



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



### Bond Election –

Albuquerque Public Schools will hold a special mill levy and general obligation bond election February 2, 2010. There will be no tax increase. This mill levy and general bond election will continue to fund projects for the schools in the Cibola High School and Volcano Vista High School clusters. Cibola HS has just completed a great remodeling project. I strongly encourage you to vote on February 2. There are 143 schools (including charter schools) in the district and most of them are over 40 years old. These schools will be refurbished and remodeled so all APS students can enjoy clean safe places to learn. Construction projects within APS continue to boost the local economy and have a positive impact on the community. In the last four years, APS has built eleven new schools and completed five million square feet of renovation to existing school buildings. All projects approved in 2005-2006 by the school tax funding elections have been completed or started. Again, please vote on Tuesday February 2, 2010.

### Inservice –

January 4 was a professional development day for staff. These days are extremely important and beneficial to the staff and directly impact the instruction and learning for the students. Our focus at each grade level was reading and writing. We looked at student data, strategies to improve students success, what expectations do we have at each grade level, are we adequately preparing students for the next level, and what strategies are we using for non fiction writing. The professional learning and collaboration that takes place during our inservice days is very productive and has a positive impact on our children.

**Deborah Henwood**  
Principal

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone! I hope everyone is having a wonderful school year so far! We are looking forward to the science fair that is to be held on **February 25, 2010**. I hope everyone is participating! A special thanks goes to Becky White and Bob Eix for making the science fair possible! Once again, I would like to remind everyone it is never to late to join the PTA! We are open to suggestions, please feel free to share your thoughts with us and drop a note in our mailbox located in the front office. Remember there are endless possibilities where PTA is concerned and we are only as strong as our volunteers!

**Frances Esparza**  
Chamiza PTA President



### Assessment –

All first through fifth grade students will be assessed in math using the DBA (District Benchmark Assessment); this is the second of three times they will take this test. The third, fourth and fifth graders will also take the DBA for reading. This testing will take place in February. If you have any questions about any of the assessments the students have to take please do not hesitate to call.



### Traffic and Parking –

The right hand turn from Homestead into the school parking lot is not designated as a double right turn. Please take the few minutes and wait in line to drop off or pick up your children.

The staff parking lot is now clearly posted as a staff parking only. There is insufficient parking for parents to drop off and pick up students from the staff parking lot, and we do not have school personnel on duty in this area. I will ask APS Police and APD to assist in keeping the parking lot, student drop off and pick up safe. Thank you for helping.





## **LIBRARIAN NOTES**

With budgets continuing to tighten, it is important for us to help our students learn to take care of the library books that belong to all of us at Chamiza. This year we have had some trouble with books being colored or drawn in, chewed up by dogs or soaked by leaky thermoses or water bottles. Please help your student find a safe place to keep library books while they are away at school, and remind them to keep all liquids away from books.

On a totally different note I want to encourage all parents to continue to read aloud to their children. Students are expected to practice reading nightly with books they can read independently or with little help from you, the parents. However, to broaden a child's vocabulary and deepen their ability to understand what they read and hear, it is important to read aloud from books beyond a student's independent reading level. As we recently reviewed at a staff meeting on academic vocabulary, the vocabulary from most TV shows is remarkably limited and less complex than the average picture book! Spending 15 minutes each night together, reading a book (maybe a favorite of yours from childhood!) can be worthwhile on many levels. I still recall fondly the books I read aloud to my two daughters, such as Catherine, Called Birdy and The Devil's Arithmetic. These experiences not only built their understanding of language, but it deepened our understanding of the history of the world in which we live. I know of some Chamiza families who are reading together all the Chronicles of Narnia, for example. What a wonderful experience to share! If any one needs help finding an interesting book or series, don't hesitate to stop by the library near the end of a school day, or go to our website and email me. Happy reading!

**Diana Zavitz**



## **CHAMIZA SCIENCE EXPO**

Thanks to everyone who submitted a proposal for the Science Expo. Currently we have over 100 entries and we are looking forward to a fun and informative Science Expo on Thursday, February 25th! Family night will be held that night from 6:00pm to 7:30pm.

**Science Expo Committee**



## **BABY FOOD DRIVE**



Mrs. Warrick, Mrs. Konefal & Mrs. Robnett's Kindergarten students ask for your help in collecting food for the homeless and underprivileged babies of Albuquerque. The need for food is even greater in this economy, and the shelves of baby food at the store house are usually empty. We will collect baby food throughout the year, but we would like to be able to take a lot of jars of food to the storehouse for Valentine's Day to show the babies they are loved. If everyone brought in 3 jars of food, we would be able to take in close to 2000 jars! You may bring your jars to your classroom or to K-3. The class donating the most jars by the end of the school year will earn an ice cream party!!



## **YEARBOOK NEWS**



**Attention 5<sup>th</sup> Grade families!!**

I'm getting close to success with the "Then & Now" page in this year's yearbook, featuring our current 5<sup>th</sup> graders as they appeared in their Kindergarten classes here at Chamiza. I have 3 out of the 5 Kindergarten classes, but I'm still looking for the full class pictures of the 2004-2005 Kindergartners for:

Ms. Cindy Espinosa, and Ms. Sandy Warrick

If you have these class pictures, please call me ASAP at 898-8818 and I'll make arrangements to get the picture from you, scan it, and then return it to you. Again, I need all 5 class pictures in order to do this page and I'm quickly approaching my deadline. Thanks so much for all your help in making this year's yearbook a fantastic success.

**Denise Winn  
Chamiza Yearbook Chairperson**





## 2010 -2011 CHAMIZA PTA BOARD

It is time to begin filling the Chamiza PTA Board for the 2010-2011 School year. We are looking for volunteers who are interested in holding an office or chairing/co-chairing a committee. Available positions include the following:

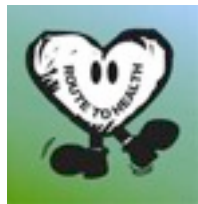
### **Officers:**

President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer

### **Committees:**

Book Fair	Celebration of Children
Jog-a-thon	Staff Appreciation
Marquee	Silent Auction
Pictures	Ultra Fun Day
Box Tops/Soup Labels	Chamiza Gear
Fifth Grade Celebration	Newsletter
School Agendas	Yearbook
Kindergarten Parent Event	

Please contact **Kathryn Auh at 899-4104** if you are interested in volunteering. Thank you!!



## STUDENT HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (SHAC)

Chamiza has formed its first Student Health Advisory Council!!! The purpose of the council is to brainstorm about important health issues and focus on providing guidelines and information to our Chamiza community. We will try to address issues such as, parent/student health, exercise, and nutritional needs. The council is composed of Kim Williams, our school nurse, parents, many of them with previous or current medical experience, and our incredible teachers. We are going to have a SHAC corner article every month in the PTA newsletter. If you would like to provide any ideas regarding health issues concerning our school, please send an email to Kim, at [Williams\\_k@aps.edu](mailto:Williams_k@aps.edu). Thanks!

**SHAC Committee**

## Dear Chamiza Community-

To access the Chamiza January PTA newsletter, there are two options.

1) Become a member of the Chamiza yahoogroups list serve.

(There is a link on the Chamiza website)

<http://www.aps.edu/aps/Chamiza>

In addition to receiving school e-mails, you will also have access to all past posts and uploaded files. When your children are in middle school and high school, you will find that you will rely more heavily on the information given via the list serves. LBJ, Volcano Vista HS and Cibola HS all use the yahoogroups for their list serves. You only need to join once. Simply create a username and password.

2) There is a link to the newsletter on the Chamiza website.

[http://www.aps.edu/aps/Chamiza/January\\_2010\\_PTA\\_Newsletter.pdf](http://www.aps.edu/aps/Chamiza/January_2010_PTA_Newsletter.pdf)

You will receive a link every month with the current month's newsletter.

**Fondly,  
Roberta Hamilton  
Chamiza List Serve Moderator**

Quote  
of the Month, by  
**Mary Schluter,  
Counselor**

"A realist is more correct  
about life than an optimist.  
But the optimist seems to  
have more friends and  
much more fun."





## **SUPER BOWL FRIDAY** **TAKE YOUR DAD TO LUNCH DAY**

We are pleased to announce the “**Super Bowl Friday-Take Your Dad to Lunch Day.**” We invite you and other family members to join your child for lunch on **Friday, February 5th.** We would like to give you this opportunity to enjoy today’s special Super Bowl lunch meal and enjoy it with your child. We want to give you the opportunity to spend some well-deserved quality time together over a fun lunch. The theme for this event will also give your child the opportunity to show team spirit regarding the upcoming Super Bowl XLIV game. We would like to encourage you and your child to wear your favorite team colors for the event. The price per person for lunch is \$3.00 for adults. The menu will be Corn Dogs, Smiley Potato Faces, Orange Smiles, and a Super Bowl Cake.

Please pay at the cafeteria on February 5th. Please join us on February 5th as we celebrate “Super Bowl Friday-Take Your Dad to Lunch Day!”

**Janet Novak RD, LD**  
**Special Needs Dietitian**

## **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS & REMINDERS**



**Attendance Line:**  
(505) 897-5176

**Main Office Line:**  
(505) 897-5174

**Breakfast: 8:10 am**  
(There is **NO** duty coverage before 8:10)

**First Bell: 8:22 am**  
**Classes Begin: 8:25**  
(A signature, and a tardy slip is required with every late arrival)

**Dismissal: 3:11 pm**  
(M,T, TH, F)  
12:20 pm (W)

### **DATES TO REMEMBER** **FEBRUARY 2010**

Tues. Feb. 2...APS BOND ELECTION



Mon, Feb. 15...NO SCHOOL/  
President’s Day

Thur. Feb. 25...PTA GEN MTG - 5:30 p.m.

Thur. Feb. 25...SCIENCE EXPO 6:00-7:30 pm



## **A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR**

I always wanted to say that..ha, ha!

I wanted to thank two wonderful people who have worked really hard to make the PTA newsletter available electronically. Roberta Hamilton and Dave White have been an incredible part of the PTA team and made this possible. Roberta’s work on the list serve, and Dave’s work on the website, made the PTA newsletter available to over 500 Chamiza Families. Thanks again for your hard work!

I also would like to thank Denise Winn and Loretta Garcia for always being my proofreaders in this great newsletter adventure. I really appreciate it!!

**Ana Dabria**  
**Newsletter Chair**

