

Sierra Vista Vision

Volume 13

“Where Children Come First”

Issue 3

September 17, 2009

Sept. 18 - Entertainment
Book Sale Ends

Sept. 22 - Family Science
Night, 6:00 pm

Sept. 30 - Walk-A-Thon

Oct. 9 - Fall Break
NO SCHOOL

Oct. 16 - Fall Festival

Sierra Vista Phone #'s

Office 898-0272

Attendance Press Option 5

Cafeteria 898-2057

Mrs. Garciasalas' email
tapia_m@aps.edu

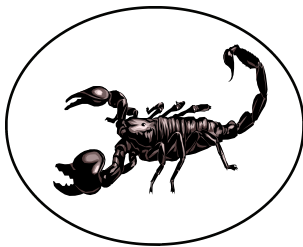
Mrs. Gutierrez email
gutierrez_lisa@aps.edu

APS WEB SITE

www.aps.edu

SIERRA VISTA WEB SITE

<http://SierraVista.aps.edu>



Our Vision

Sierra Vista Elementary School is a learning community where a child's academic success, social well-being and physical safety are the basis for life-long learning.

From the Principal

Monica Garciasalas

Dear Families,

Open House was a great success this year! Thank you all for attending and visiting our school and your child's classroom. This confirms it! We will have Open House every year from now on. It's a great way to get school information, visit your child's classroom and celebrate their successes, and get to know your child's teacher. Thank you again for your support!

In case you missed us at Open House, there is some important information you need to know about our school. As you may recall, every year students in 3-5 grade take the New Mexico Standards Based Assessment. This assessment (NMSBA) measures how well your child performs in relation to the standards.

The results of this test gives us our designation. Sierra Vista's designation is Restructuring I. This means that we have not met the state requirements for students being proficient in the area of reading and/or math in one or more sub groups. These scores are available to view in the office. This does not mean that all our students are failing. When analyzing our scores the majority of our students are proficient. The designation comes from one sub group not meeting the target. That being said, you must also be aware that we made growth compared to last year. That is a celebration in and of itself. We will continue to strive to make growth in all sub groups.

What does this mean for Sierra Vista? This means that we will continue to do the great things we do everyday. In addition, we have implemented some new strategies to help focus our instruction so we can continue to make gains. Please ask your child's teacher about the new strategies. We are committed to moving forward and working our hardest to ensure that your child succeeds.

As always, feel free to call or come by if you have any questions or concerns.

Monica Garciasalas



Attendance

To report an absence or tardy, call 898-0272 and press option 5. Please leave the date, student's full legal name, teacher's name, and the reason for the absence. If no reason is given, the absence/tardy will be considered unexcused. You are responsible to contact the school for all absences and tardies by 9:00 a.m. You will need to call each day for an extended absence.

PTA NEWS

Walk-A-Thon Volunteers
Volunteers are needed to help with Walk-A-Thon on September 30th. If you would like to help, please contact **Bennie Cruz**, Volunteer Coordinator at **235-3748**. You must have a current Background Check on file in the office. If you need information on Background Checks, call the front office @ **898-0272**.



Fall Festival

A Chair Person is needed for the Fall Festival. If you are interested, please call **Bennie Cruz @ 235-3748**.



Entertainment Book Sale

Our Entertainment Book Sale will end tomorrow, September 18th. Please send the book back to school or payment for the book if you wish to sell it or keep it. The cost is \$35.00. Thank you for

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Kristen Hutchinson and Alyssa Anaya will be teaching music at Sierra Vista Elementary School this year. This is Kristen's fourth year teaching with the APS Fine Arts Program, and her twelfth year as a music educator. Kristen is returning to Sierra Vista for a second time. Last year she taught music at Petroglyph Elementary School. This is Alyssa's ninth year teaching with the APS Fine Arts Program. Last year she taught music at Adobe Acres, and the year before she was assigned to East San Jose Elementary School. We are really looking forward to getting to work with all of you this year.



Over the course of our stay at Sierra Vista Elementary School, we will be teaching many musical concepts such as steady beat, rhythm, dynamics, pitch, tone color and form. We will work on listening and singing skills, we will be playing instruments, dancing and some students will begin to read music.

Mrs. Hutchinson's classes will be meeting in the brand new Fine Arts room. Mrs. Anaya's classes will be meeting in the Fine Arts portable (P-29) this year.

In honor of Constitution Day, we are planning to have the 4th and 5th grade students sing our National Anthem the *Star-Spangled Banner* around the flagpole in front of the school at 9:00 a.m. on September 17th. The 2nd and 3rd graders will be singing *America*, and of course, parents are invited to this very short and informal performance.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about music class, please feel free to come and talk to us, leave a message in our box, or preferably email: hutchinson_k@aps.edu or anaya_al@aps.edu.

Sincerely,

Kristen Hutchinson and Alyssa Anaya
APS Fine Arts Music Teachers

From the Nurse.....

APS Families, students, staff and community,
You are invited to join the APS district School Health Advisory Council (SHAC)! Our first meeting of school year 2009-10 is **Wednesday, September 23rd @ 5:30pm-7:00pm** Rio Grande Room at APS City Center, 6400 Up-town Blvd. NE. **APS Families, students, staff and community:**

Concerned about bullying in schools? Physical education and activity? Nutrition and other health issues that impact youth? Then come to this meeting to learn how you can be engaged in school, district and community wellness initiatives. Come find out about creating a SHAC at your school too.

What is SHAC? The APS district SHAC will meet monthly and work towards the support of healthy and successful schools, students and staff. Wellness is a shared responsibility and effective partnerships between families, schools and communities support the development and maintenance of a healthy learning environment and lifestyles for students and their families. To help us plan the agenda and refreshments, please RSVP to Monica McComas at 855-9790 or mccomas@aps.edu by September 18th.