

Magdalena School Newsletter

December 2018

From Dr. Haven

Hola, Hello, & Yá'át'ééh,

As we come to the middle of the 2017-2018 school year, my family and I would like to extend our holiday greetings to everyone in Magdalena and for making us feel welcomed and being a part of this great community. As we approach the Winter Holiday and a well-deserved rest for our students, teachers and staff members we sincerely hope you have a safe and restful break. What a great time to be a part of a wonderful school. To our students, parents, teachers and staff ... thank you for all you do to make our schools a wonderful place to learn!

Last spring our schools conducted a climate survey to measure how we are doing and how we can improve several areas of our school. The survey was conducted anonymously with our teachers and staff to review their observations and then the data was compiled and analyzed by an outside entity. Our Governing Board requested my office to place the results of the survey on our school website and you can find the results there under the link titled MMSD Climate Survey. We hope you can see where we excel in as a school district and areas in need of improvement. As my own parents have always told me *"there is always room for improvement"* and that is what we will strive for.

I cordially invite you to my office to discuss any concerns or suggestions that you may have that our administrators may be able to help solve effectively. We continue to ask that you follow our established chain of command to settle any differences as soon as possible. Our administrators and staff members are always available to discuss on how we can continually improve Magdalena Municipal Schools. I can be reached at (575) 854-8013 or ghaven@magdalena.k12.nm.us.

Let's work together to make Magdalena Schools the best once again! **Go Steers!**

Gracias, Thank You, & Ahéhee'!
Dr. Glenn Haven
Superintendent
"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." –Aristotle

Conversations with Mrs. Clark

Every child needs a dream. Some of our students don't seem to have that. I know that our staff works very hard to give students motivation and drive to succeed, but occasionally we have students who lack the stamina to work through problems. They aren't able to follow through when things get tough. Motivation is the hardest things to instill with students. Many parents say motivating is the teacher's job, and teachers say motivating is the parents job. Well it is everyone's job!

One of the most powerful ways to motivate a student is to notice EFFORT and not reinforce abilities because if a students doesn't think they have the ability then they will make no effort. As teachers we can model a growth mindset by listening to our students and trying to make necessary changes. This feedback shows that we are learners too. It also invites students to continue the learning journey. Develop meaningful and respectful relationships with students. Encourage students to help their peers. Learning together, collaboratively, takes some practice. But when students learn how to make this happen, their own learning deepens. Our school is small enough that each child is someone we should know well and understand their struggles. When we make this effort, students are going to respond. Parents can do the same thing, listen to your child, try to understand their struggles.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and I want to thank you for sharing your child with me! I have been blessed each day to be here at the school and work with every single child.

Mrs. Clark

Winter Holiday

The Winter Holiday will begin on Thursday, December 20th. Students will be released at 1:00 pm. Students and staff will return to school on Monday, January 7, 2019.

Elementary

The District Declamation Contest was held November 15th at 9:00 a.m. in the FAC. Pre- School through 5th grade students participated. Below are the results.

Humorous Poetry

1st Westie Rose Trujillo
2nd Zeb Apachito
3rd Gabriel Romero

Humorous Prose

1st Lily Martin
2nd Belem Villa
3rd Amaris Candelaria

Serious Poetry

1st Raylan Cason
2nd Julian Romero
3rd Shane Montoya

Serious Prose

1st Brooke Pettis
2nd Dakota Hass

These participants represented Magdalena Elementary School at the County Declamation Contest held on November 29th. In the category of Humorous Poetry, Gabriel Romero placed 1st and West Rose Trujillo placed 2nd. In Humorous Prose Amaris Candelaria placed 2nd. In Serious Poetry, Raylan Cason placed 3rd and in Serious Prose, Brooke Pettis placed 2nd.

STEM PROGRAMS

The 4th grade, 5th grade, and Magdalena Schools Robotics (FLL-Jr; FLL; and FTC) are selling the World's Finest Chocolate to support their trips, registrations and purchase of materials. Please support their work when you can.

The FFL-Jr and FLL team competition is Saturday 1 December between 8 AM and 6 PM. Drop by Sarracino Middle School to support their drive to be recognized.

The 4th and 5th grade will spend 12 December with Dr. Klinglesmith, an Astrophysicist, viewing the moon, Mars, and selected stars. On the 13th, they will execute a Lunar Landing at the Challenger Learning Center in Las Cruces.

JOM/Early Childhood Night

There will be a JOM Meeting/Christmas Potluck on Wednesday, **December 12th** at 6:00 pm at the Alamo Chapter House.