

Proposed Charter Amendment

The Governing Council has approved a task force to work on drafting a



charter amendment application to align certain aspects of the charter with policies,

procedures and practices that have been adopted or have otherwise proved to be workable or practicable over the course of PAPA's first school year. Members of the task force will be asked to draft specific amendments for approval by the governing council whereafter they will be submitted to APS for approval.

There will be extensive opportunity for public comment on the draft amendments before they are submitted. This will include circulating copies by email, posting on the website, and going over the drafts in public meetings.

Please note that it is not intended to materially amend key charter elements such as the Mission and Vision of the school or the basic educational program incorporating Individual Learning Plans and an integrated, thematic curriculum.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the drafting work or would like to receive copies of the proposed amendments once they are drafted, or if you require further information, please contact Mandy Ruden at 899-3056 or email edofnm@nmia.com.

Summer Youth Theatre Classes

Register Your Children Now for Summer Youth Theatre Classes at the Broadway Southwest Theater! Theater classes are being offered for students from 3rd through 12th grade.

Workshops are categorized based on age of students, grades k-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12. Workshops cover a wide range of theater arts such as basic acting skills,

improvisation, stage combat, Shakespeare, masks and more.



Classes have different starting and ending times. Some workshops are starting on June 3

and others start later, all ending by July 31. Classes range from \$65.00 to \$85.00 and each class is approximately two weeks long.

Certificates of completion can be offered to students who may be able to present to

We Have a Principal!

We are pleased to inform everyone that Danielle Johnston was selected by the governing council as the top candidate and has accepted the offer made to her. We have a new principal!

Thank you to everyone on the principal screening and selection teams for the many hours of work and effort. PAPA is very fortunate to have so many dedicated supporters.

Come join us at a reception honoring Ms. Johnston at the next Town Hall, Thursday, June 27, 6:30 p.m.

PAPA CALENDAR

Friday, June 7

Student's last day of school

Sunday, June 9

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Offsite Governing Council Meeting ~ Location to be ann.

Thursday, June 13

4:30 p.m.

Governing Council Meeting
Randolph Facility

Thursday, June 27

4:30 p.m.

Governing Council Meeting
6:30 p.m.
Town Hall Meeting
both at Pinetree Facility

their schools for possible school credit. Openings for classes still exist, but classes are limited in size. Please contact Melissa White at the Broadway Southwest Theater at phone number 262-9305 or FAX 262-9319.

8th Grade Graduation — An Evening to Remember

On Saturday, June 1, PAPA's inaugural 8th grade graduating class celebrated their accomplishments and turned to the future with joy, laughter, and a few teary eyes. Proud parents (with more than a few teary eyes of their own) watched as their children ascended the platform one-by-one to receive their diploma, individual acknowledgement

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by teachers, and a custom-framed class photograph.

The evening began when the graduates processed into the beautifully decorated Studio A. Following the guidelines set forth by the Graduation Committee (bravo! to Dee Butler, Krizia Garcia, Brianna Kerwin, and Jeffrey Tabet), the graduates were attired in shirts and ties and semi-formal dresses. They were all dazzling to behold, and flashbulbs lit the room as parents snapped photos to capture this special moment.

Master of Ceremonies Dorian Cundick showed a video highlighting the 8th graders in a kaleidoscope of moods and settings: boisterous, studious, silly, and pensive. Following the video, Ms. Cundick introduced faculty members David Gutierrez and Amy James, who performed a lovely cover of *Ripple* by the Grateful Dead:

Class speakers Tara Smartnick and Arthur Weagel captivated the audience with their eloquent valedictories (following), and Head Teacher Patty Useem and PAPA Founder Valerie Scott delivered stirring words of encouragement and congratulations to the graduates.

Finally, each graduate ascended the platform and faced, for one moment, the past and the future. On the cusp of childhood and young adulthood, each student paused for a photograph, then stepped into the future.



A Southwestern style dinner-reception followed the ceremonies, and afterwards, PAPA's own DJ extraordinaire, Virgil Rhames, mixed it up with a selection of dance tunes that set everyone's feet in motion. The evening concluded around 9:00 p.m. as the last dancers popped the remaining balloons and hugged each other goodnight. It was an evening everyone will remember for a long time to come.

PAPA offers heartfelt congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2002 and their families. Best of luck to all of our graduates!

Graduation Talk 2002

By Arthur Weagel

As we conclude our first year at PAPA, it is easy to look back and realize what a complete success it has been. Now that we've seen so many artists draw, and dancers dance to perfection, it is hard

to believe that we began as a rundown office building lacking almost everything but running water. Through the hard work and effort of parents, teachers, and administrators, we've transformed that stale office building into a fertile academy where the creative elite are trained to sew worlds together on a tapestry of dreams.

The whole concept of this school was formed of such dreams. Classes this small, such a broad range of electives, and teachers among the best in the nation, all available to the public free of charge, couldn't have come together this elegantly by any other means. And, fortunately, it doesn't stop here. In all of our classes, elective and otherwise, we

are encouraged to pursue our creative dreams and aspirations. Oral presentations become lyrical compositions worthy of the highest musical recognition. Simple posterboard displays become awe-inspiring collages that convey events and emotions that the artist has come to understand at a personal level.

Not only have we pushed our limits to produce extraordinary work, but we are encouraged in all of our classes to display our projects in a portfolio, where they can be appreciated for more than just the grades they receive. This emphasis on individual creativity is a huge benefit to the students, and ultimately, to society as a whole. PAPA is currently producing future painters, actors, dancers, poets, and musicians who will one day change the world.

What better habitat in which to end our 8th grade year and begin our years of high school? T.S. Elliot said, in his classic poem *Four Quartets*, "And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from."

The end of the school year is the beginning of summertime, just as completion of 8th grade marks the beginning of 9th. Once you are in high school, your grades follow you for the rest of your life. So savor your last moments as a middle-schooler because now there is no turning back.

But you can always remember the good times we had as the first class ever to graduate from this school. The friendship, the laughter, the gossip, the lunches; they were all experienced in new ways, and I'm sure we'll never forget the time we spent together. It's been fun. Thank you.

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A Year of Firsts

By Tara Smartnick

This year at the Public Academy for Performing Arts has been a year of firsts. I think that everyone has at least something they can say they were the first person to do at PAPA.

I can say, "I am the first person to make the 8th grade speech at PAPA." We all can say, "I was one of the first people to attend the performing arts school in Albuquerque" and "I was one of the first people to advance to high school at PAPA." You might be able to say, "I was the first person to get stuck in the elevator" or "I was the first person to play MacBeth" or "I was one of the first people to dance Fame at the beginning of the school year."

Do you remember the first time you danced on the new dance floor? Do you remember the first friend you made? Do you remember your first Karate belt? How about the first lab you did in Mrs. James' class? The first song you played in band? The first play you did in drama? The first picture you drew in art? Do you remember where you were when you heard that you were accepted into PAPA? Do you remember the first day of school? Do you remember the first time you saw your classmates? What were your first impressions about them? Remember when the bathrooms didn't work? When there were no books to learn from and no tables to write on. Do you remember the complete confusion? Do you remember finding out that you had the exact same schedule as the person sitting next to you? Do you remember how bare the walls were?



Do you remember the first grade? This is where we started.

Yes, I know that there was preschool and kindergarten, but did you really learn anything beside your numbers and letters there?

We started out in the first grade, we went through 5 years of elementary school, 3 years of middle school, and here we are now. We're about to be "high-schoolers". 4 more years until we move out into the real world.

Whether you are joining us again next year at PAPA or you are going on to a different school. Good luck and congratulations.

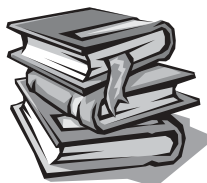
Thank you.

Ropes Course Oops!

Our last newsletter featured an article on the Ropes Course that the 9th grade students participated in, but the article did not acknowledge the person that organized the whole event—Oops! A big "thanks" to Ramona Silkwood for seeing that our school had the opportunity to participate in this rewarding experience.

No Textbooks, No Grades

Textbooks must be turned in or paid for before we will release students' grades. Please check at home, under your bed, in your closet and get those textbooks returned. The average cost of a text book is over \$50!



DEVELOPMENT NEWS:

The Development Committee is pleased to announce that PAPA has received a generous donation from Cimarron Health Plan. Cimarron Health Plan is an outstanding community partner and supportive of our efforts to provide exceptional educational and arts opportunities for our students. We gratefully acknowledge their contribution and look forward to a lengthy public/private partnership!

BoxTops for Education

An angel in our midst! A generous angel is continuing to save and deliver those BOXTOPS for Education! Who are you? The Development Committee mailbox at the school receives an envelope about every two weeks filled with those wonderful little gems! Thank you! Thank you!

Parents, Staff, Students, Faculty, and Friends — we invite you to join this mysterious generous angel and become an angel yourself by giving PAPA your General Mills and Betty Crocker BoxTops.

It's simple:

1. Eat Cereal
2. Clip the Box Top Coupon that says "Boxtops for Education"
3. Bring them to the school or mail to POB 66677, Abq., 87193
4. PAPA gets a check from General Mills

Remember us this summer!

Albertson's

How many of you remember this slogan? "It's Joe Albertson's Supermarket and the Meat Department is mine!" (we may be dating ourselves) . . . We are pleased

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to announce that money department is going to be PAPA's

PAPA is a participate in the Community Partner's Program with Albertson's. If you eat (and we're guessing you do), shop at Albertson's and use your PAPA Community Partner's Card each time you visit the store. The card is FREE and works like this: The Checker will scan your card each time you shop and the school gets up to 5% of total sales. Again, cards are free and available just for the asking.

Who should I ask?

- Ask Michelle at 262-4888, x106
- Ask Carol at 262-4888, x101
- Ask Susan at 883-5008 and/or leave your mailing address on the voice mail at 883-5008 or email your request to luckyisus@aol.com

This is NOT A CREDIT Card!

Entertainment Books

PAPA will be selling the 2002-2003 Entertainment Books beginning in September, so please reserve yours now.

For only \$35.00 you receive substantial discounts on goods and services like restaurants (everything from fine dining to fast food), movie tickets, house cleaning, gasoline and oil changes, vacations, and much more.

Just ask Judy Naranjo at the reception desk to reserve your book or call her at 262-4888. You may also reserve one by sending an e-mail to luckisus@aol.com.

Helping PAPA and your pocketbook at the same time—Now that's entertainment!



Moving ~ Anyone interested in helping with PAPA's move, please contact Laura Tapia at 296-5841.



Music Night a Success

Music Night at PAPA on June 31st was a great success. We heard from the very talented students at PAPA performing on various instruments. The instrumental ensemble directed by Lisa Nichols began the evening with "also Sprach Zarathustra." They also played "Raider's March" and "Pink Panther." Hotel Obligado" joined the latter piece with theater students directed by Vince Kirby. This made a fun, visual, "who done it" mystery ending.

The guitar ensemble made their debut playing from Lute Suite No. 1 in e minor—BWV 966 V Bourée by J.S. Bach under the direction of Mr. Ben Silva. The students also were joined by the percussion ensemble in the piece Revolution No. 1 by Lennon and McCartney. Mr. Silva wrote the arrangements for both pieces.

The night also included various solos, duets, trios and quartets. Annique Wagner Hiester played Bach's violin piece "Gavotte" and Emma Hossy played Bach's cello piece "Arioso." Caitlin Brody, who placed in the All-State Solo and Ensemble auditions, performed "Petite Piece Concertante" by G. Bailey on trumpet. Rachel Langer (violin) and Dylan Hawkinson (flute) performed "Allegro and Grazioso" by Devienne. We had a fun Jazz improvisation by Zack Perls (sax), Zack Stefanovich (baritone), and Graham Gentz (saxophone) called "Exit Street." The string quartet performed "Classical Bash" by Beethoven and Bach and the string ensemble performed the "Theme from Jurassic Park" by J. Williams.

We had a great adult and student combination group playing "Two Khusidlek" which is Klezmer music. This music is folk music played on instruments that the

community plays and joins together to create a fun ensemble. Beth Cohen has invited the community at PAPA to join the Klesmen Group if they are interested.

After intermission, the PAPA Chorus made their debut. The students comprised of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders learned the repertoire in their individual music. Fundamentals classes and then joined together to form this chorus during homeroom period the last two weeks. The students in 8C created great choreography for their final piece, "Spark of Creativity" by Michael and Juki Galliana. Ms. Wagner was very proud of them.

The audience filled Studio A and were very supportive, even amidst the heat. The percussion ensemble directed by Erica Jhett ended the evening performance with creative body percussion, a Just Buckets piece, solo drum set by James Lay and a trio including beginning student, Jessy Butler. The final piece was a drum set Rock duet by Julie Brodsky and James Lay.

Congratulations to all performers for a wonderful evening.

Piano and Dance Night Videos!



Many of you have requested videos of the Piano and Dance Night held at the South Broadway Cultural Center last month. We are ready to make copies of the final edited version, and need a count so we know how many copies to order.

We are selling the videos as a fundraiser for \$25 each. If you would like a copy, please return this form along with a check for \$25 made out to PAPA. Please let us know how many copies you would like, your phone number and email address.

We'll try to have the videos ready for you in the next week or so.