

**New Mexico School for the Arts**  
**Head of School Report: October 2018**  
**Report by Eric Crites**

*NMSA provides access to a rigorous mastery arts and academic high school education for youth with passion and aptitude in the arts, leading to post-secondary learning, careers in the arts, and lives that contribute to society.*

**Kudos**

- Artemisio Romero y Carver (grade 10, visual arts) took first place in the Lincoln-Douglas Debate at the Los Alamos Peak Invitational.
- The Visual Department's biennial Birch exhibition is open through October 11 at the SFCC Visual Arts Gallery.
- *From Environmental Science Teacher/Sustainability Club Adviser Jennifer Black:* Join me in Congratulating Maya Forte (grade 12, dance) on her first commentary publication " Tick, tock: For my generation's sake don't let the Land and Water Conservation Fund expire" in NM Politics. It is awesome to see America's young leaders speaking up and using their voice to promote conservation and common sense in our country. Please read and share Maya's commentary and make a point to enjoy your public lands this weekend.

<https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/HkJQCM8E2ptqJ54NHwAEMH?domain=nmpolitics.net>

**Charter Renewal**

The charter renewal application and supporting documents were uploaded to WebEPSS on September 27, ahead of the October 1 deadline. The charter renewal site visit is scheduled for October 18.

**Audit**

The business office is wrapping up final documentation for the FY18 audit.

**Lease Reimbursement**

We have not received any updates on proposed cuts to 2018-2019 lease assistance.

**School Lunch Program**

The number of lunches ordered continues to increase. The school's operational cost for September was \$142.20.

**Evaluation**

The first round of NMTeach observations/evaluations will begin during the second half of October. Eric Crites, Chelamia Quintana, and Joey Chavez have completed the annual training required to be able to conduct teacher evaluations.

**Assessment**

- Science teacher Jennifer Black has taken on the District Testing Coordinator role this year. She has completed the DTC training provided by PED.
- Interim Assessments are being taken the week of October 8 by students in Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, English I-IV, Biology, Chemistry, World History, US History, and Spanish I.
- All sophomores and a few juniors are taking the PSAT on October 10.

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- Seniors requiring a retake of PARCC or SBA Science assessments in order to meet graduation requirements will do so during November

**Safety**

- All staff will participate in active shooter training presented by POMS & Associates during inservice on November 12.
- The school has established an anonymous reporting line and will provide training on its use for students and staff during October.

**Collaboration**

In the spirit of the training provided during August inservice by artist Dario Robleto, what was formerly Arts Exchange Day in November will become a collaborative creation day, with teachers from different disciplines working with teams of students from different disciplines to create a time capsule to be buried at the new school campus.

**Wellness**

- Students and staff are participating in Walking and Running Club after school on Mondays and Wednesdays.
- With new clinical counselor Gregory Gutin joining the staff, we have full counseling coverage.
- Students are internalizing the practice of mindfulness. In a senior class recently, the teacher was delayed in arriving and a student stepped in and led the class in a mindfulness practice.
- Bullying prevention trainings are being delivered by the counseling department during October.
- PED approved a portion of our Title IV funding this year to support the cost of providing Resolve NM's Courageous and College Bound (consent and self-defense) training to seniors.

**Facility Updates**

Repairs in the front offices, Small Rehearsal Hall, the staff bathroom vestibule, and Room 108 have been completed. Repairs remaining include the stage vestibule, a wall in the front lobby, Room 107, the cafeteria, and Room 109 (the science lab). Repairs in 109 will require relocating science and 9th Grade Academy classes for up to two weeks. The sections of new roof have held during recent rains.