



NMSBVI ALAMOGORDO CAMPUS Family Newsletter



Residential Campus

October 8, 2021

NMSBVI / ALAMOGORDO

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

www.nmsbvi.k12.nm.us

* Home of the **Golden Bears** *

www.nmsbvi.org



Happy Fall, NMSBVI Families!



Not only is it the season for roasting green chili and picking apples, it is also the season for celebrating the importance of the white cane! October 15 has been declared White Cane Safety Day by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. Many of our students use a white cane to travel independently. NMSBVI celebrates this independence and shares in the pride and

joy of our students who strive for incredible achievements every day. Please join us in this celebration by taking time to recognize White Cane Day.

Be well,
Superintendent Beecher



COMING EVENTS



- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| October 12 th | - | White Cane Day, Virtual (see flyer) |
| October 19 th | - | Picture Day (see flyer) |
| October 20 th & 21 st | - | Preschool & Elementary to
Mesilla Valley Pumpkin Patch |
| October 27 th | - | On campus Trick or Treating |
| November 5-7 | - | Family Weekend |

LOW VISION CLINICS

It is never too early to register – Clinics fill up quickly!


Assistive Technology help available at each clinic.

Contact Margaret Hidalgo 575-415-6044 or Angela Harris 575-437-3505 ext. 4431



- | | | |
|------------|---|-------------|
| November 3 | - | Roswell |
| Jan. 26-27 | - | Las Cruces |
| February 9 | - | Albuquerque |
| March 9 | - | Albuquerque |





TRANSITION TIPS

FROM HOLLY BIRD, TRANSITION COORDINATOR



Transition Tips are bits of information meant to assist you in planning for your child's future. *Transition Tips* are bits of information meant to assist you in planning for your child's future. You may have many questions: What supports are available after high school? What resources are available now? How can I best support my child in learning to be independent and self-determined?

As the NMSBVI Transition Coordinator, I am here to help you find answers to these questions and more. Please feel free to contact me to discuss your questions:

Holly Bird, 575-439-4470, hollybird@nmsbvi.k12.nm.us

Tip #2 – Transition University – This 5-week series of courses is shared out of Virginia, but the information will be applicable and adaptable to our transition students in New Mexico. I highly recommend that you consider signing up for this FREE course!

Transition University will offer a 5-session self-paced online series to help parents/guardians navigate the transition process for their school age child and prepare for the adult world.

Life is full of transitions. For families of children with disabilities, thinking about the future can bring mixed emotions. Some families are just trying to make it through day-to-day challenges and might not feel they have the energy to think about what happens after high school. Others may want to plan for that transition, but are confused by unfamiliar language, complex steps, and the many agencies that may be involved in adult services.

Join us for this FREE 5-week SELF-PACED online course that focuses on providing parent-friendly transition information to help make transition planning easier. This course is designed for parents/caregivers of elementary, middle, or high school students that receive special education services, but is open to everyone – including students. The goal is to share factual information on transition services and to help make the transition from school services to the adult services world less confusing.

Topics covered in this course will include:

- What is Transition and Why is it Important?
- Transition Services in the IEP
- Supported Decision Making, Power of Attorney, Guardianship and Age of Majority
- Future planning including Special Needs Trusts, ABLE accounts and Letters of Intent
- Transitioning into Independent Living (employment, further education, housing, etc.)
- Connecting to Your Community and to Adult Services
- and much more!



The course begins the evening of October 10, 2021, and will be open through November 30, 2021 at 5pm.

Each week a new session of the course will open on Saturday evening and will be open the remainder of the course. Sessions contain video content, written content, discussion opportunities and resources.

Register Here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fall-2021-transition-university-registration-166434382719>



White Cane Day

Please join us for a
Virtual Celebration!

Tuesday, October 12
Online Event from 2:30pm-3:30pm

Zoom Meeting Information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82802390905?pwd=L0RVdUZpVUxyWjNIRWljaUZnTUVHQT09>

Meeting ID: 828 0239 0905 • Passcode: 886354

Event presented by
New Mexico Commission
for the Blind, National
Federation of the Blind,
New Mexico State University
- Alamogordo, and the
New Mexico School for the
Blind & Visually Impaired.



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82802390905?pwd=L0RVdUZpVUxyWjNIRWljaUZnTUVHQT09>



alamogordo campus
PICTURE DAY

FOR NMSBVI STUDENTS & STAFF!

**TUESDAY
OCTOBER 19
IN CARLA'S OFFICE**

JACK HALL BUILDING, ROOM 145 ~ PLEASE CALL AHEAD to EXT.4460

**Classrooms & secondary students can come by
as their schedule allows, from 8:00am-4:00pm.**

Staff who miss the Oct.19 Photo Day can have their photos taken later, by appointment; please contact Carla.



General Medication Information

Found in the Handbook for Students & Families - Pages 35-38

Written below are only a few medication policies from NMSBVI. Please read your student and family handbook for more information and details.

- No student can be at school without **ALL** of their prescribed medications, supplements and supplies. Transportation staff cannot allow them to board without the required items.
- All documents required by Health Services to have a signature **must be signed** before your student may board NMSBVI Transportation.
- No change in a medication/supplement can be executed, or any medication/supplement **discontinued**, until the parent/guardian provides Health Services with a written, signed prescribers order.
- Pills **CANNOT** be shipped back and forth (Board of Pharmacy requirement.)
You must have your pharmacist give you **a bottle to send to school and a bottle to keep at home.** This must be done at the time the medication is refilled. The school will continue to send inhalers, eye drops, ointments, pre-packaged pills, etc. that cannot be duplicated for home and school. But if you do have extras of any of these medications, it is preferred that they not be shipped back and forth.
- All prescription medications must be in a pharmacy labeled container. **The pharmacy label cannot be altered in any way.** (e.g., directions or pill count altered.)
- **Daily** prescription medications must have a fill date from the pharmacy within the **last month.** (Exceptions: If your insurance provides you with a 90-day supply, then the date must be within the last 90 days.)
- **“As needed”** prescription medications must have a fill date within **the last year.** It does not matter if the manufacturer’s expiration date is still good. In NM, once the prescription label expires in one (1) year, the medication cannot be administered at school.
- Pills must **NOT** be mixed in bottles. **You cannot pour old medications into the new medication bottle, new medications into an old bottle or in any way tamper with the prescription as it was filled at the pharmacy.** When this occurs, the bottle is considered contaminated and cannot be used.
- Hand medications directly to the driver who picks up your child. **Please do not pack them in student’s luggage or backpack.**

If you have any questions please call our office. (575) 439-4457

Thank you,
Kelly McAlister
Health Service Supervisor



turn YOUR
IDEAS
into your
REALITY.



FOR STUDENTS WITH BLINDNESS OR VISUAL IMPAIRMENT,
NMSBVI PRESENTS...

entrepreneurship CLUB

WEEKLY ZOOM MEETINGS FOR STUDENTS FROM AGE 14-21

Seeking students with blindness or visual impairment interested in learning **entrepreneurship skills**! NMSBVI Pre-ETS, in collaboration with NM Commission for the Blind, will host a Project ECHO program (please see additional flyer on next pages). This program provides students the opportunity to move from an idea to business plan to a project pitch. Along the way, students will learn valuable business skills that could enable them to take their project to implementation as a career. Additionally, students will build self-determination, self-advocacy, leadership, and communication skills. The Entrepreneurship Club is a great way to develop skills for employment and adult life! Joining this program requires a time commitment of 1-2 hours every Wednesday after school from October 27, 2021 - April 30, 2022 (all club meetings will take place on ZOOM.) **Registration for participating in this year's Entrepreneurship Club is required by October 22, 2021.** To register, please visit this web-link...

<https://forms.office.com/r/GvFWGu1kSZ>

If you have questions prior to or during registration, please contact
Holly Bird at hollybird@nmsbvi.k12.nm.us • 575-439-4470;
or Kim Tryon at ktryon@nmsbvi.k12.nm.us • 575-437-3505 ext. 4548.



NEW MEXICO SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED • WWW.NMSBVI.K12.NM.US

Project Echo

Entrepreneurial Concepts / Hands-On

(Photo of High School Entrepreneurs' Business Plan Competition)

Continued on Next Page

Launching ECHO

Entrepreneurial Concepts Hands On!

Introduction to Entrepreneurship and Business Plans in Preparation for the High School Entrepreneurs' Business Plan Competition

Start-Up! Are you ready to energize your lecture-based class and involve your students in project-based learning? Incorporate Launching ECHO into your class and capture your students' interest on the first day while supporting their social-emotional learning through highly interactive team-based work. Provide a personally relevant, engaging, and inclusive experience for students in 6th through 12th grade and give them the gift of an entrepreneurial mindset that they will take to college and into their careers.

Benefits of Participating in Project ECHO

- Helps students identify academic strengths and future college and career paths.
- Adds the rigor of a capstone event to a class or a competition to a business program.
- Provides a profound interdisciplinary project to any learning community, from a class to a club.
- Develops crucial skills from entrepreneurship into any class, from Performing Arts to AP Physics.
- Dovetails with other competitions, student organizations or clubs.

A turnkey activity-based program that empowers students with entrepreneurial mindsets, with a focus on identifying business opportunities, innovating, planning, business finance, and management. Increase student achievement through project-based learning in your classroom and have your students work in teams to identify community-based problems, followed by creating solutions through the development of products and services. Supplement any class with this all-inclusive program supported by a curriculum, activities, mentorship, and special events, including:

- Teacher professional development and full program support
- Curriculum license, student fees, and competition registration
- Student workbooks
- Activities and gamified curriculum elements
- Background checked volunteers mentor start-up teams
- Events include Program Launch, Business Boot Camps, Featured Guests, and more!
- Access to a video library of special guests and curriculum presentations
- Adaptable curriculum is appropriate for 6th-12th grade and can be implemented in 20 - 40 hours, in one semester or two.

High School Entrepreneurs' Business Plan Competition

This "Shark Tank" style competition provides a capstone event for your class or a competition to your business or entrepreneurship program. The High School Entrepreneurs' Business Plan Competition simulates the real-world process of entrepreneurs soliciting start-up funds from investors. The quality of the idea, the strength of the management team, and the clarity and persuasiveness of the business plan and pitch are the criteria that determines each judges' decision.

Give your students the opportunity to:

- Improve key transferable skills such communication, leadership & teamwork
- Increase their public speaking confidence
- Develop informative presentation slide decks
- Experience reacting to on-the-spot and challenging questions Win cash prizes that can help start a business or pay for college
- Complete a program where more than 97% of its alumni referred to it on college applications and admission essays

Curriculum Content Focuses On:

- Ideation & Design Thinking
- Marketing Plans
- Executive Summaries
- Introduction to Business Plans
- Management Team & Organizational Structure
- Presentation Slide Deck
- Market & Competitive Analysis
- Operational & Finance Plans
- Public Speaking

Mission Statement:

Project ECHO empowers students with entrepreneurial and leadership skills so that they can thrive in college, their careers and in their community as change-makers.

Disclaimer: Project ECHO reserves the right to determine if and when its events will be hosted in person or virtually, in addition to substituting its events to ensure the safety of its participants.

Empowering Youth Through Entrepreneurship Since 1996

For additional information, please email or call

info@projectecho.org | 424.238.1884

To register, visit

www.projectecho.org

Innovate | Participate | Succeed

Virtual – 2021 NMSBVI Innovations Fair Booklet



www.nmsbvi.k12.nm.us
www.nmsbvi.org

http://www.nmsbvi.k12.nm.us/documents/News_events/2021/WEB_Booklet_InnovFair2021.pdf



NMSBVI Girl Scout Troop

NMSBVI's Girl Scout troop, along with other local troops, will have a **Trunk or Treat** at the **Girl Scout Hut**, located just south of the Alamogordo Family Recreation Center on Oregon Ave, from **5:30-7:30pm, Thursday, October 28th**.

WELCOME NEW STAFF



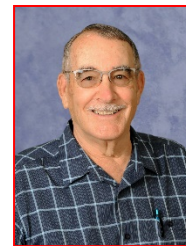
Ashley
Willis

Education
Assistant



Danielle
Holdridge

Music
Instructor



James
Rethmel

Driver
Caregiver

Public Speaking Club

The NMSBVI Public Speaking Club meet every Tuesday and do vocal warm-ups, various speaking exercises, including improvisation and one-word stories to cause quick thinking. The club is open to secondary students. Contact Language Arts Instructor, Ms. Bunch.



Ms. Bunch talks with Ethyn, Faith & Mary about the club, outside on the WEC north patio.



Pedro, Mary & Faith practice improvisation speeches.

NMSBVI HAPPENINGS!



Ayden & Ezeriah ride tricycles outside on a nice day, with Adaptive P.E. Instructor, Mr. Alex and Education Assistant, Christina Torres.



Mario uses legos to make a self portrait. Looks GREAT Mario!



Karsen helps out with washing dishes.



Math Instructor, Ms. Joyner, instructs students Mary & Shawn.



Beau & Jessica open a new kit of science tools as Science Instructor, Mr. Killebrew, describes and explains the various items.



Ethyn and Mersedies sit outside to have a mask break with Technology Instructor, Ms. Young.



Safety & Security Coordinator, Mr. Randy Puryear, walks around the outside area where secondary students eat lunch and he plays a harmonica. They enjoyed it!

