip
- 4/7 - 5th Grade NM-ASR Testing Begins (Science)
- 4/9-4/16 - Spring Book Fair
- 4/9 - PTAs Love Literacy Night @ 5:30-7:00 pm
- 4/11 - Burritos & Books @ 7:45 am
- 4/16-4/17 - Parent Teacher Conferences -  
Asynchronous Learning Days aka Learning From Home
- 4/18 - Vernal Holiday - No School
- 4/21 - 3rd-5th Grade - NM-MSSA Testing Begins  
(Reading and Math)
- 4/23 - Instructional Council @ 7:45 am

## QR Codes for Surveys

### Field Trip Parent Drivers



### Books & Burritos



## Parent and Community Involvement



Please complete the Chamiza Volunteer Sign Up survey if you would like to volunteer on a regular basis.



## 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.