

Alpha Elementary School/ Escuela Primaria Alpha

January 14, 2020

Important Update /Actualización Importante

We will have parent conferences for all students January 27-31, 2020. If you do not get an appointment to meet with your child's teacher please call the school at (559) 661-4101. Students will be dismissed at 1:30 p.m. during parent conferences.



5 productive questions to ask at parent teacher conferences by Rebecca Hastings

1. What do you see as an area of strength for my child?
2. What is one area to focus on improving for my child?
3. How does my child contribute to the class atmosphere?
4. Who does my child work well with?
5. Do you have any concerns about my child?

Upcoming Events/ Próximos Eventos

January 13, 2020

Non School Day

January 14, 2020

Students return to school

January 20, 2020

Non School Day - MLK Jr.
Day

January 21, 2020

3:30 p.m. District Spelling
Bee

Event Highlight/ Evento destacado

Happy New Year! May 2020 be a wonderful year for you and your family. Please see me if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child. It is my desire that the second semester be productive, challenging, and meaningful for each student. I can be reached at (559) 661-4101 or tomchagoya@maderausd.org.

The Great Kindness-Challenge 2020 January 27-31

The Great Kindness Challenge is one week dedicated to creating a culture of kindness and compassion on campuses worldwide.

Our school is proudly participating in this proactive and positive kindness initiative.

All students will receive The Great Kindness Challenge checklist. Please encourage your child to complete as many acts of kindness as possible.

Together, let's show the world that....

Kindness Matters!

Student or Staff Highlight/Destacado del Estudiante o del personal

For the safety of students they should not arrive on campus until breakfast begins at 7:20 a.m. When students arrive on campus prior to 7:45 a.m. they are to report to the cafeteria and wait until they are dismissed to the playground to line up on the white dots where they will be escorted by the morning duty teachers. Kindergarten students will wait in the cafeteria until they are escorted to the classrooms.

All adults on campus after the bell to begin class rings at 8:00 a.m. will need to acquire a visitor's pass from the office if planning to stay on campus.

Sports Schedules/Horarios deportivos

Flag Football & Cheer Season 4: January 14-February 14 @ 12:30 pm

*Flag Football & Cheer take place during the same season.

1-24-20: Mini Tour (@ sites)

2-7-20: Mini Tour (@ sites)

2-14-20: 1:00 pm City Schools @ MSHS, Country Schools @ MHS
Cheer Exhibition 2-12-20: 2:00 – 4:00 pm @ MSHS

Attendance Policy/Politica de Asistencia

10 Facts About School Attendance

1. Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the students who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school. [Read more...](#)
2. Over 8 million U.S. students miss nearly a month of school each year. [Read more...](#)
3. Absenteeism and its ill effects start early. One in 10 kindergarten and first grade students are chronically absent. [Read more...](#)
4. Poor attendance can influence whether children read proficiently by the end of third grade or be held back. [Read more...](#)
5. By 6th grade, chronic absence becomes a leading indicator that a student will drop out of high school. [Read more...](#)
6. Research shows that missing 10 percent of the school, or about 18 days in most school districts, negatively affects a student's academic performance. That's just two days a month and that's known as chronic absence. [Read more...](#)
7. Students who live in communities with high levels of poverty are four times more likely to be chronically absent than others often for reasons beyond their control, such as unstable housing, unreliable transportation and a lack of access to health care. [Read more...](#)
8. When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating. [Read more...](#)
9. Attendance improves when schools engage students and parents in positive ways and when schools provide mentors for chronically absent students. [Read more...](#)
10. Most school districts and states don't look at all the right data to improve school attendance. They track how many students show up every day and how many are skipping school without an excuse, but not how many are missing so many days in excused and unexcused absence that they are headed off track academically. [Read more...](#)

Student Health Wellness/Salud del Estudiante

Face to Face



As human beings we are social creatures looking to make connections with others, today's technology has hindered the amount of time we spend connecting with others in person. Studies have shown that kids spend an estimated 7 hours a day using electronic devices. Devoting so much time to our screens is linked to both physical and mental health problems. Most importantly, kids fail to develop the skill of making social connections with others. Which may lead to feelings of loneliness, depression and anxiety. Tips to implement at home, start by tracking your use of screens and increase face time with the people surrounding you, and consider a no screen zone or time. Use an alarm clock, not a smart phone as a wake up device. Encourage youth to meet with their friends and discourage the screen as a means for socialization.

When we are with our friends in fellowship, we are with them, not our screen.

Cara a Cara

Como seres humanos somos criaturas sociales buscando hacer conexiones con otros, la tecnología de hoy ha obstaculizado la cantidad de tiempo que dedicamos a conectar con otros personalmente. Estudios han demostrado que los niños pasan un estimado de 7 horas al día usando aparatos electrónicos. Dedicar tanto tiempo a nuestras pantallas está asociado a ambos, problemas físicos y mentales. Más importante, los niños fracasan en desarrollar la habilidad de hacer conexiones sociales con otros. Lo cual puede llevar a sentimientos de depresión y ansiedad.

Consejos para implementar en casa, empezar a seguir la pista al uso de las pantallas y aumentar el tiempo de tiempo cara a cara con la gente

alrededor de uno y considerar una zona o tiempo sin pantallas. Usar una alarma, no un teléfono celular como aparato para despertar. Alentar a los jóvenes a juntarse con sus amigos y desalentarlos de usar la pantalla como un medio de socialización. Cuando estamos con nuestros amigos en compañía, estamos con ellos, no con nuestras pantallas.



School Climate and Culture/Clima Escolar y Cultura

There's a Cell Phone in Your Student's Head

A 2017 study found that cell phones that were turned off and stashed away silently reasserted themselves—distracting working students anyway.

