

NMSU at Grants

GrantsGram

Their day here was a "blast"

Special points of interest:

- Blasters successful
- Veterans' Day observed
- Career Day set
- GED program ranks high
- Sixth graders invade NMSU for a morning



It took tremendous teamwork and nine colors of T-shirts, but the Reach-to-Teach Education Club, and NMSU-G faculty and staff pulled it off: The first NMSU-G Blaster. This year the emphasis was bringing 246 sixth graders in for a full day with the club members, math teachers, and experienced math students. See photo essay on page 3 for how this distinctive group succeeded with the Math Blaster November 10.

Photo by Michelle Spencer

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Fall and Spring Calendars

Thanksgiving offers time to reflect, relax, regroup

"Thanks" and "giving" are two words that blend in an American tradition of taking time to be with family in a spiritual way.

NMSU along with the nation observes this time of thanks and giving with a three-day break for students and faculty; and a two-day break for staff.



The campus will be closed:

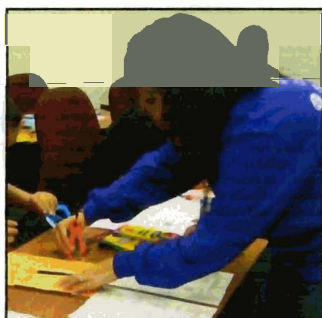
**Thursday
Friday, and
Saturday,
November
23, 24 and 25**



Nov 10 — BLAST OFF to the first NMSU Math Blaster



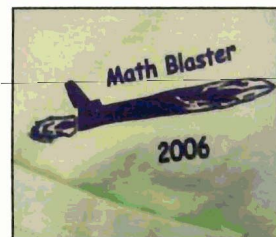
Susie Rhoderick, (right), Blaster organizer, brought together NMSU teachers, students, and Grants Public Schools to teach 246 sixth graders in three workshops on a November Friday.



Marlene Chavez-Toivanen, Math pro- workshop.



Sharon Mackendrick explains tessellations and shows examples of math in art.



Color coded shirts announced one of nine first hour workshops after orientation in the theatre: Students rotated to Algebra, geometry, and tessellations.



(Left) Sixth grade Milan Elementary teacher Creigh Russell and Education major Jackie Sanchez (teacher at St. Teresa's), observe one of the workshops conducted by June Mathews, another education student.



Parent Leonela Lopez and son from Milan Elementary (left) check over a geometry angle; (center) Asha Ashby, mentor teacher for Cibola Public Schools, and Katie O'Connor, rest a brief moment while 248 sixth graders do their thing in nine classrooms. GPS bussed the students here. NMSU instructor Bob Baker demonstrates a venn diagram as part of the algebra workshop in the math lab.

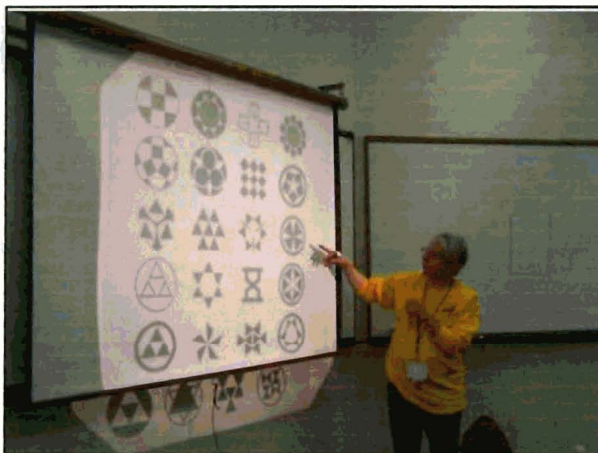


Students blasted into "tools of the trade"

Photos by Sandee Kosmo, Marketing



Sixth grade teachers rest a moment in the lounge (left) while NMSU's Dr. Charlotte Otts (right) demonstrates the symmetry found in tessellations, mathematical art forms. Discussion is under way for another Blaster.



ART IS MATH... MC Escher's art became a math project... or did math become an art project?



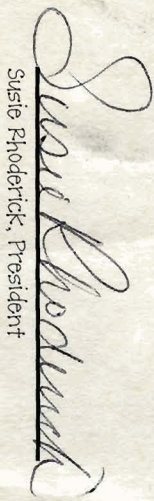
Reach to Teach education club

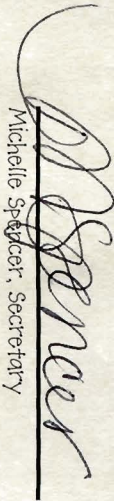
Certificate of Appreciation

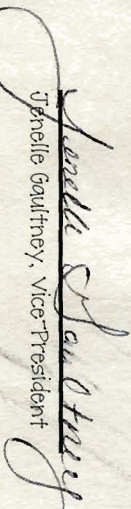
is hereby awarded to:

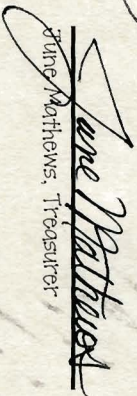
Renaye Apachito

for her generosity and commitment to Math Blaster Education Day 2006

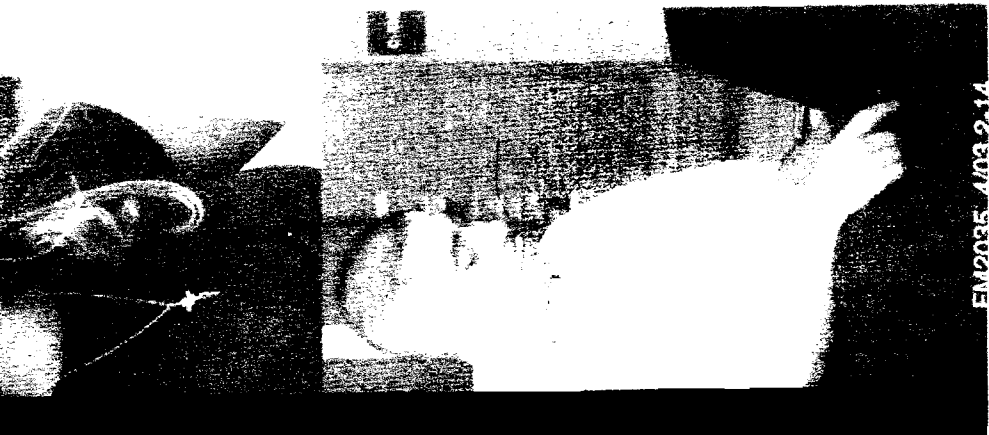

Susie Rhoderick, President


Michelle Spencer, Secretary


Janelle Gaultney, Vice-President


Jane Matthews, Treasurer





Renaye Apachito

*In Recognition of the
Successful Completion of*

*PLATO Workshop 6 Hours
December 13, 2006*

Awarded by

Jessica Klippel

Date

December 13, 2006

PLA

Pine Hill Schools & Ramah Navajo Head Start

Gratefully Acknowledges

Renaye Apachito

*For volunteering during the Winter 2006 Craft Night.
We could not have done it without you.*

December 18, 2006

12/18/06

Superintendent



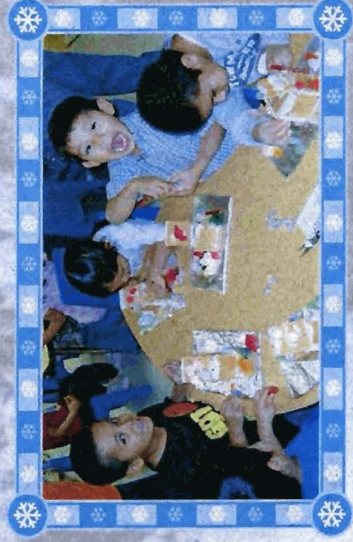
PHS Parent Involvement Coord.

Cynthia Ad-ACT 1578

Head Start Director



Head Start Family Service Coord.





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Phone # (505) 775-3245 Ext. 2305



April 25, 2007

RE: Renaye Apachito, Student Teacher

To Whom It May Concern:

I have had the pleasure of working with Renaye Apachito from the beginning of this school year, 2006-2007. From August through December she was my Teacher Aide/Culture Teacher and from January to date she has been my Student Teacher. During this time, Renaye has had the opportunity to get to know the routine of the classroom and the students well.

This has been a win-win situation for my students, me and Renaye herself. I have found Renaye to be very conscientious with the duties assigned during the first half of the year. With assignments for NMSU, student teaching, and culture teaching, she was able to complete all things in an exemplary manner.

This semester, from January to date, she has performed the tasks assigned to her such as lesson plans and teaching, as well as the assignments for her NMSU classes. I watched her begin teaching first Science, then Math, then Language Arts and now teaching all subjects full time in the classroom. Renaye works hard to create thought-provoking assignments while making sure the Standards and Benchmarks are covered. She has worked hard to be organized as well as flexible and takes the time to evaluate her lessons and try new ideas when necessary.

Her ability to keep students on task as well as discipline when warranted is quite remarkable. You would not know that she is a beginning teacher for she shows the professional manners of a seasoned teacher.

I would recommend Renaye Apachito for any teaching job in any school district in the United States. She is one of the hardest working people I know. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bronwyn E. Jones

Bronwyn E. Jones
Reading Specialist/3rd Grade Teacher

April 18, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

For the current academic year (2006-2007), as the fifth grade classroom teacher at Pine Hill Elementary School, I have worked extensively with Renaye Apachito in her role as Teacher Assistant, student and as a Student Teacher.

Ms. Apachito's exceptional qualifications for teaching come across strongly on paper and in person. These same qualifications are exhibited in the classroom as well. Renaye is dedicated, energetic, hard working, and independent. She speaks in a confident and coherent fashion, is always prepared to teach, offers her classes' diverse instructional methodologies, and is very organized in her presentations. Renaye's classroom is well disciplined, yet she is sensitive to individual differences.

Ms. Apachito's love for her work and her concern for the needs of her students bring vibrancy and relevancy to her classes. Her own creativity and spontaneity encourage those qualities in her students, fostering in them the ability to develop their own means of personal expression. Renaye's knowledge of varied studies and, equally important, her ability to teach it well make her an exceptionally qualified professional.

Ms. Apachito's easy-going personality and good humor make her a natural for working well with other faculty members. She is always willing to share ideas or lend a helping hand to her associates.

Ms. Apachito would be a definite asset to any faculty, and I would recommend her without reservation as an Elementary Teacher for any elementary grade.

Sincerely,



Wava Lee O'Brien
Pine Hill Schools
5th Grade Teacher
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Ramah, NM 87321
(505) 775-3742



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To Whom It May Concern:

Renaye Apachito has been a student in my computer courses and I've been impressed with her. She not only shows a strong interest in technology but also exhibits a strong desire to share her knowledge with others.

Many of her courses she has taken from me have been online and she doesn't have trouble working in a web learning environment. This can be challenging for some students but she is able to take on any subject this way. Doing online courses in a more remote area like she lives in can be even more difficult but she is resourceful and finds ways to make it work.

The most impressive quality of Renaye is her willingness to share what she learns. After taking my HTML web page programming class, she immediately started teaching HTML to students in Pine Hill. When she designed a web page for another course, she looked how she could make the page a real working page that would be useful for the people in her community. She believes strongly in having her own learning be practical which makes learning much more meaningful.

I've also noticed her excellent ability to relate to others both in writing and in person. Her written interactions in online discussions are positive and friendly. In person, she has a great personality and relates very well to others. She always has a smile and speaks with kindness. In more formal situations, she is very professional and respectful when relating to others.

I highly recommend Renaye Apachito.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Bocaz-Larson', written over a circular stamp or mark.

Doug Bocaz-Larson
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