# JKSIA PTA Newsletter



## February 2026 Issue #14

## Important Dates:

- 3/2-6
  - Reading Spirit Week
- 3/6
  - 1st Grade Musical
- 3/10
  - Performing Arts Concert
- 3/11
  - March Wellness Festival
- 3/17
  - Phoenix family event
- 3/23-25
  - Spirit Week
- 3/24
  - Pastries with the Principal
- 3/26-27
  - Parent Teacher Conferences
- 3/30-4/3
  - Spring Break (NO SCHOOL)

## In this issue:


- Blurb from PTA Teacher Rep
- Get to Know- Mrs. Hagler
- Get to Know- Mr. Mario
- Middle School Dance Pics
- SNAP! RAISE Fundraiser Flier
- Piano Donations!
- Public Service Announcement
- Mid School Field Trip Pics
- Shout outs!
- Soccer Practice Schedule
- Join the PTA!
- SnoopDen Flier
- Phoenix family event flier
- March APS wellness event

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### Blurb from the PTA Teacher Rep

### Susan Valdez

Dear Families,
As your PTA Teacher Representative, I want to take a moment to share how proud I am to be part of this incredible school community. This school holds my heart because I don't just get to teach here — **I get to serve, volunteer, and be deeply involved in my students' lives and learning**. Being present beyond the classroom reminds me why I chose this profession in the first place.
What makes our school so special is the way children are invited to learn in various ways. Through the arts and integrated learning, **students discover their strengths, their voices**, **and their confidence**. Every child deserves this kind of opportunity — a place where creativity and academics work hand in hand.
We are looking forward to our upcoming Spring Fling event! These actvities build community, create lasting memories for students, and remind them that school is more than academics — it is **connection, belonging, and celebration**.

I believe **our community is strongest** when families show up. When you volunteer even once a year, attend an event, or simply reach out to a teacher, these can have a lasting impact. When we show up for our kids and their teachers, we create something powerful together — **a culture of love, support, and positive change**. None of this happens without parent involvement.
I want to encourage every family to stay engaged in your child's educational experience.
**When families and schools work together, students THRIVE.**
Thank you for being part of this community and for the many ways you support our school. We are stronger because of you, and we look forward to continuing to build something wonderful together.
With gratitude,

Susan Valdez
JKSIA PTA Teacher Representative



Making Cookies with PreK



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### Get to know the Director of Theater

### Heather Hagler M. Ed.



Ms. Hagler has been in public education for 10 years. She actually ran a dance school for 5 years! She has concurrently taught for 7 years as an adjunct professor at ENMU. All in all, she has been in education for 15 years!

When asked what her favorite part is of being a school community she replied, **“The silly human moments and conversations we get to have together aside from the academics.”**

When asked to describe her most memorable event as an educator, she shared the time she improved the Portales High School Theater program so much they placed in the top 5 of the Enchantment Awards. It wasn’t just the recognition that stood out to Mrs. Hagler, it was the networking and learning from high level educators her students got to experience. Moreover, that group of students all went on to attend college and several continued to be in film and the arts. She stated, **“My favorite thing about being a teacher is seeing your students accomplish dreams and become good humans knowing you had a part in their story.”**

When asked what advice she would give to students she replied, **“Fearlessly be yourself, it’s way more fun to be a total weirdo. Be kind to yourself and others and listen to your teachers, we have big hearts and so much we want to share with you so you can be good humans.”**

When not teaching, she likes to munch on some BBQ chips and sip a crisp Dr. Pepper while watching the perennial classic Musical, Newsies! On the weekends, she can be found hanging out with her son while on scout activities and working on art projects.

You’re amazing! Thank you for everything!

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**Get to know: Education Assistant**

## MARIO ZAMORA





Mario has been working with children since he was 19 years old! He started as a camp counselor with the City of Albuquerque for three years before moving over to the Jewish Community Center for three years. He originally went to school to become a paramedic but changed his mind.
He began his career with APS in 2016.

When asked what advice he would give to the students he encouraged them to remember that **“no amount of money ever bought a second of time.”**

His favorite part of the school community is ***the sense of belonging and family.***

When asked about his favorite classroom memory he stated, “**a couple years ago we had a rat loose in a classroom and the kids said, ‘Tom and Jerry!’** 😂”

When he is not busy impacting the lives of his students, he can be found cosplaying as the Avengers with his nonprofit cosplay group. This incredible group devotes their time to make appearances at parties and events. His favorite movie is Avengers Endgame (of course!), his favorite snack is green chili beef jerky and he enjoys spending time with his family on the weekends.

***Thank you Mr. Mario for being an incredibly consistent and measured presence at our school!***

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### MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

***A giant THANK YOU to all the donors and volunteers for all their help to make the first EVER Middle School drop off dance a WILD SUCCESS!***

*65 students attended and CUT IT UP!*
***A special thank you to DDDDDDJ PLATINUM!***
*He really got the party hopping!*

*Thank you to our chaperones, specifically,*
***Principal Mondragon, VP Sewell, Mrs. Valdez, Mrs. Lovelace, Mrs. Chavez, and Mrs. Hagler.***
























A major thank you to Derrick & CENTURY SIGN BUILDERS for donating posters!

@CENTURYSIGNBUILDERS

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SNAP! RAISE

JKSIA PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

### Parents & Guardians

We are excited to announce that we are using Snap! Raise as our online fundraising platform for the music and theater programs.

#### Why did JKSIA PTA choose Snap! Raise?

**Proven Results:** Since 2014, Snap! Raise has helped groups in the U.S. raise more than $1.1 billion dollars.

In New Mexico, they've helped schools like Tony Hillerman, Rio Rancho, Cleveland and more raise **over $500,000 in the last 4 years.**

**Safe & Secure:**
Their online platform not only eliminates the need for door-to-door sales but also provides peace of mind by ensuring that all fundraising activities are secure and PCI compliant.

With Snap, your privacy and personal property are strictly safeguarded. You can easily connect with their network of supporters, all while keeping everyone's personal information secure.

For more details, please visit snapraise.com/privacy-policy.

#### What can you expect?

You will have access to a secure campaign page customized for our group, where you can easily set up and participate in our fundraiser. Here's how it works:

- **Gather Support:** We ask you to enter 20 or more email addresses and 20 phone numbers from your students' top supporters (aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins, church leaders, local businesses etc.)
- **Simplified Fundraising:** Once you upload contacts, the Snap! Raise platform handles the rest.
- **Share the Link:** to all your social media!
- **Taxes:** Once a contact donates, they'll receive an email with the tax-deductible info.

#### Two ways to Join

Scan the QR code or go to www.join.snap.app and sign up.

Your Participant join code is **460-254-410.**

Then, enter your contacts, and let us handle the rest!

join.snap.app

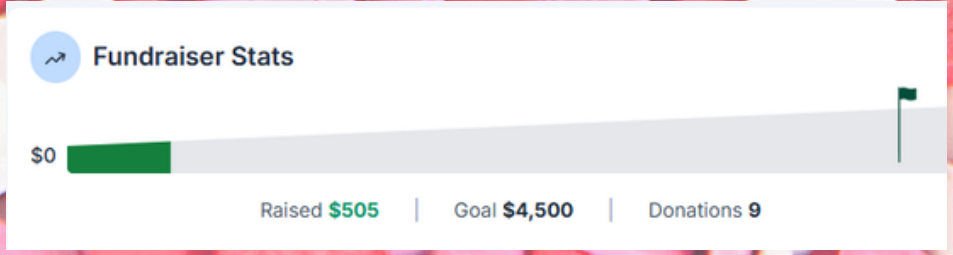
SNAP! MOBILE

© 2025 Snap! Mobile, Inc.

We still need your help and support!




**Funds raised as of 2/26**



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**A giant THANK YOU to Crystal and the NM Philharmonic for their generous donation of 4 electric pianos!**





These pianos were donated to JKSIA to jumpstart a piano lab for our current and future students!

THANK YOU!

New Mexico Philharmonic
Roberto Minczuk Music Director

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## PSAs

The weather has been unpredictable lately. Please ensure you're sending a jacket and winter gear to school for your child on cold days. If you're in need of a winter jacket, please go see our Community School Coordinator Willa.








Every Friday afternoon, JKSIA has food distribution for families in need.
You can pick up some staple items at the front desk.

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**School Registration is OPEN!**

PSAs

Registration is now open for all grades for the ‘26-’27 School year.

Pre-k is a first come first serve..

If you have any questions or need help with registration, please contact the office at 505-299-4483.

CLICK HERE ParentVUE

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The choir students delivered several candy grams and singing grams school wide. **They raised close to $400**! That money will fund an accompanist for the music performance assessment (MPA) in March. **Strong work choir!**

Choir and Orchestra students got to view the **Cinderella Opera, by Jules Massenet,** viewed at a local Movie Theater.
Shout out to all the incredible staff who made it possible for our students of all abilities to attend.






**From the bottom of our parent hearts, thank you for creating these amazing opportunities for our children!**



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**Shout out to Mrs. Dunn!**
She took her 8th grade students to the Nuclear Science Museum.

**From the bottom of our parent hearts, thank you for creating these amazing opportunities for our children!**




**Shout out to the students** who displayed their artwork at the Berna Facio building. **Shout out to Mrs. Westley** for selecting the artwork. This display will be open **through 3/16.**
Go check it out @
3315 Louisiana Blvd NE,
Albuquerque, NM 87110

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## Soccer Practice Schedule

| Date | Venue | Time | Field | Group | Home Team | Score | | Away Team | Score |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| March 13 | Janet Kahn MS | 05:30 PM | 1 | D8 vs D2 | Janet Khan MS Boys | | vs. | Desert Ridge MS Boys | |
| March 18 | Janet Kahn MS | 05:30 PM | 1 | D8 vs D1 | Janet Khan MS Boys | | vs. | Cleveland MS Boys | |
| March 20 | Hoover MS | 05:30 PM | 1 | D4 vs D8 | Madison MS Boys | | vs. | Janet Khan MS Boys | |
| April 8 | Eldorado HS | 05:30 PM | 1 | D3 vs D8 | Hoover MS Boys | | vs. | Janet Khan MS Boys | |
| April 15 | Janet Kahn MS | 05:30 PM | 1 | D8 vs D5 | Janet Khan MS Boys | | vs. | McKinley MS Boys | |
| April 17 | Janet Kahn MS | 03:00 PM | 1 | D8 vs D7 | Janet Khan MS Boys | | vs. | Eisenhower MS Boys | |
| April 22 | Jackson MS | 04:00 PM | 1 | D6 vs D8 | Jackson MS Boys | | vs. | Janet Khan MS Boys | |

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**Become a PTA member**

Proud to be a National PTA everychild. onevoice. SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE 2024-2026

JANET KAHN
Parent Teacher Association

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

SCAN ME



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**Help Us Build the "Snoop Den" – A New Reward Space for Our Students!**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are thrilled to announce the upcoming launch of our newest school initiative: **The Snoop Den!**

The Snoop Den is designed to be a high-energy, "rec room" style lounge where students can relax, socialize, and have fun. This space isn't just a room; it's a **positive incentive** that students can earn through hard work, kindness, and demonstrating our school families core values.

To make this space truly special for our kids, we are looking for donations to help bring it to life.

### What We're Looking For

If you have items at home that are in good, clean condition and looking for a second life, we would love to have them! We are specifically looking for:

- **Games:** Board games, card games, puzzles, or table games (like foosball or air hockey).
- **Comfortable Seating:** Bean bags, floor cushions, gaming chairs, rugs etc.
- **Art Supplies:** Sketchbooks, markers, canvases, or craft kits for our creative students.
- **Entertainment:** Handheld games or appropriate decor to give the room a "chill" vibe.

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### How to Donate

If you have something you think would be a great fit for the Snoop Den, please **call the main office 505-299-4483** and ask about donations. We want to ensure all items meet our space and safety requirements before they are brought to the school.

Our goal is to create a space that students are genuinely excited to earn time in, and your generosity will play a huge part in making that happen. Donation collection will begin in January and we hope to have the Den running by February 1st!

Thank you for your continued support of our students and our school community!

Best regards,

Principal Mondragon and Asst Principal Aimee

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JKSIA

Janet Kahn School of Integrated Arts

## PRESENTS

## GROW WITH THE PHOENIX FAMILY!

*March 17th from 3:00-4:30*

*Hosted by our Phoenix Family!*

*Free after school snacks and free plants to bring home!*



*If you have any questions feel free to contact Ms. Willa*

*willa.correiakuehn@aps.edu*

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