



## Principal's News

September/October 2010  
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TMES is such a unique and special school. We truly have a good thing going and I am proud to see progress and achievement happening all around the school everyday.

Last May, a Parent Committee was formed after serious budget cuts from the State level revealed that we did not have enough funding for 6 EA positions. This would have left our 6-9 and 9-12 classrooms with an EA only half of the time. The Parent Committee started the 'Educational Assistant Fund' and were able to raise an astonishing amount of money of over \$40,000! We are now proud to say that we have 11 total EA's in our classrooms and are working toward having full-time EA coverage in each classroom!

I want to personally thank Jill Riester, Russ Liodolt, Larry Alei, all the members of the TMES Parent Committee

and of course, every single TMES family for your continued support of our students!

I can tell you that every time you participate in a TMES fundraiser, volunteer your precious time to us, or even just spread the word of our fundraising efforts, you are making a difference in every student's quality of education at TMES! You should all be very proud of what you do for your child's education. I know our staff works hard everyday to provide an education to every student at TMES that will prepare them for a future of success as independent, globally responsible, forward thinking members of society.

Thank you again for your continued support and I look forward to another amazing year at TMES!

-Mary Jane Besante, TMES Principal

## Annual TMES Jog-A-Thon

The TMES Annual Jog-A-Thon is here! This is a really fun event for the students and is one of our largest fundraisers of the year. This year, all of the money raised from the Jog-A-Thon will go directly into the 'TMES Educational Assistant Fund' to help provide for the much-needed EA's in our classrooms. Our goal is for every child to raise \$60 for the Jog-A-Thon which would raise over \$20,000! That is enough to pay for one EA for an entire year! We will be giving out several awesome prizes to students and classes including: the most laps run in each level, the most money raised by a class and student, the most pledges obtained, the class that completes the most laps and more! This fundraiser is a great way to help kids set healthy goals, learn that fitness is fun and thrive on community support! We encourage you to help your child obtain pledges from family, friends, co-workers, neighbors,

etc. After the Jog-A-Thon, we will send home the pledge form with how many laps your child has run so you will know of their accomplishment! On the morning of the Jog-A-Thon is also the Parent Teacher Coffee in the Commons (PTC) Meeting. Stop in to grab a free cup of Starbucks coffee, meet some other great TMES families and get an update on what each level is doing at TMES. You received a pledge form in your child's communication folder a few weeks ago but it is not too late to get more pledges! And don't let the \$60 per student suggestion stop you from raising more than that! No donation is too small; every little bit puts us just that much closer to having an EA in every classroom. You can get another pledge form on the homepage of our website or in the office. Please remember to send in the pledge forms with your child on Friday. Thank you in advance for your hard work and dedication to TMES!

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Elementary School  
3831 Midway Place NE  
Albuquerque, NM  
87109

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(505) 796-0149

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(505) 796-0147

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



## Office Notes...

- Don't forget to call TMES *every* time your child is absent! Just make a quick call to 796-0149 and leave a message with your child's name, teacher and reason for being absent.
- If there are any changes in your child's pick-up routine- even if it is just for the day- please send a note in their communication folder letting us know who will be picking them up and the length of time that the new arrangement is valid. This is especially important if your child will be joining a carpool or going home with a friend after school so we know where to have your child waiting for pick-up.
- The drive-thru pick-up lanes are still the fastest way to pick-up your child(ren)! We ask that you reserve the walk-in method for *occasional use only please*. Every time you use the walk-in method, it takes the office staff away from their roles in the office. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!
- A child's turtle backpack was left at TMES during Registration days back in August. If it is your child's backpack, please contact Ms. Belinda in the office.
- The school year is now in full swing and we still have parents lingering everyday after the 9:00 am sharp start time. We ask that you follow our rule of having all parents out of the building and classrooms by 9:00 unless otherwise set-up in advance!

## TMMS Celebrates Constitution Day

A snippet of a story posted about our wonderful TMMS students on the ACLU-NM website. Click on the link below to see the entire story by Micah McCoy.

<http://aclu-nm.org/do-you-know-the-constitution-better-than-a-6th-grader/2010/09/>

*'...This year, the Montessori Elementary School in Albuquerque invited ACLU-NM for Constitution Day to make a presentation to their 6th and 7th grade students on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. We, or course, were delighted.*

*ACLU-NM Staff Attorneys Leon Howard and Jennifer Cohen had the pleasure of giving a short presentation on the history, meaning and significance of the U.S. Constitution to a class of bright, interested students-who seemed to know all the answers!*

*At the end of the presentation we handed out a list of made up scenarios and asked the students to identify which amendment to the Constitution applied to the situation. The students split up into small groups and discussed, then came back together to give their answers a few minutes later. Every group got almost every question right.'*

Nice job TMMS students!

## First Annual TMES Sock Hop!

The First Annual TMES Sock Hop on October 1, 2010 was a huge success! The event was attended by many of our TMES families and even had an appearance by a NM icon, Al Hurricane. The TMES Sock Hop included lots of great music from the 1950's and today by our very own 'DJ Larry' (Alej), a costume contest with 1950's attire, a hula-hoop contest and lots of fun dancing of course! We were delighted to see how many kids, and even adults, came dressed in poodle skirts, leather jackets, pony tails, dark glasses, and more. Great job everyone! A huge thank you goes out to the many organizers of the Sock Hop who all worked very hard to put this community building event together for the school: Heather Kotula, Theresa and Ted Padilla, Larry Alej and many more. Thank you and we hope to see an even bigger turn out at the next TMES community event!



*Pictures: TMES Students, Parents and Volunteers enjoy some 50's fun at the First Annual TMES Sock Hop on October 1, 2010! We had an overwhelming response to the event and plan on having more like it regularly!*



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**Self Confidence  
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Building Life Skills**



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Enrollment

## TMES Newsletter Advertising

Would you like to advertise in our TMES Parent Newsletter? TMES is now accepting ads for Parent Newsletters. This is a great opportunity to advertise your business or service in an affordable way to families of over 310 TMES students! The newsletters are sent via email to all of our families and are also on our website for all of the public to view at any time. What a great way to show your support of our fabulous school and get your name out there at the same time! All ads will need final approval of our Administration. The prices are as follows:

- \$25 for business card size ad
- \$50 for ¼ page size ad
- \$100 for ½ page size ad
- \$200 for full page size ad

Contact MJ for more info on this great opportunity!

**The Pampered Chef**  
*discover the chef in you™*

Jennifer Thompson  
Independent Consultant  
Consultant #595141  
Cell 505-321-9779  
mizjent@gmail.com  
[www.pamperedchef.biz/jenthompson](http://www.pamperedchef.biz/jenthompson)

## Did you know...

- Our Parent Committee Group received over \$40,000 in donations from parents for the Educational Assistant Fund! Thank you again to all of you who donated to such an important fund. If you would still like to donate, please contact Jill Reister at: [riesterr@msn.com](mailto:riesterr@msn.com).
- GreatSchools.com [contest](#) is in full swing again! Visit our homepage for a quick link to go directly to the website to vote for TMES to win \$25,000!
- TMES has made our AYP (Annual Yearly Progress) every year since we opened in 2005! Way to go TMES!
- Our website is constantly updated with the most current information about TMES events and classroom information. We encourage you to visit [www.tmesnm.com](http://www.tmesnm.com) frequently to stay in-the-know at TMES! Some recent updates include:
  - Our classroom pages have all been updated with the classroom weekly schedule, teacher and EA info, and classroom 'Wish Lists'. Click on the '[Student Life](#)' tab to get to all the classroom webpage links.
  - The '[Student Life](#)' tab also has some great links to important TMES info such as the healthy snacks ideas, permission forms for medication to be administered at TMES, the TMES Parent Handbook, severe weather policy and much more!
  - The '[Activities](#)' tab has the 2010-2011 Event Calendar, TMES Activities and Events document, Before & After Care info and a violin practice guide.
  - And of course our [homepage](#) is where you will find the 'Upcoming Events' listed with plenty of 'Quick Links' to the most current events and information going on at TMES.

*A letter from MJ Sams, TMES Development Coordinator & Heather Kotula, TMES Parent Committee Parent Volunteer Liaison:*

Putting the FUN in FUNdraising! We love fundraising; especially when the money is used for something as important and valuable as having Educational Assistants in our classrooms! TMES already has a number of events and projects planned for the 2010-2011 school year, with the money raised slated to go directly to the 'TMES Educational Assistant Fund'. Our goal is to make every event FUN, community building, and a way for everyone to make a difference in the quality of education for TMES students.

Fundraising can be a very difficult place to be sometimes but never-the-less, a necessary thing to do with the sweeping budget cuts that seem to continue at the most inopportune times. We hope to make it not only a positive experience for our families, but very profitable at the same time so can make the most out of every penny we receive. When we send out information on our fundraising projects and events, we are trying to make sure that everyone knows what is happening. We don't want to badger you or burden you or try to make you participate in everything or buy everything that is offered. We realize that you may not be interested in every event or project that comes your way, just please understand that we are just trying to keep everyone informed, and it often takes multiple messages in order to accomplish that.

By now you should be well on your way towards getting pledges for the [Jog-A-Thon](#) coming up this Friday! We have some great prizes lined up for our top achievers, and all of our students will come home with a certificate of participation and a goodie bag filled with great offers from local businesses that support the school. Our first priority for the day is the safety and well-being of your children, so we will have plenty of water and orange slices on hand. Our second priority is to have FUN doing something healthy, and then, of course, we hope those pledges will bring in some good dough to support our EA's. If you haven't volunteered yet and would like to, please contact Heather Kotula or MJ Sams. We especially need help marking laps on those tally sheets from 10:45 am - 12:30 pm. Thank you!

The 2nd Annual [Arts and Crafts Mercado](#) is scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup>, and we want it to be a great success! If you know of an artist or crafter who might like to participate, please direct them to the [homepage](#) on our website to look for the 'Mercado' link or have them contact [Stacey Ignarski](#) for more info. If you can volunteer to help, please contact Stacey. We are also working on a couple of great items to show your school spirit! Watch for custom tie-dyed TMES t-shirts and bumper stickers coming soon! We hope you love them as much as we do!

The FUNdraising Committee is always open to new ideas, but please know that we probably won't be able to make all of them happen, at least not right away. You can send your ideas to [Heather](#) or [MJ](#), and we will take them to the Committee for review and approval. Thank you again for your continued support, we know it is going to be another great year at TMES!

~ Heather Kotula & MJ Sams

## Box Tops for Education

Box Tops is all about the difference 1 can make. This year, our goal is to raise \$2,000; however, TMES has the potential to earn \$80,000 per year. To kick the fall 2010 program off, we will be having a **classroom contest**. The classroom who submits the most Box Tops during September-November, will win a 'Fun Lunch Party' in December 2010. Please keep submitting Box Tops to your child's teacher and they will submit them to Ms. Belinda for collection by me. Box Tops make it very easy to earn money for TMES. Below are five easy ways you can make a difference:

**Clip** — Clip the Box Top from hundreds of participating products and send them to school. Each one is worth 10¢ when our school redeems them from Box Tops for Education.

**Shop online** — Shop at your favorite online stores through the Box Tops Marketplace®. Up to 15% of your purchase total is automatically donated to our school, at no additional cost to you. Plus, you'll get exclusive Box Tops deals and discounts!

**Read** — Buy books online through the Reading Room<sup>SM</sup>, a partnership between Box Tops and Barnes and Noble. Our school receives up to 6% of qualifying purchases.

**My Class Essentials<sup>TM</sup>** — This is a free online registry to help classrooms get the learning tools they need. Our school earns a 2% cash donation with every purchase.

**Sign up** — It's easy and free. Sign up to support our school at [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com).

~ Thank you to every one for your help and support, Cici Cuslidge-DeValle, Box Tops Coordinator.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Arts & Crafts Mercado

The second annual TMES Arts and Crafts Mercado is only about five weeks away on Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Judging from the Mercado last year, this year the event is sure to be a big hit! The Mercado features unique arts and crafts, raffle giveaways, food and snack bar and of course some great baked goods! We ended up having 20 vendor tables and several TMES tables at last year's event. Many of the vendors are planning to come again, but we still have tables available if you know of any artists who might be interested in becoming a vendor at this one of a kind event! Between the vendor tables that were rented from TMES and the money raised at the tables for TMES activities and levels, we raised over **\$2,700 total last year!** TMES parent, Stacey Ignarski, is organizing the Mercado again this year. Please feel free to email Stacey at: [ihydrophilic@msn.com](mailto:ihydrophilic@msn.com) with any questions about renting a table at the Mercado or get an application on the homepage of our website. So come kick off your holiday shopping at the TMES Mercado on Saturday,

## Store Partnerships

There are several specific store incentive programs that TMES is signed up with. These programs are an easy way to support TMES, without doing anything but signing up for the free programs and enjoying your normal shopping! If you have a Target Red Card or shop at Smith's Food and Drug stores, please go to our website under the '[Support TMES](#)' tab to see how you can designate TMES to benefit from your normal shopping. What an easy way to make a difference!



## News from TMMS

The TMMS business of 'Pizza Fridays' is well underway! The TMMS students have spent a great deal of time and energy building their business. They have narrowed their choices to three companies and will decide this week which pizza they will serve. The advertisement campaign is underway, and information will be sent out next week with all the details. This will be a tremendous amount of work for the students but will help raise funds for their 'Big Trip'. The plan is to start serving pizza the first Friday we are back in school after Fall Break, which is Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. So keep an eye out for details of the weekly Pizza Friday fundraiser for TMMS!

### Collaborative Council

Spencer Visconti,  
President

Rob Crandall,  
Vice-President

Jeff Li, Treasurer

Joanne Li, Secretary

Larry Espinoza

Connie Dove

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

- Jill Riester
- Russ Liodolt
- Heather Kotula
- Larry Alei
- Ted & Theresa Padilla
- Stacey Ignarski
- Ann Baca
- Cici Cuslidge-DeValle
- The Parent Committee members
- And all of our wonderful Parents and volunteers!

### Quick Notes

- TMES Fall Camp is a go! We still have some openings so if you are interested in registering your child in the TMES Fall Camp, please go to our website for details.
- We have a more user-friendly school calendar on our website now! [Click here](#) to go to our school calendar link on TMESNM.com to download the TMES school calendar, complete with a 'Key' of important dates!
- Kinder Parents: The Kinder drive-thru pick-up area is available from 3:00-3:15 pm. After 3:15, please join the rest of the school in line to utilize the drive-thru pick-up from the back of the school. Sorry for any previous confusion.

We're on the Web!  
TMESNM.com

## United Way of Central NM

Don't forget TMES in your United Way designations! We are approaching the timeframe in which United Way of Central NM typically does their pledge drives at places of business, etc. and we would love if you chose us to be one of your designations for your contributions. When donating to the United Way, you can designate any 501c3 to receive a specific dollar amount or percent of your total pledge, and they handle all the distribution of funds to the various non-profit designations. The United Way of Central NM's administration costs are paid for by a "Corporate Cornerstone" program, in which several large companies (Intel among them) pay all their overhead so that individual donations are put through to the 501c3's without any deductions off the top. If you would like to donate to TMES through United Way please note that you need to look for the 'Montessori Education Foundation, Inc.', and not the school itself. The money the Foundation receives goes directly to the needs of the school. Thank you!



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

#### October-

- Friday 8<sup>th</sup>- Parent/Teacher Coffee (PTC) Meeting @ 8:30 am in the Commons area. Join us for some free coffee and chat!
- Friday, 8<sup>th</sup>- [Jog-A-Thon](#) starts @ 9:10 am. Come join the fun and help cheer on our awesome students!
- Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup>- Class picture/re-take day
- Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup>- International Children's Day
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> & Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>- Parent/Teacher Conferences - *NO School/NO Childcare available*
- Monday 25<sup>th</sup> thru Friday 29<sup>th</sup> - TMES Fall Break- No School, *Childcare available during Fall Break thru the [Fall Camp!](#)*

#### November-

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup>- Montessori Teacher Development Day- *NO School/NO Childcare available*
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>- Parent Teacher Circle (PTC) Meeting @ 3:30 pm
- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>- Second Annual TMES Mercado from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Fun for the whole family!
- Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>- Family Science Night. Fun for the whole family!
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> thru Friday 26<sup>th</sup>- Thanksgiving Break- *NO School/NO Childcare available*