

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

From the Desk of Administration

Salam Alaikum,

Salam Academy Board of Directors has announced that Br. Chris Adam has been named as Principal of Salam Academy for the 2012-13 school year. Please join us in welcoming Br. Chris into our school family and may Allah guide him as he assumes the leadership of the school.

He holds a B.S. in English (Cum Laude) and M.A. in Linguistics (with distinction). He is currently working towards his PhD in Linguistics. He has extensive teaching experience since 2001.



Br. Chris was National Security Studies Program Scholar for UNM in 2010. He accepted Cota Robles Fellowship from 2004 to 2006 (towards PhD). He was in UCLA's Provost Honors List in 2000.

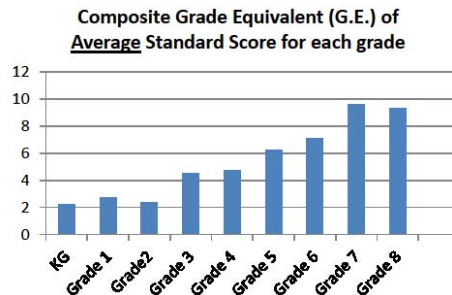
He is lifetime member of Linguistic

Society of America, a member of TESOL, and currently the President of Arabic Language Club at UNM.

Br. Chris has been volunteering at Salam Academy as an advisor to the Education Committee and a resource person for ESL Learners.

He is officially starting as the principal on August 6, 2012., Inhsa'Allah! His contact email will be principal@salamacademy.org

Grade Equivalent of 2011-2012 ITBS results



NEWS!

Ask for the special and unbeatable tuition discount offer for the first time applicants—Must apply by or before August 15, 2012.

◆ Salam Academy will offer a school preparation class for all registered students in 4th grade and up. This class will take place August 13-16 from 9 am -11 am. This class will include test taking, note taking and student organization. Students must be registered before the class begins to be able to attend. This is a great way to prepare for the new school year and to help students get a jump start on a better academic year. If you

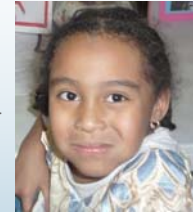
have any questions, please call the office at 888-7688 or email.

◆ Salam Academy students have maintained their high academic performance. Again in 2011-2012 academic year the average grade performance in ITBS Standardized testing, is at least one grade above the grade level.

◆ Students who have been attending Salam Academy for at least two years or more have demonstrated high scores in IQRA Standardized Islamic Studies testing as compared to new students.

◆ Please nominate PTO officials so the new leadership is ready before the new academic year.

Congratulations to **Aisha Raji**, third grader at Salam Academy. Aisha is a NM store winner for Kohl's Cares Scholarship. She will receive a \$50 gift card from Kohl's. The Cares® Scholarship Program recognizes and rewards young volunteers (ages 6-18) who help make their communities a better place to live. Aisha writes cards to those who are sick or who have lost a loved one or just needs a pick-me-up. She does them all by hand. She has sent them throughout New Mexico and California and even as far away as Virginia.



- Newsletter Committee:
- Kamila Kasparian
 - Rebecca Mosallaei
 - Aamna Nayyar

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Are you ready for the Ramadan Competition? Stay tuned for more details!



Salam Academy is looking for volunteers for the summer and the fall. We are currently getting the school ready for fall. The following are some the jobs we are currently working on:

- reorganizing the library*
- cleaning out files*
- filing paperwork*
- cleaning out storage areas*
- reorganizing supplies*

These are just some of the things that we need help with. If you are able to do any of these or willing to learn, we would love to have you join us. Salam Academy is our community school and only together can we truly succeed.

After using Everyday Math Curriculum for 3 years, the school has decided to adopt the Saxon Math Curriculum for all grade levels.

Registration is open. The school will be open each day from 9 am - 4 pm for registration through August.

Summer Fun & Activities

Salam Academy Summer Camp was a blast. Students of 3 levels based on the age groups enjoyed learning and lots of fun.



LIFE IS SHORT,
And it's very important.
It's important to determine your place.
Don't follow the devil,
Be guided by Allah,
Then, surly you will be on the path,
The path to paradise
(By: Muhammed Saeed- 8th Grade)

HIGHSCHOOL
High school is going to be a great experience. In high school, I will have to study really hard. Growing is a big part of going to High school. High school may be scary, but that doesn't mean you can't achieve your goals. School is fun; it's supposed to be about learning something new every day. College will be much easier than high school. (Trust me!)
High school, what the heck, get it over with but study hard.
Outrageous friends! (Maybe)
Outstanding Standards
Learning is the key to success!!!
(By: Kiran Mamdani- 8th Grade)

GRADUATION
The speech of the ending
Is only the beginning
Of the sending
To the school of winning
~~~~~  
Graduation Day  
Is when you go to the next  
Level in schooling  
(By: Abdullah Shah- 8th Grade)

The Board of Directors has extended the deadline for applying for financial aid to Aug 15th. Please make sure that you have submitted all paperwork on time.

## Middle School Graduate Speech

**A-oozo-billahi minash Shaitan nir rajeem. Bismillah-hi-Rahman-nir-Rahim, Al-hamdu Lillaahi rabil alameen, was salatu was salamu, ala rasul illah Khatimin nabi yeen. As Salam-o-Alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu.** My name is Abdullah Shah, I am 13 years old, and I am graduating from Salam Academy after being here for 7 years. Before I begin I'd like to thank my dearest parents, my wonderful friends, my dedicated teachers, my family, the Muslim community, the volunteers, the supporters, the donors, and many others who helped me make it through elementary and middle school.

In 2005, my initial registration application was rejected by the Salam Academy administration of that time giving the reason that school was not equipped to serve special need students, as I am hard of hearing by birth. Anyways, my pre-school academic records and the standardized test scores were able to get me in for a probationary period. I started in 1<sup>st</sup> grade and was promoted to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in a month due to my high academic performance, Alhamdulillah... and from there I had the many wonderful experiences of education. My special thanks to all my teachers and school mates who treated me just like any other student and focused on my academics and person rather than my hearing aids.

William Arthur Ward said that *"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."* We are blessed to have "Great Teachers" here at Salam Academy, from whom I learned many surahs with the meaning, duas, and hadith. I also learned the Seerah of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW), and the stories of his Sahaba. I learned many words in Arabic and how to read and write it. I learned how our universe was created and how we human beings have barely any knowledge of what exists in the universe. I remember the big change from having just one teacher teaching all subjects into differ-

ent teachers teaching different subjects. I learned punctuation and how to write essays and speeches like this one. I learned how to play soccer, football, tennis, and dodge ball from my classmates and teachers. They taught me how to run long distances and to fast during Ramadan.

Salam Academy had many exciting competitions at school and elsewhere. I learned a lot more than in class when I did in the quiz for the Hajj Competition and the PowerPoint Presentation for the Ramadan Competition. The competition that had the most challenge was the Science Fair. Alhamdulillah, I became three times winner in the regional science fair and two times winner in the New Mexico Junior Academy of Sciences Research paper competition and presentation, and I was also able to win in the State Science Fair at New Mexico Tech. Insha'Allah, I will be in INTEL science fair next year.

I pray that, Insha'Allah more people will come to the school in the future years and many wonderful changes will happen to the school. Soon we will have our own huge, hygienic, and green building, where we have nice green grass instead of road to do PE, smart classrooms, up to date media and computers, spacious restrooms, arts and craft room, State of Art Science Labs, online and distance education program for the homeschooled and special need kids, and many more..... Dream--- Dream... Dream..., Insha'Allah, this will happen, if only the Muslim Community joins together as one Ummah to help support the only full time Muslim school in New Mexico.

I want to quote from the tradition of the song from the eve of the Sabbath that the Jewish people sing and which is called "Shalom Aleichem," meaning Peace be unto you. In the Gospels in the New Testament, Jesus (Isa) (may peace be upon him) uses the greeting "Peace be unto you". He does it in today's Gospel reading - from John 14 - where he is preparing his disciples for his departure from them. *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."* I also want to say the

## Graduates 2012

### KG Graduates:

Sakeena Al-Hassan  
Layla Ardalan  
Munji Awad  
Ahmad Awwad  
Ohafi Faruk  
Mansour Hashimi  
Romel Jordan  
Camila Khraishi  
Lily Mosallaei  
Meckrem Yousef

### 5th Grade Graduates:

Shoaib Ishaq  
Malack Saeed

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduates:

Junte Al-Hasan  
Princess Jordan  
Kiran Mamdani  
Muhammed Saeed  
Abdullah Shah

same in Arabic to all present in here, a greeting of the people of Paradise (as quoted in The Quran), that "Peace unto you all" meaning, "Salam-o-Alaikum!"

And from the last sermon of Prophet Muhammad (may peace be upon him), I want to quote, *"All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly."* May "Peace" prevail in this world! Ameen!Jazak Allah Khair and Thank you.



Graduate Speech- By: Abdullah Shah

## PARENTS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Parents who read to and with their kids on a regular basis, who show an active interest in their kids' learning, and who talk regularly with their kids about school and other subjects are giving their kids a real and powerful leg up in school and life.

- Read with your kids
- Show interest
- Talk with your kids
- Stay involved with homework
- Insist on good teachers
- Support school and community efforts to involve more parents
- Have high expectations about attendance
- Have high expectations about the school behavior
- Share your goals with your teachers
- Communicate regularly with teachers



**Our Vision:**  
Salam Academy's Vision is to create outstanding American citizens who are trained to be leaders in their family, community and the American society as a whole.



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### SMILE IS A CHARITY~ Hadith

Son: Baba, I miss Ramadan, do you think it misses us too?  
Baba: Of course dear, that is why it comes 10 days earlier each year!



## Salam Academy High School & Family Connections School Needs Assessment Results

1. Would you like Salam Academy to have a 9th grade added?

**Yes, very much. 86.7%**

2. I believe High School in an Islamic school is a crucial requirement of current times.

**100% Agree 100.0%**

3. I believe in good moral values, behaviors and academic standards and would love if Salam Academy could provide some support options to my home school children for a nominal price, like;

Standardized testing:

**Yes 86.7%**

Field Trips:

**Yes 80.0%**

Participation in school wide competitions:

**Yes 80.0%**

Tutoring Services:

**Yes 86.7%**

After-school clubs:

**Yes 53.3%**

Formal Grade Book:

**Yes 78.6%**

Arabic/ Islamic Studies Courses:

**Yes 86.7%**

Parent-Teacher Organization:

**Yes 80.0%**

I do not have school age kids or home school children.

**No 69.2%**

4. How often have you discussed your child's social needs with other adults or with your child?

**Very often 60.0%**

5. Would you be willing to support the school in these innovative ideas? How?

**Yes 73.3%**

6. What age groups are your children who will be taking advantage of these services? (please check all that apply)

**KG- Grade 12 range**

7. How much tuition is reasonable for High school? (please mention the amount. e.g. \$600/month)

**\$100- \$500/month**

### Teacher of The Month of July

Ms. Joan Boyden for her excellent leadership in the Flag Project and sponsoring the Chess Club.