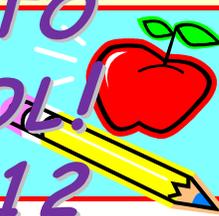




BACK TO SCHOOL!

8/15/12



TISA

123 Manzanares St.
Taos, NM 87571

August, 2012
Volume 1, Issue 1

TISA

TAOS INTEGRATED SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Director's Message:

Curriculum Director:

Welcome back to TISA everyone! We are very excited about beginning our third year on August 15th. Much has been happening while you all have been away for the summer. Our staff participated in training in St Louis at the end of June. In addition, Sandy went to a training in Orlando the middle of July and the rest of the staff went to a training in Las Vegas the same week. We are very excited about we learned about curriculum development, Singapore Math, differentiated instruction, building a school culture that supports the social and emotional learning of all school community members. As the school year progresses, we will be sharing information with you all about what we have learned and how it is positively effecting the work we do with your children.



Warren Kelly will serve as the TISA Director of Curriculum and Instruction. This newly created staffing position is designed to assist TISA staff members in creating and implementing the arts-integrated curriculum envisioned in the TISA school charter, and to support policies and procedures that enable appropriate instruction of this arts-integrated curriculum.



The person in this director position:

- + studies, defends, refines, and renews the TISA mission, principles and values.
- + facilitates staff development to create and refine curriculum and instruction.
- + enters the classroom as observer, model, coach, and team teacher.
- + facilitates curricular and instructional coaching.
- + initiates collaboration and strategic planning across the grades.
- + encourages staff involvement with parent and community resources.
- + coordinates long and short cycle testing.
- + drafts, enacts, and monitors selected policies and procedures.

In addition to the training, we have been inventorying more instructional materials and furniture and firing up the new computers. Teachers will be coming back to work on August 1st to prepare for the first day of school which is August 15th. Keep your eyes on your email for further updates.

This director position reinforces the essential work of teaching and learning with kids. This position's responsibilities are **collaborative** in nature - with a high value placed on allowing good working relationships among staff members and the TISA community to develop, and an equally high value given to aligning all of our efforts in the direction of a mutual understanding of TISA's goals.

With much affection, Sandy

Meet your Teacher Night

Teachers are inviting parents and students to meet your teacher on *Tuesday, August 14th from 5:30-6:30*. Stop by and say HI!!

Sandy Beery will continue to work part time for TISA as TISA executive director, and Mr. Kelly will be available on a full time basis to support the students, parents, and staff on the Manzanares and La Posta campuses.

Message from the Office:

Hello all! I'm so excited to start yet another year with our TISA community. I had a great first year with all of our students and parents, thank you! Just a few things to help get the 2012-2013 school year on the right track. I have already given out classroom lists to all teachers. You will be receiving a welcome e-mail along with a supply list from your child's teacher. If you have not received an e-mail please contact me to make sure we have current contact information on file. If you have moved or changed your phone number please get me the updated information.

During the end of the school year I sent home Lion Club forms to grades K-3rd. If you have not returned it please do. I will have a date at a later time for the vision screening. All students were given an income form during parent/teacher conferences. Please make sure that gets turned into the office if it hasn't already.

Please remember that TISA is big on e-mail for communication. I will be sending out monthly newsletter's that will include important information and dates. Please feel free to e-mail me with any questions or concerns that I may be able to address. I am here to help in any way possible. I look forward to an educational, exciting year with your children.

See you soon,

Nicole Abeyta, Nicole@tisataos.com

No Monday Enrichment or Aftercare

We will not have Monday Enrichment or Aftercare services this year. Please make prior arrangements for childcare afterschool. If you are a parent interested in setting up playgroups please let me know so I can forward to parents in need.

Governing Council

Our TISA Governing Council Board meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month from 6:00-8:00. If you are interested in joining, please send President, Shelly Ratigan a letter of interest and resume to elpradonm@gmail.com. Please refer to our website for upcoming board meetings. Special Meetings and Emergency Meetings may not be on the website calendar but will be a post it note on the home page and will be posted on doors at the school. All meeting minutes will be published on our website www.tisataos.com after they are approved.

TISA PTA

The mission of the TISA PTA is to directly support learning opportunities for our children; our goal is to help create a welcoming, fun, and effective environment for learning at our school. All parents are welcome to attend meetings as often as they would like to hear what's going on around school, contribute ideas, and help our school community grow in a constructive way.

Our first gathering of the school year will be an informative organizational meeting. We are expecting all parents to help out in any way they can in the 2012 – 2013 School Year. We are working on streamlining our volunteer opportunities to make them accessible to all. We look forward to seeing everyone at the start of the school year... Happy last days of summer!!!!

Our first meeting of the school year will take place on Tuesday August 21st at 5:30 pm at the upper campus building on Manzanares Street. Pizza and child care will be available.

Playground Equipment is HERE!!

Playground structures are being installed this week and outdoor musical equipment has already been installed. Thank you all for being patient through this process!

Upcoming Events

August 1, 2012

Staff 1st day back

August 8, 2012

GC Board Meeting, 6:00-8:00

August 14, 2012

Meet your teacher Night!! 5:30-6:30 (teachers classroom)

August 15, 2012

First day for students

August 21, 2012

PTA Meeting- 5:30

September 3, 2012

Labor Day Holiday- No School

September 12, 2012

GC Board Meeting, 6:00-8:00

October 8, 2012

Columbus Day- No School

Lunch and Snacks

Please remember that we do not provide snacks or lunch. Please pack your child snacks, lunch, and a water bottle. Remind your child that sharing food should not be permitted as some students have special diets or allergies.

Teacher Bio's

Originally from Hungary, Jutka Furesz has traversed a global road, teaching at international schools on three continents, from Turkey to Venezuela. Having had over fifteen years of experience with students across the spectrum from pre-school to college, she has a keen understanding for attending to children's developmental needs and fancies. Jutka received her Master of Arts in the English Language and Literature from Debrecen University, Hungary and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Primary Education from Northern New Mexico University. She completed her Waldorf teacher training at the Great Lakes Waldorf Institute, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Her classroom passions are fostering creativity, hands-on traditional crafts, storytelling, foreign languages, music and nature. She upholds a philosophy of holistic education that is infused by the integrated arts approach and in tune with serving our planet. Her mantra is to give children joyful space to connect, explore, imagine, and express.

Kinder

First-grade teacher Megan Bowers Avina is excited about sharing the rich culture and community of Taos with her students as part of their education in the 2012-2013 school year. Megan spent last year as the second-grade educational assistant at T.I.S.A., where she led reading and math groups and helped with art projects. She also created the Book Nook for all grades to enjoy. Inspired by T.I.S.A.'s integration of art and academics, Megan received a Los Alamos National Laboratory scholarship to complete her teaching certification through Northern New Mexico College. She is a graduate of Parsons School of Design in NYC. For 15 years, Megan was a nationally award-winning photojournalist and teacher in Taos. In addition to working at The Taos News, she taught in the Discovery Program at Enos Garcia and Taos Middle School, as well as the University of New Mexico's classes through Taos High School.

1st

Kimberly Hamill was born and raised in rural, coastal Maine. She lived in California, Honduras, Costa Rica, New Mexico and Vermont before graduating with a degree in fiber arts from Goddard College, Vermont. She made Taos her home in 1999, drawn to the local weaving culture, the mountains and other nameless things. Kim was one of Rachel Brown's last apprentices, working under her for two years at Weaving Southwest, from 2001-2003. After studying weaving of the Americas, traveling through Central America, Ecuador and Peru, having a child and getting married, Kim started Manos Weaving School in Taos. She taught weaving to children and adults from all over the country through her own school, Weaving Southwest, the Taos Wool Festival and the Espanola Valley Fiber Arts Center. She fell in love with teaching and decided to commit herself to public school, which she believes should strive to be an equal playing field for all young people. In 2011 Kim earned her elementary teaching license with a fine arts endorsement after completing the Alternative Licensure Program at Northern New Mexico College. She is honored to be part of the teaching staff at TISA. She is committed to and fulfilled by its vision of teaching content through the arts as a free, public school.

2nd

Alexandra was born out of the country; she has always considered Taos her home. She attended the Taos municipal schools for over ten years. However, she finished high school and started college in Northern California. Alexandra completed three separate study abroad programs where she studied Portuguese, Spanish, and flamenco. Alexandra graduated from UNM in 2012 with Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, a minor in Social Studies, and a teaching endorsement in Science. Alexandra completed three semesters of student teaching at Enos Garcia Elementary School. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to teach in the community where she was raised, and where she has chosen to raise her own family. Alexandra greatly looks forward to being a part of the TISA team!

3rd



Linda was born and raised in Lebanon, Egypt and Iran. Her mother's family is from south Texas in the Rio Grande Valley and her father is Japanese Canadian from British Columbia. They met in Illinois and were sent overseas to Iran in 1945. Her father was a Presbyterian minister with the World Council of Churches in the Middle East from 1945-1980. In 1975, Linda graduated from Tehran Community School, an international school serving grades K-12th grades. Linda attended Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont, majoring in English literature and education. After graduation, she moved out to New Mexico in 1980 with her husband Peter Templeton. She taught 5th grade in Tierra Amarilla in 1981. Linda and her husband moved to Taos from Santa Fe in 1983 to teach at Mt. Wheeler University, a small K-12 school in El Prado. There she taught 2nd – 6th grades for two years. During the intervening years, they raised three children; Anna Makita, 26, James, 23 and Rachel, 19. In 1995, Linda founded the Country Day School along with several other teachers. She taught two classes from first through eighth grade and graduated her last class in 2006. She left the school to work in the public schools and became a tutor for the Native American tutoring program at Enos Garcia Elementary School and Arroyos Del Norte Elementary School. She worked on the TISA charter from 2008-2010 and is a founder of the school. Linda completed her Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction specializing in Arts Integration Curriculum in 2010. Linda is thrilled to see the vision of TISA being fulfilled and enjoys working with such talented and enthusiastic learners.

Jeanette has been teaching for 22 years. She taught 7th graders at a public day school for LD and ED students in Fairfax County, Va. (Just outside of D.C.). Family brought her back to Massachusetts after just 4 years. There she taught semi-self-contained 7th and 8th graders in Framingham for a year, then she was Head Teacher of the Lower School, at the Gifford School in Weston, MA. This was a private school that towns sent the ED students to. After 3 years there she taught 6th graders at Collins Middle School in Salem, MA. After her daughter was born the cost of living sent her family south to a house that was being rented out. In Fayetteville, NC- Jeanette taught 5th graders and then 3rd graders at an A+ (Arts plus Academics school). She has been developing curriculum and integrating arts and technology for all 22 years. During Jeanette's childhood she was immersed in arts. Jeanette's parents were a graphic artist and a Music and theatre director. Jeanette is so excited to be relocating with her daughter and boxer here to Taos. Jeanette fell in love when she visited her brother here 10 years ago. Jeanette is looking forward to working with this enthusiastic and supportive team of teachers, parents and students at TISA.

Of Lynne's 26 years of experience, 18 have been spent teaching fifth, sixth, and seventh grades. Lynne feels she has truly found her niche with this age group. Besides teaching she enjoys travel, reading, and the performing arts. Lynne studied in France as a college student and, more recently, lived, taught, and travelled for a year in Australia. I served on the board of the Fine Arts Guild of the Rockies in Estes Park, and also performed in several productions. On a personal note, she has two grown sons in Colorado, one of whom is married and has twin daughters. Lynne manages to visit with her granddaughters every couple of months in person, and have gotten pretty darn good at Skyping! Lynne is so very excited to be involved in this new charter school dedicated to integrating the arts into all facets of learning and education. Lynne looks forward to meeting each and every one of you!

Maya was born and raised in New Mexico. Maya traveled to Mexico and India during high school. She spent her summers in the mountains at a retreat center. At the retreat center she was exposed to many different cultures, issues of social justice and helped out as a wilderness guide and jack of all trades. Maya has worked in the public school systems as a behavioral management specialist. She was trained in Love and Logic and has a background in Emotional Intelligence. In 2011 she graduated from UNM with a BS in Elementary Education, a minor in Psychological and an endorsement in Social Studies. Maya spent the last year as the kindergarten educational assistant at T.I.S.A. and the after school provider.

