



We hope that our S.O.D.A families had a nice, long Easter weekend together. We are now approaching the finish line it seems. We have just six weeks of school remaining and much to accomplish in that time.

The **Standards Based Assessment (S.B.A)** will be conducted next week, beginning April 13th. For the complete schedule for that week see the final page. Note that 9th graders have an abbreviated schedule next week. Naturally we advise our 9th graders to utilize time at home to work on their studies for E2020.

It is essential that your child gets adequate rest and a nourishing breakfast to start the day. Attendance is crucial as is arriving to school on time.

We continue to encourage families to take a careful look at where their children are in their E2020 courses. If your child is not finished with their 1st semester courses, we strongly suggest coming in to talk to Mrs. Conroy (counselor) or Ms. Castillo (principal) so that concerns can be aired and options discussed.

Open Lab times for E2020 continue to be offered after school two days a week (Monday and Wednesday from 4-5 p.m). There is space for more students. Contact the office to register ASAP.

Spring Fundraiser Update!

The PTC would like to thank the students and parents within our school for their help with the cookie-dough fundraiser. We were able to raise a hefty \$8,916.00! Half of that money goes to the distributor, the other half to our own accounts. With that money the PTC hopes to continue to provide lunch options with some regularity. The PTC encourages you to get involved in their activities. It is an excellent way to have a voice in the education of your child. Our meetings continue to be held the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 13th**. We hope to see you there!

Student of the Month- Cortney Fastnacht



S.O.D.A's student of the month comes as no surprise to those who know Cortney. She has, since day one, exhibited the most commendable of character traits. A more helpful, considerate and hardworking student is hard to find on our campus.

Cortney's interests are varied. She loves to ride horses and bikes. She has a rather unique background in helping her family raise more than a hundred head of buffalo

and Tibetan Yak on land that they lease in Santa Fe. She is very familiar with the ranching life-style and has indicated that she is often asked to drive the family stage-coach pulled by their horses. Doesn't that part of her life sound like something from 19th century New Mexico?

Cortney tells us that she enjoys S.O.D.A because of the computer-based education that she is receiving. She likes that she can work at her own pace and continue her studies from her computer at home. When asked about her future and what she sees herself doing as an adult, she indicated that she is undecided but may study art and/or elementary education.

Volunteer of the Month- Angie Burden

We are continuously amazed by the level of commitment parents in our school community have made this year. Angie Burden is no exception. Angie has lent a hand in a wide-variety of ways. She rolled up her sleeves to help us move from UNMVC, has assisted Service Learning initiatives, and always seems to have our school and her daughter Rachel's education prioritized in her busy life. We thank Angie particularly for the connection she helped us make with the Blue Star Mothers, an organization she is a member of. It was due to Angie's help that our students were able to "Pay It Forward" and assemble many boxes of provisions for our soldiers, as well as assist Mrs. Greenley in a school-wide letter writing campaign to our servicemen/women. Thank you Angie!

Service Learning Update- Earth Day!

Earth Day quickly approaches. We plan to honor this day on Friday, April 23rd by grabbing our trash bags, gloves and heading out to clear trash from our neighborhood and

the Bosque. Mrs. Greenley and Mr. Romero are searching for parent volunteers who would be interested in participating. Each volunteer will be assigned a small group of students to supervise in this effort. Please let us know if you can make it. It is a great way to get involved at S.O.D.A and certainly counts toward your **volunteer hours**. Tierra Bonita's Cyndi Sluder intends to help us in our efforts as well. If you cannot attend but can help with *donations* of bottled water and/or light, healthy refreshments, we will be grateful.



Run For the Zoo!

We successfully registered 25 students and 14 adults for the May 2nd 5K Run/Walk in support of the Rio Grande Zoo. This is the run's 25th year in existence. Thank you to all who registered. More news forthcoming for those attending! If you missed the chance to register, it is not too late. Simply register via the zoo's website: Runforthezoo.org

Food for Thought

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful and committed people can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Margaret Meade, Anthropologist

Principal's Message:

As you know I will be finishing up the school year as the interim principal for School of Dreams Academy. I have been here for the past two (2) weeks working with Mr. Yates, observing, and meeting the Community. Thus far I have been impressed with what is going on here. We all must remember that this is the very first year for the school and you always face challenges when starting out new. Let's all work together to ensure that everything goes smoothly the remaining 2 months. Please encourage your students to continue working hard to complete all of their classes and be on their best behavior. I will be touching on a few areas that we need to concentrate on for the remainder of the school year.

- **Dress Code**- many students are wearing clothes that do not comply;
 1. Sagging pants, no belt, pants that do not fit at the waist
 2. Low cut tops being worn by our female students
 3. Flip flops being worn
 4. Wearing shirts that do not comply with the colors that were designated at the beginning of the year
- **Use of cell phones**- please reinforce to your children that cell phones are not be used during school hours.
- **Attendance and tardies**-it is extremely important for the students to be here every day and be on time.

We will be administering the **New Mexico Standard Based Assessment** the week of April 12th. This is a state mandated test

that is to be administered to 7th and 8th grade students. It is extremely important that you have your children here every day this week and that they are on time. Please make sure that they get a good night's sleep and that they have a good breakfast each morning.

The following is the schedule that will be followed that week:

- **Monday April 12th** no testing regular schedule
- **Tuesday April 13th** test administered to 7th & 8th graders from 8:15am-12:00pm
- **Wednesday April 14th** test administered to 7th & 8th graders from 8:15am-12:00pm
- **Thursday April 15th** test administered to 7th & 8th graders from 8:15am-12:00pm
- **Friday April 16th** test administered to 7th & 8th graders from 8:15am-12:00pm
- **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9th graders are to report at 12:30pm**
- **Friday 9th** grade students will not have school as we dismiss at 12:30pm

I look forward to either meeting you or seeing you here at school.

Juliette Castillo