



September 14, 2018

NMSBVI / ALAMOGORDO **PARENT NEWSLETTER** [www.nmsbvi.k12.nm.us](http://www.nmsbvi.k12.nm.us)  
NMSBVI \* Home of the Golden Bears \*



### Hello NMSBVI Families!

Happy green chile season! I love the fall and the wealth of learning opportunities that comes with it. There are fairs, grower markets, pumpkin patches, carnivals and more. The recreation center is open and the students are enjoying the new options for recreation. The pool is also open! NMSBVI prides ourselves on our collaborative spirit and our educational teams are working to make sure that each student receives the services that will help them grow and be successful academically, socially, and independently. We also take the safety of students and staff very seriously. We have emergency procedures in place in the event of any concerning situation that may come our way. We have a Safety Committee with 18 members that meet monthly to talk about safety issues, plans and concerns. We have monthly emergency drills and have partnered with the fire and police departments, who keep us informed about important safety issues. There are websites available that will inform the public about safety concerns in any community, and we check those websites as well. We have a security guard and security cameras. There is also a Remind.com app that is available that parents can join to receive informational messages. If you have questions about our plans and procedures, please feel free to contact me or Randy Puryear, our Safety and Security Coordinator. We look forward to a SAFE and successful year! ~ Acting Superintendent Patty Beecher

### COMING EVENTS:

- September 19 - Picture Day
- September 26 - Runyan Ranch Visit
- September 28-30 - Goalball Tournament in Colorado
- October 16 - White Cane Day Observance Walk
- October 20 - White Cane Banquet - Albuquerque
- October 24 - Halloween Carnival Spooktacular
- October 25-28 - Goalball Tournament in Texas

### Get the Flu Shot



Flu season will soon be upon us. Many pharmacies and doctor's offices already have the flu vaccine in stock. Students often lose a lot of time in school related to the flu and flu-related complications. Information regarding the flu vaccine can be found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/flu.pdf>

Flu shots are covered by Medicaid and most insurance providers.

Staff contact: Holly Obrovac (575) 439-4494

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A  
**VISION  
BEE**  
AT NMSBVI



*Two Upcoming Events:*

**Albuquerque ~ November 7**

**Alamogordo ~ November 9**

***Collaborative Strategies to Support Students with  
Visual Impairments or Deaf-Blindness***

Join us for a workshop on collaboration as we endeavor to improve our skills and ability to work collaboratively to educate students who are visually impaired or deaf-blind. Through a variety of individual, small and large group activities attendees will explore ways to better understand and improve collaboration and decision making skills. We will discuss some of the unique challenges and issues surrounding educating visually impaired or deaf-blind children in New Mexico and provide attendees with strategies to meet those challenges. For more information, please contact Mark Carter at NMSBVI or register online at [INFO TO COME](#)

*(CEU's have been applied for, but not yet approved for PT/OT/SLP and Counseling.)*



**NEW MEXICO SCHOOL  
FOR THE BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED**  
1-800-437-3505 • [WWW.NMSBVI.K12.NM.US](http://WWW.NMSBVI.K12.NM.US)



*you're pretty darn*  
**ADORABLE**

**PICTURE DAY!**

**Students and Staff!**

It's time to take portraits for the next yearbook:

**Wednesday, September 19**

**Carla's Office ~ Jack Hall Room 145**

**PARENTS!!! Picture Day is coming!!!**

**Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>**

Have your child arrive to school with their (or your) favorite attire (at least their top).

This photo will be used for the 2018-2019 yearbook.

We will send home a disc with their photo for you to make as many copies as you would like.

# Welcome New Employees!!



Leah Bartlett – Driver / Caregiver



Michelle Cooper – Driver / Caregiver / Classroom Substitute



## WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

White Cane Safety Day is a national observance in the United States, celebrated each year since 1964. The date is set aside to celebrate the achievement of people who are blind or visually impaired and the important symbol of blindness and tool of independence, the white cane. In 2011, White Cane Safety Day was also named, Blind Americans Equality Day, by President Barack Obama.

Please join us!



**WHITE  
CANE DAY**  
Tuesday, October 16

Please join us as we recognize White Cane Safety Day, to celebrate the achievements of people who are blind or visually impaired!

Walk:  
meet at Walmart  
Neighborhood Market at 1:45pm  
(2401 Indian Wells, Alamogordo)

Program:  
at Rohovec Theatre at NMSU-A  
at 2:30pm (Scenic Drive)

Presented by New Mexico Commission for the Blind, National Federation of the Blind, New Mexico State University - Alamogordo, and NMSBVI.

 **NMSBVI** NEW MEXICO SCHOOL  
FOR THE BLIND  
& VISUALLY IMPAIRED

# NMSBVI Happenings...



Corey holds the flag for the morning Pledge of Allegiance.



Dahlia works on her white cane skills with Mr. Ron.



Makinzie explores the dirt and dinosaur theme sensory station.



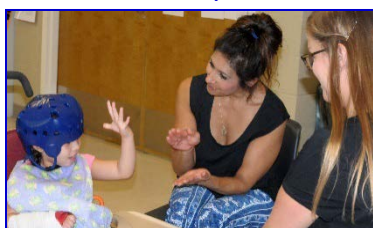
Savanna measures some string with the guidance of Math Instructor Ms. Joyner.



Mary uses a Braille Writer in class to do her classwork.



Deanna reads braille to Instructor Shan Hendrix.



Makinzie sings along with Ms. Jennifer and Music Instructor Ms. Meghan.



Mario uses a small hammer to break the ice of a dinosaur egg.



Memo enjoys playing the drum in music class with Ms. Julia.



Hae'Leigh and Mandy play together on the teeter totter.



Ta'jai catches the dirt with her left hand that Ms. Diana drops from the sensory station.



Mandy and Ariella enjoy reading while in the library with Ms. Felisha.



Katie works on her arm strength during Recreation and Leisure class with Ms. Janet.



Ivory (above) and Andrew (below) enjoy playing in the pool.





Dear Friends of the National Federation of the Blind of New Mexico:

It is that time again for the annual White Cane Banquet of the National Federation of the Blind of New Mexico (NFBNM) this year, hosted by the NFBNM Albuquerque Chapter. It will be an event you will not want to miss. The Banquet will take place on Saturday, October 20, at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel located at 2600 Louisiana Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico. It will start at noon.

Each year at this time, we celebrate the advantages that we as blind people have achieved through the passage of civil rights laws such as our New Mexico White Cane law. This law affords blind people the right to travel freely throughout our state as well as the right to access public services without discrimination on the basis of blindness. At our annual White Cane Banquet, we celebrate the progress we have made as individuals who are blind and as an organization of the blind.

This year, we are fortunate to have a representative from Southwest Airlines to speak with us about their efforts to promote accessible air travel and equal access to their services for the blind. This summer, Southwest Airlines installed kiosks which are designed to be accessible to blind passengers. These kiosks should enable us to check in at the Albuquerque International Sunport without having to solicit the assistance of an airline employee. To date, Southwest is the only airline here in New Mexico to offer nonvisual access to their self-check-in kiosks. In the presentation at the White Cane Banquet, the Southwest representative will provide specific information about how the accessibility features of the kiosk will work for blind passengers, hopefully giving us more confidence to operate these machines by ourselves.

We will also hear from The Blind History Lady, Peggy Chong. Over the past several years, Peggy has presented at state conventions and chapter meetings talking about the blind New Mexicans who have gone before us and how successful they became long before there was financial assistance from the rehabilitation system or proper blindness training in our state. This year, Peggy will tell the story of a blind mother who fought for years to adopt a child in New Mexico. She was a successful woman, but she was forced to prove herself over and over again. Peggy will also tell us the true story of a blind man who died one of the richest men in New Mexico. For more than 25 years as a person who was blind, he built his fortune. How did he do that? Come and find out. This will be the last opportunity to listen to Peggy since she will be relocating to Colorado.

To make your reservations for the 2018 White Cane Banquet, send the registration form below, along with your check payable to the NFBNM Albuquerque Chapter, to Tara Chavez, President, 4000 Hendrix Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110. Checks should be received no later than Friday, October 12, 2018. You can choose between a chicken plate and a vegetarian plate. Please indicate your preference on the form.

We look forward to seeing you on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,  
Peggy Chong  
White Cane Banquet Chair

**2018 NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF NEW MEXICO  
ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER  
WHITE CANE BANQUET  
Saturday, October 20, 2018  
Noon – 2:00 PM  
Sheraton Uptown Hotel  
2600 Louisiana Blvd NE  
Albuquerque, NM**

The NFBNM Albuquerque Chapter will hold the annual White Cane Banquet on Saturday, October 20, 2018 from noon – 2:00 PM at the Sheraton Uptown Hotel. Plan to arrive between 11:30 and 11:45 AM so we can start on time.

Please complete the information below legibly and return it to Tara Chavez along with your check, made payable to the NFBNM Albuquerque Chapter. You can enter the information electronically and then print it to be mailed. Or print this form and fill the information in by hand. Please include the names of ALL persons included in the reservation. No reservations will be confirmed without your check for \$25 per person.

Name: 1.

2.

3.

4.

Address:

Phone :

Email:

Number of guests: \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 each

Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to NFBNM Albuquerque Chapter.

Mail your registration form and check before October 12, 2018 to:

Tara Chavez

4000 Hendrix Rd. NE

Albuquerque, NM 87110

Phone: 505-328-3349

Email: [nfb.abqchapter@gmail.com](mailto:nfb.abqchapter@gmail.com)

National Federation of the Blind of New Mexico

Adelmo Vigil, President NFBNM / 700 New York Ave., Alamogordo, NM 88310 / 575-434-8391 / [www.nfbnm.org](http://www.nfbnm.org)



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Parent Newsletter Contact: Carla Gonzales, 575-439-4460