

► MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL, PG. 1



► MESSAGE FROM A STUDENT, PG. 2



► CCCS UPDATES, PG. 1



► CCCS ANNOUNCE-MENTS, PG. 2

### An Afternoon and Evening High School Individualizing Success Tel. 505-877-0558 www.cesarchavezcharter.net

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**OMMUNITY SCHOOL** 

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

# **Doing the Next Right Thing**

When something feels impossible, how do we face it? We take baby steps. We try to figure out one next right thing to do. We stop trying to ignore the problem and we show up to look the problem in the eyes. And sometimes it is terrifying, and we lay awake, or cry, or feel our nerves shooting adrenaline into our body. We don't like it, but still we pause and ask ourselves, What is the next

**right** thing to do. And then we can start taking small actions, baby steps, through something difficult. Maybe we make some mistakes along the way and we try to set those right. If we take right steps, we eventually get to the other side of the problem and feel relief, love, and pride; we know we are stronger now to face what comes next.

One thing we focus on at Cesar Chavez Community School is taking the next right step. There are many ways we can take next steps toward what we want and who we want to be: sometimes it is through an honest mediation meeting with a student, making a resume, volunteering in the community, or taking an opportunity for an internship or scholarship application. The possibilities are countless! This year we have started building the Accuplacer test, CNM's college entrance exam, into our curriculum. This test helps students take another step toward college. We are thrilled to see our students' test scores already rising (student scores rose by over 20% from August to December) as they take steps in preparation and readiness! Next steps can be exciting, moving us closer to our dreams!



But what if we feel stuck, or like we're moving in the wrong direction? You can answer your own question: What is the next right thing to do? Or, who can I ask for help if I'm confused? Cesar Chavez reminds us, "From the depth of need and despair, people can work together, can organ-

Of CCCS

Issue 3

ize themselves to solve their own problems and fill their own needs with dignity and strength." Try to take one baby step today. Every long and wonderful journey starts with first showing up to a dream, then taking one small step past fear.

-Tani Arness, Principal

## **CCCS UPDATES!**

CCCS has started using CNM's Accuplacer Test as a way for highskilled students to show growth toward college.

Our first Short Cycle Assessment Scores show growth! CCCS Students averaged over 20% growth from August to December! Way to go students and teachers!!

### MESSAGE FROM A STUDENT

## **No Limits**

#### By Yazmin Ortiz CCCS Student, Graduated December, 2014

Being a young parent can be very difficult at times. Trying to juggle homework, relationships, bills, and being a mother all at once can seem impossible at times.

When my daughter was born I decided that I wasn't going to be just another statistic, I wasn't going to use my daughter as an excuse to give up on my dreams. On the contrary, I was even more determined to graduate high school and pursue a career. My dream was to become a successful businesswoman in the cosmetology industry. Cesar Chavez Community School made that possible. The staff at CCCS were very supportive and understanding. They provided me with a flexible, work at your own pace schedule and all the right tools I needed to meet my goal. Throughout my experience at Cesar Chavez high school, I learned that, with the right mentors, reaching my goals on time was possible. Attending CCCS felt like being in a second home, surrounded by family, the staff there didn't just worry about my grades, they cared about me and what was going on in my personal life too.

To all the teachers, mentors, counselor I just want to say THANK YOU! Thank you for believing in me!! And to all the young parents at Cesar Chavez, remember, there will be obstacles, there will be mistakes, but with hard work there are no limits to what you can achieve.



**CCCS Announcements!** PARCC testing is around the corner. Students will be taking this important test March 2-6 and again April 21-24, 2015. Come well rested and ready to do your best! (See Also Testing Tips, Enclosed)

Spring Break is coming up! March 30-April 3! Enjov?!



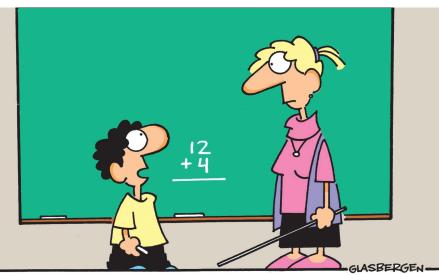
Yazmin Ortz., CCCS Graduate

## WOULD YOU LIKE **TO PARTNER** WITH CCCS?

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

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"Do I get partial credit for simply having the courage to get out of bed and face the world again today?"