

Taos High School

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Parent/Teacher/Community Involvement Policy 2026/2027

Principal Emy Martinez-DeHerrera

Parent and Community Involvement Plan

2026/2027

Taos High School administration and school staff are working toward a goal of increasing parent, family, and community involvement within our school. On August 27, 2026, an Open House Title1/Welcome Back BBQ was held to provide parents and guardians with the opportunity to meet teachers and become familiar with the school, policies, expectations, programs, and available school and community resources. Approximately 350 parents and guardians attended, representing a significant portion of our student population. Our school provided dinner for families and staff, creating a welcoming environment, and strengthening the connection between our school and families. Our community providers are a vital component to this event.

To support these efforts, we continue to work closely with our Community Schools Coordinator. The Community Schools program supports students and families who may need additional assistance on a holistic level, including school supplies, clothing, food, personal hygiene items, academic tutoring, and connections to community resources. The program also works to gather parent and family feedback regarding the needs of Taos High School and communicates with families and the community through social media, outreach activities, and family engagement opportunities.

Communication between parents, families, and school staff continues to be an important focus at Taos High School. We recognize that consistent and effective communication with families plays an important role in student learning, attendance, engagement, and overall success. Counselors regularly communicate with parents regarding student progress, graduation requirements, academic concerns, and available support. School administration provides regular communication to families and staff through phone messages, email, social media, and other school communication systems to share important school and district events, deadlines, celebrations, and updates.

Parent/Teacher Conferences and additional opportunities for family engagement are provided throughout the school year. Parents are also encouraged to communicate directly with teachers, counselors, administrators, and support staff whenever concerns or questions arise.

Taos High School currently utilizes Synergy, a new platform, and Canvas to support communication regarding grades, attendance, assignments, and academic progress. Parents and students are provided access to these systems so they can regularly monitor student performance and attendance. We continue to support families who need assistance accessing or navigating these platforms. Additional communication methods include social media, school announcements, community outreach, local media, flyers, and the school marquee to keep families informed of activities and opportunities.

Taos High School is committed to finding effective methods of communication and collaboration with our community. One of our goals is to continue recruiting community members and organizations to become active participants in student learning. Community members are invited to serve as guest speakers, mentors, volunteers, internship partners, and participants in school programs and activities.

Our partnerships continue to grow and provide meaningful opportunities for students. Taos High School works with organizations and programs including Taos Alive, Taos Behavioral Health, GEAR UP, True Kids 1, community behavioral health partners, UNM, and other local organizations. Our partnership with UNM provides students with access to dual-credit opportunities, while GEAR UP supports college and career readiness through college applications, scholarships, FAFSA, academic support, and postsecondary planning. Students also have access to tutoring, mentoring, academic intervention, and other supports designed to remove barriers to success.

Taos High School has also expanded its College and Career Enrichment Opportunities (CEO) Fridays, formerly known as Flex Fridays. The CEO provides students with structured opportunities for academic intervention, enrichment, career exploration, community-based learning, internships, service learning, college and career preparation, and partnerships with local organizations. These experiences allow students to build real-world skills, explore future career pathways, strengthen their resumes, and gain exposure to postsecondary opportunities while remaining connected to their school community.

In addition, Taos High School continues to strengthen support for the whole student. Through school-based and community partnerships, academic interventions, tutoring, behavioral health initiatives, restorative practices, attendance interventions, and college and career programming. We are working to ensure that students and families have access to resources that support academic achievement, social-emotional wellness, attendance, graduation, and postsecondary success.

We are continually looking for opportunities to gather parent and family feedback and maintain an open-door approach to communication. We value the perspectives of our parents, guardians, students, staff, and community partners. Parent and community involvement is an ongoing process, and Taos High School remains dedicated to strengthening these partnerships and creating meaningful opportunities for families and community members to participate in student success.

Our goal is to ensure that Taos High School continues to serve not only as a school, but as an academic, athletic, and cultural center of the Taos community where students are challenged, supported, and prepared for success in college, career, and life.