



The

Phoenix Times

"Spreading Its Wings and Soaring High"

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ASE HOLDS VIRTUAL LEARNING AMID PANDEMIC

Plans to adopt hybrid learning after Fall Break By: CAMREE VOLK

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE) has reopened via virtual learning platform last August 10, 2020.

ASE has hit an all-time high on student enrollment this year, reaching a total of 930 students. In an interview with ASE's principal, Mr. Mustafa Ayik, he said that there is a total of 230 additional students who enrolled for school year 2020-2021.

He also added that all classes meet virtually using the online meeting platform, Zoom until a final decision is made, based on state order.

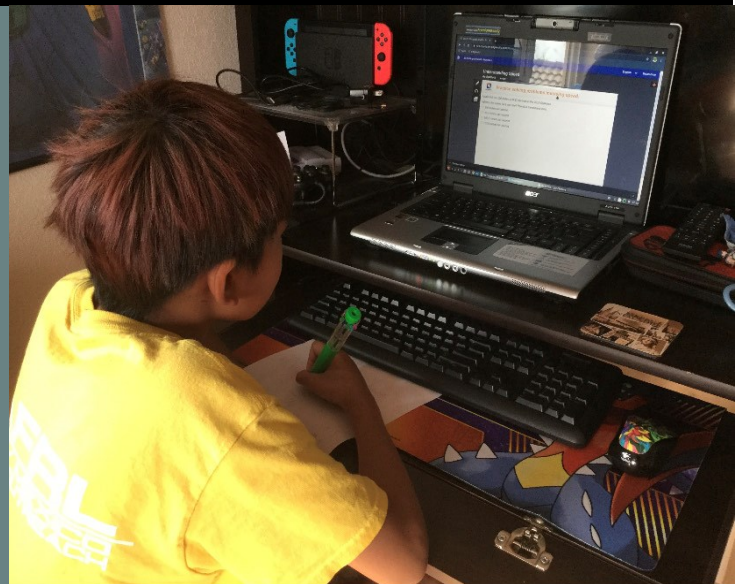
The school provides various online educational resources for students, namely: NoRedInk, Khan Academy, Aleks, Edgenuity, Vocabulary.com, Odysseyware, and

many others.

After a thorough discussion and input from teachers and parents during the ASE Governing Council meeting held last August 25, 2020, the (ASEGC) made a unanimous decision to extend virtual learning through October 2, 2020, hoping to open for hybrid learning after the break on October 12, 2020, though no promises have been made with regards to hybrid learning.

The ASEGC will reevaluate the decision based on the state updates, and will reconvene on September 19, 2020 for a final decision before the planned hybrid model implementation come October 12.

In an effort to get as much input as possible, ASE plans to send out two (Continuation on page 2)



YOU'VE GOT THIS! Student works on his online school activities in his designated work space at home (August 2020) Photo by Rebecca Hernandez

ASE recognizes Student of the Month Recipients by Camree Volk

Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE) considers it a mission to recognize outstanding students and encourage them to be well-

rounded individuals.

The criteria for the selection include receiving the highest number of nominations from different teachers when there are multiple students nominated in a grade level; likewise, the nomination was also based on character and behavior, good grade standing in all subjects, and attendance. (Continuation on page 2)

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(Cont. from pl-ASE holds...) new surveys to the school's parents and ASE staff, in order to gather more information, feedbacks, and suggestions in ensuring students and staff's health and safety, even if that decision strays from what other school districts have chosen to do.

Despite following the Albuquerque Public School's (APS) lead in the

past, ASEGC has decided not to follow on APS's decision to stay with online learning until January, so far.

"We are not APS. That's what sets us apart from other schools," said ASE Human Resources and Outreach Coordinator, Ms. Angela Lopez during the ASE Governing Council meeting, whose statement played a part in the Council's final decision.

(Cont. from pl-Student of...)

Last September 1, 2020, the recipients of the Student of the Month Award for August was announced, the recipients are: Elizabeth Lawson, Kindergarten - nominated by Ms. DuVall; Roman Gallegos, 1st grade - nominated by Lisa Aniello; Jackson Glass, 2nd grade - nominated by Ms. Mallard; Ghada Jwary, 3rd Grade - nominated by Arely Unger; Ace Chandler, 4th grade - nominated by Lorette Lambert; Kathryn Nally, 5th grade - nominated by Arely

Unger; Malak Awwad, 6th grade - nominated by Mr. Norcross and Ms. Deena; Jareth Torres, 7th grade - nominated by Mrs. King and Graybeal-Sellers; Rubi Aguilar, 8th grade - nominated by Judy Ma and Ms. Fielding; Connor Boatwright, 9th grade - nominated by Yadigarjan Gayypov; Lindsay Yerena, 10th grade, nominated by Qingqing Cui; Sherwin Thiyagarajan, 11th grade - nominated by Ms. Fien and Qingqing Cui; and Ailin Gallart, 12th grade - nominated by Kitty Hurst.

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH OF AUGUST

Elizabeth Lawson -Kindergarten

Elizabeth Lawson is an outstanding student. She is always ready for the day and is an excellent role model for her peers. During distance learning, Elizabeth works diligently to complete her assignments in a timely manner. She is an attentive listener and always volunteers in class discussions. It is an honor to have her in my class.

Keep up the great work Elizabeth!!!

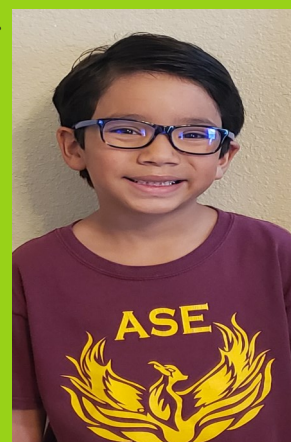
By: Mrs. DuVall



Roman Gallegos-1st Grade

Roman is always in our zoom meetings and goes directly to the assignment or Odysseyware after our lesson. He is funny and raises his hand often when I ask a question. He even joins our class zoom lessons when he is in his mom's car!

By: Lisa Aniello



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST

JACKSON GLASS-2ND GRADE



Jackson is very dedicated to his school work. He is always ready and willing to do any assignment/task that he is given. He is very respectful and well mannered!

By: Ms Mallard

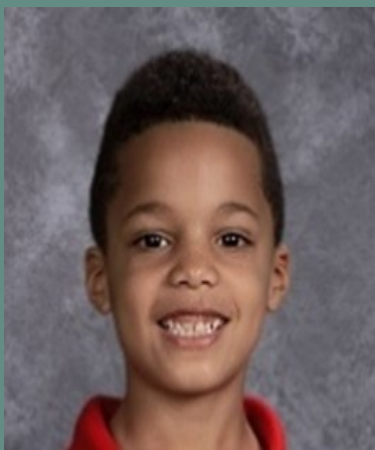
GHADA JWARY - 3RD GRADE



Ghada makes her voice heard in class, especially when she doesn't understand what is going on or when she needs more clarification. She is willing to participate in class assignments and in class participation. She always contacts me about what she learned in class and what she loved. She goes above and beyond with her education and takes it into her own hands to learn more about Spanish. She will be a miraculous student within any classroom she is put into. **By: Ms. Arely Unger**

ACE CHANDLER-4TH GRADE

Ace cares deeply about doing well in school and getting good grades. He is conscientious and willing to work hard to improve. He has attended all his Zoom classes and completed all work on time. He is always willing to participate and encourages others.



By: Lorette Lambert

KATHRYN NALLEY - 5TH GRADE

Kathryn Nalley is a student that works harder than any of my other students in my journalism class. She asks as many questions as she needs to, in order to understand and teach someone else in her group. She always asks for more tasks, even after she has finished all homework. Kathryn is an exceptional student that is patient and kind to her classmates. **By: Ms. Arely Unger**



Malak Awwad—6th Grade

Malak has been on top of all assignments and Zoom meetings. She has displayed leadership qualities and is a very bright student. I feel like she is very deserving of this award!

Malak is dedicated not only to passing math, but is working very hard to master all the material. Although she already has strong grades, she puts in extra effort by attending daily tutoring sessions and is well prepared for each session with engaging questions from her notes.

By: Mr. Norcross & Ms. Deena

STUDENTS OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST



JARETH TORRES - 7th Grade

He is well-behaved, courteous, polite, and very respectful in class and in email correspondences.

He is prompt in turning in homework, diligent, and dependable. He has been at every Zoom meeting. He reads the chat box for me during meetings. He is a very good student.

By: Ms. Graybeal-Sellers and Mrs. King

Connor Boatwright 9th Grade

He actively participates in Zoom sessions and he does his assignments on time. His eagerness towards learning new subjects makes me to nominate him as students of the month.

By: Yadigarjan Gayypov

Lindsay Yerena - 10th Grade

Lindsay successfully completed all her scheduled work in Edgenuity and Khan Academy with a good quality. She also could reach out for teacher's help if needed. She shows very good self management skills during the distance learning time.

By: Ms. Qingqing Cui

Sherwin Thiyagarajan 11th Grade

Sherwin has very good self management skills. He cares about learning and challenges himself with extra curriculum practice topics. He completed his school work with an excellent quality. He also has very good manners to communicate with peers and teacher.

Excellent student, natural leader, makes valuable contributions to school community (student council president, member of basketball team).

By: Ms. Qingqing Cui & Ms. Fien

Rubi Aguilar - 8th Grade

Rubi has shown great responsibility and accountability since the quarter began. She not only gets her assignments turned in on time, but she always participates in class. Her responses are well thought out, articulate, and carefully crafted. I am constantly impressed by her character and feel lucky to have her as a student. She is truly an impressive young lady!

Rubi is a new student at ASE. She got her Egenuity account late, and she still finished the assigned activities by the end of the first week. Her academic progress is always on track. She is polite and respectful. During Zoom instruction, she is always attentive and answer questions. She is willing to make mistakes and learn from her mistakes.

By: Ms. Fielding & Ms. Judy Ma

Ailin Gallart - 12th Grade

Ailin has shown dedication and commitment to her education despite the issues with technology experienced thus far. She has offered to help other students and has provided me with valuable insight to the student experience of our AP Lit class. She has had excellent attendance, stellar communication, and a positive attitude.

By: Kitty Hurst

EDITORIAL

BY: Jolene Cole-Holpp

LEARNING AMIDST A PANDEMIC

You got this! Online school can be hard during these uncertain times. Even though remote learning seems hard at first, it will get better. Once you settle in and get used to the teachers and are familiar with the websites and learning platforms, you will find that online school is like in-person instruction. You will still see the teachers daily and have a chance to interact with them. The teachers will still teach you lessons and give lectures and demonstrations. You will still have the chance to ask questions if you need help and even interact with your friends in break out rooms. There are many advantages to learning online.

An online learning experience can help you later in life with college or a career. Many college students take online courses and some adults work on online jobs. It is a good practice to be on a laptop or Chromebook doing daily work. Being online can help with a future job in the technology industry and much more. You will acquire skills in writing and sending emails.

Being online can also help you to learn how the computer or different electronic devices work, and learn on how to use the different tools and features it provides.

Being in an in-person instruction or in an online instruction can still be both challenging for all students. Sometimes it is hard to focus in learning, so here are some **TIPS** to help you out: **free** your room from distractions; **set aside** a specific amount of time to do your homework; **have** a workspace, somewhere comfortable to write and type like a desk or table; **have** all of your supplies handy and keep your notes within your reach; **stay away** from distractions like the TV, your cell phone, your pets, and sometimes, even your sib-

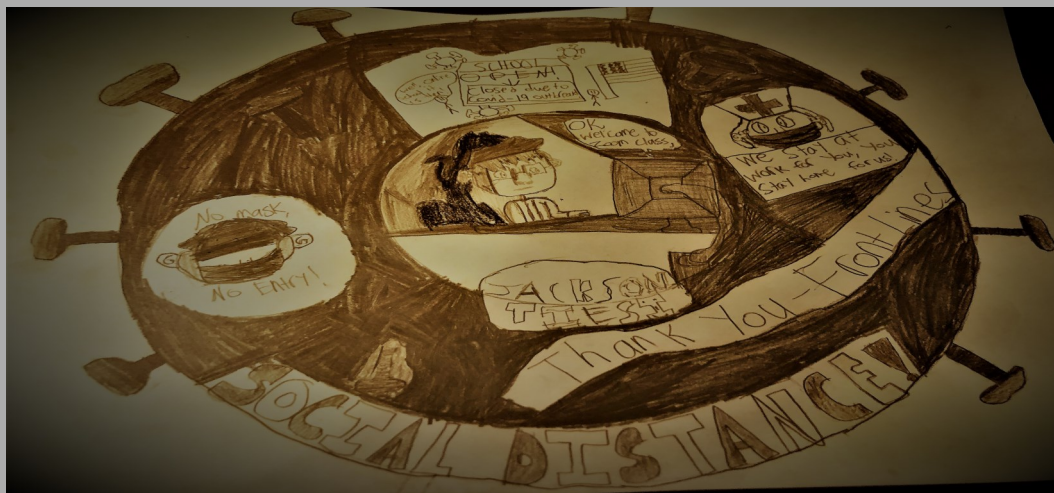
lings. There are many ways to stay focused and still have fun while doing this virtual learning platform or online schooling.

No one expected the year 2020, as well as the school year 2020 to be as challenging as this. Yet, it is important that we can cope and adjust to any situation that we are in, have a positive outlook, and be versatile.

Though online learning may be intimidating and stressful for some, try to look at the bright side of it. With online learning, parents will not worry about their kids contracting the virus, they will not also worry about their kids bringing the virus home and affecting those who are vulnerable. Students can also just focus on schoolwork, without the worry of maintaining

social distancing, wearing mask, and touching objects or spaces, which may have been contaminated, since they are home. But remember, that when you are outside, you are still required to practice social distancing, wear mask, and practice proper hygiene, like washing your hands or sanitizing it all the time.

Always remember that good grades are not based on the physical learning environment you are in, but on your attitude towards learning, and your personal character. So be open-minded and optimistic that virtual learning can still be fun, enjoyable, and effective towards our educational success. *Time flies so fast, so don't waste it, instead be optimistic and productive.*



OVERCOMING LONELINESS DUE TO ISOLATION

BY OBADIAH JACOB JERRIN



Photo Credit: https://www.williamsonhomepage.com/brentwood/parenting-through-covid-19-teens-isolation-and-social-distancing/article_5ff5de90-7e5d-11ea-98e2-6bb768d6f788.html

Everyone is lonely, primarily because of a pandemic that restricts people from going out and socialize. It frustrates you; and at times, some people tend to lose hope. People with loneliness end up with depression and anxiety.

Depression and anxiety are serious issues, and we need someone who can help us deal with it, but most importantly, we need to help ourselves overcome it.

As teenagers, we need to have a positive and optimistic outlook in life. Think of all the fun things we can do after the rain, when the sun shines, or shall I say, after this pandemic.

Here are some things we can do to fight isolation and loneliness:

Calm down! Calm down, never make a life-changing decision when you are angry, sad, or over-

ly excited.

Do something fun. Call someone you know, Play games with your cousins, or even random people online. In my opinion, taking a short walk can also help a lot.

Visit with your doctor. We need to consult a doctor or a physician for a physical health evaluation, as well as a psychiatrist to check our mental health. Loneliness is not a single issue with a single treatment option. Loneliness can come with many complications, like depression, anxiety, heart problems, and even stroke! This step is imperative to take for your own sake.

Talk to a Therapist. For your total well-being, therapists can be of great help! Talking with one can help you deal with the loneliness and overcome it.

Talk with family and friends. If you have anyone's number from school, church, club, or anything that you are engaged with, call them. Intensify the bond you have with them via text or call, or even host zoom meeting with your friends. In that way, you can still improve your socialization skills.

In conclusion, loneliness can affect our lives and cause many other kinds of serious illnesses. There are several steps you can take to avoid being lonely. Still, the first and foremost step is to **BELIEVE IN YOUR SELF**, because you are the only one who can help yourself best. I assure you that, with a good spirit, loneliness will surely fade away.

As the saying goes, ***"There is always sunshine after the rain."***

Albuquerque School of Excellence offers Mental Health Services, as well as resources to help you cope in this trying times. You may contact the Counselor, Mr. Lance Matthewson, or visit the school website with the link to the Mental Health Resources. <https://www.abqse.org/counselors-resources>

HHS Expands Access to Childhood Vaccines during COVID-19 Pandemic

by Sarah Adi

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a 3rd amendment to the Declaration under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (PREP Act) to increase access to lifesaving childhood vaccines and decrease the risk of vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks as children across the United States return to daycare, preschool and school.

The amendment authorizes State-licensed pharmacists (and pharmacy interns acting under their supervision to administer vaccines, if the pharmacy intern is licensed or registered by his or her State board of pharmacy) to order and administer vaccines to individuals ages three through 18 years, subject to several requirements: The vaccine must be approved or licensed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA); The vaccination must be ordered and administered according to the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization

Practices (ACIP) immunization schedules; The licensed pharmacist must complete a practical training program of at least 20 hours that is approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). This training program must include hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines; The licensed or registered pharmacy intern must complete a practical training program that is approved by the ACPE. This training program must include hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines, and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines; The licensed pharmacist and licensed or registered pharmacy intern must have a current certificate in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation; The licensed pharmacist must complete a minimum of two hours of

ACPE-approved, immunization-related continuing pharmacy education during each State licensing period; The licensed pharmacist must comply with record-keeping and reporting requirements of the jurisdiction in which he or she administers vaccines, including informing the patient's primary-care provider when available, submitting the required immunization information to the State or local immunization information system (vaccine registry), complying with requirements with respect to reporting adverse events, and complying with requirements whereby the person administering a vaccine must review the vaccine registry or other vaccination records prior to administering a vaccine; The licensed pharmacist must inform his or her childhood-vaccination patients and the adult caregivers accompanying the children of the importance of a well-child visit with a pediatrician or other licensed primary care provider and refer patients as appropriate.

NEWS CREDIT FROM: (<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2020/08/19/hhs-expands-access-childhood-vaccines-during-covid-19-pandemic.html>)



Photo Credit: <https://www.thechildrenstrust.org/content/vaccinations-children-critical-during-covid-19>

Photo Credit: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/visit/vaccination-during-COVID-19.html>

THE NEW FACES OF ASE

A Teacher-Actress in the Classroom

By: Jolene Cole-Holpp



You might be intrigued of who this fine woman is. Well, she is Ms. Celine Lopez, she is teaching computer in the elementary level here at Albuquerque School of Excellence. Ms. Lopez is not new to education, in fact, she has 30 years of regular classroom teaching experience. She taught from pre-k to grade 5. She also acquired 10 years of experience in a computer laboratory.

Ms. Lopez has a master's degree in Arts, with an undergraduate minor in Special Education and a graduated minor in Art Education. She is an alumna of University of New Mexico and graduated in 1983.

Now, you might be wondering, where is the actress? Well, Ms. Lopez is a real and legitimate film actress. She is a member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) and had been in several Indie Films and student films. This impressive actress had also played small

parts in three motion pictures, and a couple of commercials.

Ms. Lopez is also a pet lover, who enjoys the company of her four cute and adorable dogs.

In parting, Ms. Lopez says, *"It is very invigorating to be a part of ABQSE since the parents are very involved in their child's education."* Ms. Lopez, we are surely proud to have you in our school!

A Man of Wisdom

By: SYDNEY KORANYI

"When life knocked me off, I stood up, brushed it off, and found a way to move on."

This admirable new teacher in ASE is a wise man with a kind soul. He is from Elkader, Iowa, an over the road driver up until a back injury left him disabled. Yet, instead of relying on government assistance for the rest of his life, he decided to follow his passion in writing, which has not waned. He earned a master's degree in English from New Mexico State University (NMSU) in May of 2019. He taught English in the college level before he decided to share his knowledge to middle schoolers here in our school.

This amazing soul is Mr. James Westphall! He shares his life challenges and triumphs to his wife and two sons. He says he would love to travel to Ireland and Scotland one day. He loves reading, writing, and cruising on his Harley 883SL. When asked what animal he would like to be, he responded, "I want to be a hawk because I remember seeing them during significant moments in my life and they hold a special place in his heart."

He is a part of Teach for America, an organization that hopes that all kids will be able to learn in a school setting one day. Albuquerque School of Excellence (ABQSE) is associated with this organization.

Mr. Westphall says that it took him many years to find his voice, and once he did, he was determined to help others do the same, thus, he went into the teaching field. I guess the silver lining with his back injury is the chance for us to have him in ASE.

As a new teacher in our school, he said that he cannot complain about the experience nor the students. At first, he had reservations about teaching seventh grade, and he was not sure on how well he would do. Though there are some bumps along the way when it comes to the best way of conducting virtual teaching, as well as encountering technical issues at times, he said that would not trade this experience for anything. Mr. Westphall said, "You can't control technology, no matter how hard you try."

"It has been really hard, but so has most of my life, so this experience fits in with most of the other events in my lifetime. I'm happy to be teaching, happy to be at ASE, and I am happy to be able to pass some of my knowledge and experience to my students every day. I feel blessed," said Mr. Westphall.



THE NEW FACES OF ASE



A Brain of Scientific Nature

By: Sarah Adi

You will be thrilled to hear about this excellent teacher in the Science Department.

Mr. Begli Sapayev is an expert in his chosen career. He earned his master's degree in Physics from Texas A&M Commerce. His impressive background highlights educating high school students on various branches of Science including Chemistry, Physics, Biology, and Biomedical Science for 10 years now.

As a devoted educator, he says that he is a workaholic, and has no time for sports at all. When asked about what he feels being part of ASE, he says, "Awesome colleagues and respectful students."

Mr. Sapayev is happily married and a great father to three amazing kids. He came to the US in 2017 from Turkmenistan, which is old Russia.

A man of undeniable expertise and strong passion to education. It is surely a delight and pride to have you here in ASE Mr. Sapayev!

A Fresh New Face with Fresh Ideas

By: SYDNEY KORANYI

This fresh graduate from George Washington University in Washington D.C. comes from a long line of educators and presently teaches ELA to middle schoolers here in ASE.

This invigorating young mentor is Ms. Kyanna Spaulding!

Ms. Spaulding was born in Las Vegas, New Mexico. She earned a degree in Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing and English, and almost took Journalism for her major, as well. Writing is one of her many passions, along with basketball, softball, and volleyball. She would love to write novels, screenplays, and movies.

With her adventurous nature, she said that she has big dreams of teaching overseas, perhaps in Korea, and believes that Albuquerque School of Excellence is a good place to start this journey. Connecting with kids has always come easy to her and she is remarkably interesting to speak with.

Her responsible nature and motivation are also admirable. When asked of what she would do after winning a \$10 million lottery ticket, she said that she would pay off her student loans and put the rest in savings. She also wants to be a turtle if she was an animal, since they live long and are independent, but still take good care of their young. She is an inspiring woman whose life motto is, *"Don't forget to breathe."*

Warm welcome to you Ms. Spaulding!



THE NEW FACES OF ASE

A Well-Travelled Educator By: Jareth Torres

If teaching is enjoyable by itself, how about if you add travel to it. Surely, it will be an icing on the cake. This is how to describe Ms. Cristina Sherman's experience is.

Ms. Sherman has twenty years of teaching experience. She taught all core subjects from 1st to 5th grades.

She earned her degree in Bachelor of Arts in Art History from the University of Nebraska, and her master's degree in Elementary Education from the University of New Mexico.

Despite having doubts at times when it comes to decision-making, Ms. Sherman said that teaching has brought her more joy and job satisfaction than any other career she has had. "I learn when my students learn," she added. She loves teaching and feels fulfilled especially when her students learn something from her. It makes her happy and she enjoys her job even more.

Ms. Sherman is such a people person, when she is not teaching, or talking about teaching with her teacher-husband, she spends time with her teen daughter, two cats, and dog. She loves to cook, hike, and laugh with her family. She also loves to travel and experience new places and said that she can't wait for that time when she can do that again.

She said that working at ASE is going to be an exciting and challenging job. So far, she is enjoying it very much. ***"Truly successful decision-making relies on a balance between deliberate and instinctive thinking"*** - Malcolm Gladwell. Ms. Sherman says that this quote really captures the essence of teaching for her and just makes teaching an even better experience. Welcome to ASE, Ms. Sherman!



A TRUE SCIENCE SAVVY

by Beau Weaver

Meet David Naylor! He is one of our newest instructors here at Albuquerque School of Excellence.

Mr. Naylor graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno with a degree in Bachelor of Science, Major in Physical Science and Minors in Physics, Art, and Earth Science. In his 21 years of teaching, he was able to share his knowledge in Math, Science, Art, Industrial Arts, and Emergency Medicine to middle school and high school students, as well as kids of all ages.

This free-spirited Science connoisseur says that he interested in everything that life has to offer, but try to focus on doing things in a very focused, directed and meaningful way, so that he can get the best possible experience and product out of it!

In parting he says "I am looking forward to working this year at ASE, with a very dedicated and intelligent group of people who are there 100% for the kids. The learning curve has been steep to start, but I am enjoying the challenge and looking forward to a bright future!

Keep after it! Don't ever quit!" We are glad to have you here in ASE Sir!

THE NEW FACES OF ASE

The Benevolent Mr. Matthewson

by Camree Volk

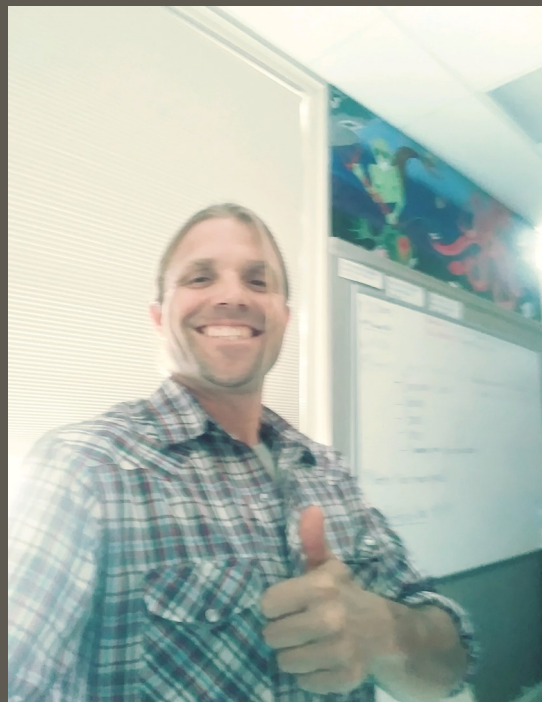
A job does not only require passion and expertise, but compassion and care. Mr. Lance Matthewson, the new Social Worker in Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE) embodies all these, passion, expertise, compassion, and care.

He has been working with children and adolescents for the last 15 years as a teacher and counselor. One of his areas of interest is helping clients “safely” learn: to recognize, regulate, and respond to different overwhelming feelings and experiences that they may be dealing with.

To make sure that effective help is extended to every student, he uses a variety of interactive techniques, which includes social and emotional learning, mindfulness, movement-based learning, and cognitive behavioral therapy.

Mr. Matthewson is opening his office to all students and staff who may need counselling, guidance, or anything related to mental health. He said that his primary goal is to help support students, teachers, and parents navigate optimal paths for success while at Albuquerque School of Excellence.

Mr. Matthewson, We are glad to have you here in ASE!



A Woman Mentor by Paige Young

“A vision without a task is an illusion. A task without a vision is a tragedy, but a vision with a task can change the world.”

Ms. Jacquielou Williams is our new High School Special Education teacher. She earned her bachelor’s degree in Secondary Education Major in Science and Technology from St. Louis University, which has been credited for completion of Academic Requirements in Master of Arts in Special Education.

She has 14 years of teaching experience, and had taught Physics, Chemistry, and General Science for high school, ELA for 1st Grade, Math, Science, and Social Studies, Special Education for young children and Early Childhood.

Ms. Williams said that she has always enjoyed helping others learn and grow. At present, she is an active mentor of CNM’s mentorship program in Early Childhood for future teachers. She added that her passion in theater and performing arts, as well as her experiences in missionary work led her to the field of education.

With her vision and task, and her burning passion in education, Mrs. Williams will surely keep opening doors down this path of education and leaning. In fact, she has opened a door for is me, writing about her my eyes to the beauty of writing, and I am sure that she has, is, and will open your too.

Ms. Williams, warm welcome from all of us!

THE NEW FACES OF ASE



A Lady of Many Talents

By: Abigail White

Ms. Sarah Fielding is a woman of many talents. She is a full-time teacher who teaches 8th grade English at Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE). When she is not teaching, she takes every opportunity to paint and write poetry.

She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Berkeley. She also has a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree in Creative Writing from Syracuse University.

This amazing woman has done quite a bit of traveling and has lived in several places. She grew up in San Diego, California, and lived in Oakland for a few years. She then lived in upstate New York and moved to Albuquerque in December of 2019.

Ms. Fielding said, "I feel privileged to be a teacher at ASE and look forward to creating triumphs out of today's challenges," a truly inspiring closing statement from her.

Ms. Fielding has many talents and all her achievements are remarkable. We are incredibly lucky to have you as a teacher at ASE, Ms. Fielding!

The Epitome of Wisdom

By: Jolene Cole-Holpp

"Treat others in the way you think they would like to be treated" - Platinum Rule

This wonderful woman who lives by this Platinum Rule is none other than Ms. Louise Montoya. She teaches 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Math here in Albuquerque School of Excellence.

Ms. Montoya earned her master's degree in Special Education from ASU West - College of Teacher Education and Leadership. She is now on her 13th year of teaching.

Her caring and motherly nature reflects on her statement about ASE. She said that she is excited to be a new member of the ASE team and appreciates the school's commitment to ensuring that students continue to receive a quality education.

This admirable teacher hails from Colorado, moved to Santa FE and lived there for 20 years, before moving to Phoenix, Arizona. At present, she is living here in Albuquerque, and have been here for seven years now. She said that she is loving it.

Ms. Montoya is a proud grandmother. She loves to travel and going on walks in The Bosque weekly. She also loves to cook and read. Thank you for choosing to be part of ASE!



THE NEW FACES OF ASE



A Lady of Faith With A Love for Teaching

By Joell Velilla

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." 2Timothy 1:7

Meet the amazing lady who lives by this Bible verse, she is Ms. Jamie Balckledge.

This great new addition to our school graduated from the University of New Mexico (UNM) with a degree in Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with TESOL endorsement.

Ms. Blackledge has 8 years of teaching experience. Her will power, devotion, and love for teaching makes her an inspiration for all. In her entire career, she had taught from 1st to 6th grade. She taught the 1st grade for three years, the 2nd grade for two years, a combo class of 2nd and 3rd grades for two years, and 4th to 6th grade ELA and Social Studies for a quarter.

This admirable woman grew up in Los Lunas New Mexico until she got married to her husband Kevin in July of 2019, then moved to Albuquerque thereafter. She lives with her husband,

her stepson, and a mini dachshund. She loves mystery and adventure books and movies. She also enjoys horseback riding and hiking.

Ms. Blackledge said that she is excited to be a part of ASE. She also added that the staff has been great and that she looks forward to a great year with everyone. We are also excited to have you here in ASE!

THE INTRIGUINGLY FANTASTIC MS. HURST by Camree Volk

This lovely lady, Ms. Katherine "Kitty" Hurst, is the new 10th and 12th grade English and AP Literature and Composition teacher here at Albuquerque School of Excellence (ASE).

She both earned her degree in Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, and her master's degree in Education from University of New Mexico. This is her 2nd year of teaching.

Ms. Hurst is a free-spirited soul. She grew up in Albuquerque, but in the past decade, she spent her time traveling, farming, and teaching. Prior to coming back to Albuquerque, she lived and taught in rural Montana.

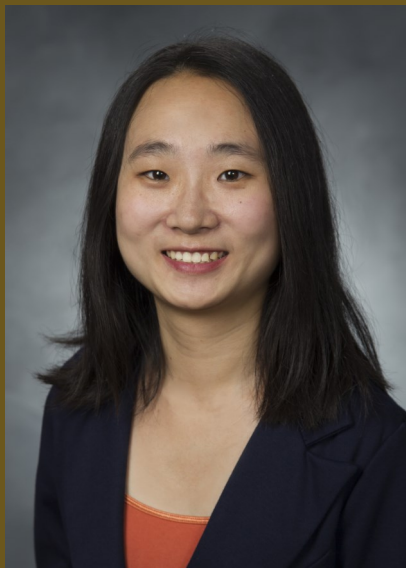
Even though she enjoys traveling, exploring different places, and experiencing new things, she still feels happy to be back in New Mexico and be close to her family. Aside from traveling, which she obviously does, she also loves to hike, do yoga, dance, meditate, write poetries, and take naps.

In her own words, she said, "I am thrilled to be part of this fantastic and diverse community. Everyone has been welcoming, kind, and committed to excellence."

We are very happy to have you, Ms. Hurst, and we hope to have a great year with you at ASE.



THE NEW FACES OF ASE



A Lady of Great Motivation

By: Alec Trujillo

Coming from a different country and succeeding in your chosen field is a remarkable achievement; that is what this new teacher in Albuquerque School of Excellence has done.

She is Ms. Judy Ma, an 8th grade Math teacher here in ASE. She was born and raised in a large and populated city in China. She grew up wanting to be an English teacher. She attended Zhengzhou University where she received a degree in Bachelor of Arts in English. After graduating from college, she came to the US for graduate school. She attended Brigham Young University, in Utah, where she received her master's degree in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) and a Ph. D in Educational Inquiry, Measurement, and Evaluation.

After getting her Ph.D., she moved to Albuquerque with her husband and began teaching at the Albuquerque School of Excellence thereafter.

When asked about working at ASE she said: "My experience in the ASE family has been wonderful. Being a new member, I unavoidably must adjust and learn new things. Thanks to the caring administrators and colleagues, I had my questions answered timely, and quickly transition. Additionally, working with my students has been pleasant. My students are polite and respectful, and I am happy to help them on their way to success."

According to Ms. Ma, She enjoys teaching because she likes sharing what she knows with other people and it makes her happy knowing that she can help them. When asked of what she enjoys doing, she said that she likes learning about different languages and cultures, thus, she reads a lot, solves puzzles, and tries out new things. As a bilingual person, she enjoys communicating with people who spoke other languages as well. May You enjoy your stay in ASE Ms. Ma!

A Woman with A Calling

by Abigail White

"I am passionate about learning, and hope my enthusiasm rubs off on my students."

Teaching does not mean the end of learning. This is how you can describe this inspiring new teacher we have. She is Ms. Patricia MacDonald, our new 9th grade English teacher here in ASE.

Ms. MacDonald earned a master's degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) from San Francisco State University. She taught English as a Second Language (ESL) to college students for several years.

After learning that the New Mexico public school system is struggling to find enough teachers to fill its need, Ms. MacDonald stepped up. She switched gears a little bit, to teach high school students. An admirable character that reflects the devotion and responsiveness to the calling of the teaching profession. Truly, a woman with a calling.

When asked how she felt about teaching at ASE she said, "I'm really honored to be part of ASE and among a staff of caring, and dedicated individuals."

In Parting, she shares this quote from Jack Canfield, ***"Everything you want is on the other side of fear."***

Ms. Macdonald, we are all extremely glad to have another caring and dedicated teacher in our school.



THE NEW FACES OF ASE

A Family-Oriented Math Mentor

By: Sydney Koranyi



“A dream written down with a date becomes a goal. A goal broken down into steps becomes a plan. A plan backed by action makes your dreams come true.” - Greg S. Reid

Miss Qingqing Cui is a 10th through 12th grade Math teacher here in Albuquerque School of Excellence. She believes that ASE is a wonderful school full of wonderful students, programs, teachers, and administrators.

Ms. Cui, earned her undergraduate degree from China. She then came to the US, earned a master's degree in Mathematics from University of Kansas, then completed her teacher education at Santa Fe Community College.

Aside from teaching, she is passionate about cooking and hiking. Family is the most integral part of her being. Spending time with her family is a particularly important part of who she is. Living by the quote, by Greg S. Reid, she can make her dreams come true.

Mrs. Ma. Gloria M. King

“Be PROUD and BELIEVE in YOURSELF ; yet, be HUMBLE and think that NO ONE is LESSER than YOU”

* Bachelor in Secondary Education—Major in English from Divine Word College of Legazpi, Philippines.

* Almost 14 years of teaching experience.

* Taught English Language Arts, Afro-Asian and Anglo-American Literature, and Journalism to high school, college, and adult students (free-distance education program)

* A wife to Mr. Eldon King

* A mother of three amazing children, Shanna Mae - 25 years old, a psychology graduate, Vanz Francis - 23 years old, a nursing student, and Julius Vanz - 16 years old, a 10th grader

* Journalism coach and moderator of school paper/journalism paper for several years

* Presently teaches English Language Arts and Journalism to middle school students here in ASE, and Moderator of **The Phoenix Times** (The official school paper of ASE)

- I am honored and grateful to ASE for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this school and do what I most love to do as a teacher.



“Education and Character goes hand in hand together, educating the mind without educating the heart is what every teacher should consider as a personal failure, thus, it is imperative to model what you teach and walk the talk.”

My FIRST Day In Class

Anonymous



Image source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/screen-time-soars-with-online-school-parents-worry-about-health-impact/articleshow/76313409.cms>

I gazed upon the moon
I felt it was too soon
I lay on lush grass
Thinking of my class
It was already Sunday
School started on Monday

It started early
My brain thought peculiarly
I felt so dizzy
My soda was fizzy
I opened my laptop
And my heart dropped

I started the zoom
I thought I met my doom
Until I saw the teachers
They send me procedures
I thought school was lame
But now it is like a game

I was relieved
My sadness was short-lived
Melancholy was gone
My hope lived on
Thank you, school
For making me cool.



Image Source: <https://adoptioninfosvcs.com/raising-inclusive-kids/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS!!!

Parent-Teacher Conferences: September 16, 2020

End of 1st Quarter: October 2, 2020

Fall Break: October 5-9, 2020

FOR COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS OR ARTICLE CONTRIBUTION:

Please email Mrs. Ma. Gloria M King at
mking@abqse.org with the

SUBJECT LINE: The Phoenix Times
(COMMENTS or SUGGESTIONS or
ARTICLE CONTRIBUTIONS)