



## Happy 2009!

### Principal's News

January 2009  
Volume 4, Issue 2

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I am so proud to be the Principal of such a great school! There are so many amazing things happening at the school because of the support of our dedicated staff and wonderful families. I want to thank everyone for working so hard to meet our ambitious goal of \$15,000 for the Jog-a-thon! That money went immediately to purchasing and installing new doors between the classrooms and also coat hooks and shelves in each classroom over Winter Break. This was an important step in giving our students the best learning environment possible.

Another factor in meeting the educational needs of our students is making sure that their class time is not interrupted. Your dedication to ensuring that your children are at school on time by 8:25 am every day has helped our students gain the most time productive in class. Thank you for your understanding of the policy of closing the front doors at 8:30 am. This policy helps to get everybody off to a great

start for every TMES student and teacher. Thank you!

Our first 'Friday Coffee' was a big success! Thank you to Becky Caalim and Missy Liotta for hosting this great community building event. I hope you will join us for the next Friday Coffee on Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. It is a great way to meet other TMES parents and talk about positive ways to improve our school.

I am really looking forward to the Golf Tournament and Silent Auction! Last year we had a great time. It is a lot of fun to see people from the TMES community and beyond get together to support our school. The support we receive reminds me what a great place we live! I hope to see you and your family and friends there- mine will be!

We have already completed over half of the school year and I know the second half will be just as wonderful. Thank you again for your support!  
~ Mary Jane Besante

# TMES

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We're on the  
Web!  
[TMESNM.com](http://TMESNM.com)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual TMES Golf Tournament & Silent Auction

Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> is the big day! This is our largest (and most fun!) fundraising event all year. The event melds the TMES community with the community at large. We have lots of golf players across New Mexico attend the event to support our school. It gets bigger and better every year! We hope you will join us for the prize-filled tournament (You can win a vehicle for the hole-in-one contest!) or even just for the Silent Auction portion of the event. You are bound to get a great deal on some amazing items at the Silent Auction! Registration forms and event details are available on our website.

Don't forget about the S.A.C.C. Contest! The classes that bring in the most donation items, player registration forms, sponsorships and parent volunteers will win some great prizes! Details of the contest were sent home in the communication folder last week. Students will get 10 points for their parents just returning the yellow 'Parents- we need your help' form! We hope to get the entire school participating in this fun event. Please call 796-0149 or email MJ at: [msams@tmesnm.com](mailto:msams@tmesnm.com) with questions. See you there!

## Office Notes....

- Every first Wednesday of the month is Staff Planning Day with all students being released early at 12:30. Kindergarteners are released at the same time as the rest of the students, at 12:30. Aftercare is not available on Early Release Days.
- Where in the World is our piece of art? We are missing a black framed watercolor painting that was sitting up against the wall in the hallway last week. If you have it- please return it!
- If your name starts with M-Z and you have not turned in your supplies for the school year, please do so now! Supply lists are on the web.

## Kudos- We really want to thank...

We have some great parent volunteers who go above and beyond! Thank you for volunteering at TMES and making our school great!

Thank you

- Becky Caalim
- Ann Baca
- Ruth Duren
- Joan Salisbury
- Missy Liotta
- Megan Ward
- Carl Fernandez
- Lama Briedi
- Catherine Cuslidge-DeValle
- Dawn McCusker
- Cara Flynn

## And a HUGE thank you to....

### Mr. Diego Lucero!

Mr. Diego was a student teacher in Ms. Maura's class for the first half of the year but continues to be an incredible volunteer at TMES. He not only volunteers to help with drop-off and pick-up almost daily, he does so with his infant daughter strapped to his chest! Mr. Diego has also stepped up as our 'Montessori Going-In Coordinator' (dubbed by Ms. Kari), organizing several special events at TMES including having the APD K-9 unit visit and the 'Lotus Dragons' come celebrate the Chinese New Year with us on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>!

Thank you for being so wonderful Mr. Diego! We really appreciate you being a part of the success at TMES!

## TMES Students Published

Five students in Ms. Sherry's class are being published in the 'Creative Concepts Anthology'. Congratulations! The following are the students and the titles of their poems:

- Jessica Snitchler...Our Flag
- Autumn Box...If you were a Seahorse
- Faith Schifani...Winter Snowflakes
- Beau Richter...Generosity
- Susanna Carty...The Watchers



## TMES Fundraising

TMES currently has five on-going fundraisers. You can get additional info on [www.tmesnm.com](http://www.tmesnm.com) :

- **Octopus Car Wash Coupons-** They are back! The new set of coupons doesn't expire until **April 20<sup>th</sup>**. Every \$14 coupon we sell, we get to keep \$7 of it! This is an easy way to help raise money for our school. Order forms have been sent home in communication folders or you can get an order form on [www.tmesnm.com](http://www.tmesnm.com). The coupons make great gifts too! Tell friends, family and co-workers about this great opportunity!
- **The Brick Campaign-** We are close to being able to get our first order in! Send in your order form by **March 6<sup>th</sup>** to get your brick made in the first installment. Order forms are available online. Sample bricks are located in the entryway of the school. What an excellent way to support our school and give a gift that will 'last forever' for only \$100! Get those order forms in now!
- **Smith's Earn and Learn Program-** We are in the process of setting up a new school account with Smith's so please keep an eye out for more information in your child's communication folder.
- **Box Tops for Education-** We have already sent in \$141.50 worth of Box Tops and that was only half of the Box Tops we have already collected! Please continue to collect the Box Tops and send them in to TMES in a zip-loc bag with your child's name on the bag for a quarterly raffle for prizes. We are hoping to collect as many as possible by **Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>** for this quarter's deadline.
- **Target-** Don't forget to designate TMES as your school if you have a Target card! Call 1-800-316-6142 to do so.

## TMES is going green!

You are receiving this via email only so that we can reduce the use of paper, ink, and resources. If you would like to add or change email addresses on file, please email MJ at: [msams@tmesnm.com](mailto:msams@tmesnm.com).

## TMES Annual Jog-a-thon

This year's Jog-a-thon was a huge success! We reached our goal of \$15,000! Thank you to all of our TMES families who helped us reach our goal. There were 50 students who raised \$100 or more each! Because of your hard work, TMES was able to purchase and install new doors, coat racks and shelves for each classroom over Winter Break. We want to say a HUGE thank you to HOOTS for donating all of the wonderful prizes for the jog-a-thon. Please visit HOOTS and tell them you are from TMES! You can get more information on HOOTS at [www.hootspartyzone.com](http://www.hootspartyzone.com). Thank you HOOTS!



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## Did you know...

- Even though the square footage in our new TMES building is more than twice the square footage, our energy bill is half the cost of what it was in the old building! Now that is efficient!
- We are one of only 16 Albuquerque schools who received the 'N.M. Incentives for School Improvement' award. This prestigious award was given to us because of our standards based assessment scores for 'adequate yearly progress' and for achieving 'outstanding improvements in reading and math proficiency'. We were awarded \$6,686.92. Keep up the good work TMES!
- To help build community within TMES, the Parent Patrol and Starbucks are hosting 'Friday Coffee' in the commons every second Friday of the month. Please join us to meet other TMES parents and for a good cup of java! Thank you Becky and Missy!



## Introducing the 'TMES Singers'

The TMES Singers are up and running! Many TMES students are involved in the first-ever TMES Choir- it is a full house! Ms. Kari, along with the help of Ms. Phyllis, is directing the group. Their first performance for our neighbors before Winter Break went so well that 'The TMES Singers' was created. Stay tuned for the next performance date!

*Left-* The TMES choir singing for our neighbors.  
*Right-* Alexis Cordova gets in the spirit of the choir.



## 'Catch up with Ms. Kari'

In the spring of 2007, we celebrated 100 years of Montessori Education. There was quite a celebration at the American Montessori Conference in New York City. It was an honor to attend such a celebration and I learned many things, from past to present, about Maria Montessori and her method that I had not known before. Over the past few years, I have thought of ways to celebrate this historical time with the students at TMES. This year I came up with a way- I decided to bring her life to the classroom. The first week of January, donned with a period black dress and sweater from Ms. Besante (left over from her dress up days), a period black hat from Ms. Phyllis (still in her dress up days), I pulled my hair into a Montessori-esque bun, put on some reading glasses and traveled to the classrooms. I had in tow a map of Europe, my knitting needles, a few Montessori materials, and my story.

The students welcomed me as their "visitor." They gathered around my chair and listened as I knit and told them of Maria's life from childhood to death. (Ask your child why I was knitting.) I was astonished by the students attentive listening, and I had more fun playing the part than I ever could have imagined. In fact, it was so believable, as I was leaving a classroom as Maria; I overheard a first year student question in all honesty "Was that really Maria Montessori Mr. John?" Many TMES parents have remarked to me about their children coming home and repeating facts about Maria since that day. It was such a joy to hear about them sharing this with their families. I was also having fun with the "Was that really you Ms. Kari?" when they would see me in the hallways the following day.

So as we enter into 2009, let us not forget why we are here at TMES and how the Montessori method has grown to what it is today. Let us remember the hardships Maria Montessori had to endure to become who she was...which gives us what we have. Finally, let us pay tribute to this magnificent woman and honor the method by which we have chosen as teachers to teach by and as families to learn by...embrace these years with your child. ~Ms. Kari

## Collaborative Council

Spencer Visconti,  
President

Rob Crandall,  
Vice-President

Jeff Li, Treasurer

Joanne Li, Secretary

Larry Espinoza

Connie Dove

**We're on the Web!**  
[TMESNM.com](http://TMESNM.com)

We are also sending this via e-mail! If you do not receive this via e-mail, please update your e-mail address (if you have one) at the front office!

## Parent Violin Class Opportunities

Ms. Alissa and Ms. Canice are offering a second round of Parent Violin Classes for those parents who have yet to participate in this mandatory component of TMES. There are two options for you to choose from; Tuesday or Saturday classes. The following classes are abridged versions of the regular Parent Violin Classes. Please plan on attending if you have not already done so. The schedule is as follows:

### *Option 1- Tuesday Class from 6:00 - 8:00 pm @ TMES*

- February 10<sup>th</sup> and February 17<sup>th</sup>

### *Option 2- Saturday Class from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm @ TMES*

- February 21<sup>st</sup> and February 28<sup>th</sup>

Thank you for attending and supporting the violin program!



*Left- Anya Salisbury performs at the Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> Pillow Concert. Don't miss the next Pillow Concerts on Feb 10<sup>th</sup> and Mar. 17<sup>th</sup>*  
*Below- TMES Parents perform at the Fall Parent Violin Class Performance on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>.*



## \*\*\* Important Upcoming Events\*\*\*

### February:

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> - Staff Planning Day- *Early Release @ 12:30* (whole school, K-6<sup>th</sup> grade) **NO AFTERCARE**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> - Invention Convention kick-off & Lotus Dragon performance

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> - Pillow Concert @ 3:30 in Ms. Canice's room

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday Coffee in the Commons @ 8:00-9:00 am - join us for coffee and community building!

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> - President's Day - **NO SCHOOL/NO CHILDCARE**

### March:

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> thru Friday 6<sup>th</sup> - Scholastic Book Fair

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> - Staff Planning Day- *Early Release @ 12:30* (whole school, K-6<sup>th</sup> grade) **NO AFTERCARE**

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> - Jump Rope for Heart

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday Coffee in the Commons @ 8:00-9:00 am - join us for coffee and community building!

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> - Pillow Concert at 3:30 pm in Ms. Canice's room

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> - Invention Convention

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> thru Friday 27<sup>th</sup> - Spring Break- **NO SCHOOL/NO CHILDCARE**

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> - SBA Testing Begins - until completed- possibly till April 24<sup>th</sup>.