



# *J. Paul Taylor Academy*

*Recapturing the Joy of Learning - Recapturar la Alegria de Aprender*



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[www.jpaultayloracademy.org](http://www.jpaultayloracademy.org)

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## **JPTA STUDENTS MAKE A MOVE TO BRING PLAY STRUCTURE TO THEIR SCHOOLYARD**

**Move-a-thon Outdoor Fundraiser: This Friday Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> 8:10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (Las Cruces, NM) – Students at J Paul Taylor Academy are taking action to bring playground equipment to their schoolyard through a Move-a-thon fundraiser Nov. 30.

To raise money for their school's net climber and play structure, students are collecting pledges toward their activities at the Move-a-thon, Friday, Nov. 30, from 8:10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Throughout the morning, classes will rotate through a variety of movement stations, including yoga, Zumba, martial arts instruction, and track activities.

To boost the fundraiser's success, the school's foundation, J Paul Taylor Academy Foundation, has offered to match up to \$10,000 of every dollar raised from the school's Move-a-thon event.

Local businesses are also taking an active role in the event. Downtown Desert Yoga, Blue Dragon Dojo, and Zumba instructor Betty Nietubyc will instruct students at the various stations. Crunch Fitness will provide raffle drawings and JPTA parent Patrick Strait will be taking aerial photos of the event by drone.

This is the school's third year to hold the event at its new location in the Court Youth Center, near Alameda Blvd. and Picacho Ave. During that time the K-8 public charter school has gained momentum toward turning their dirt lot into a playground for students to use during PE and recess. The initial phases of dirt work, concrete for basketball courts and foursquare, a running track and just recently, landscaping, have paved the way for the last step – playground equipment and shade structures.

The initial phases were completed thanks to support from Las Cruces Public Schools, ASA Architects, GenCon, Mary Kay Papen, Vista Del Sol, Joni Gutierrez Landscaping, Alex Petermeier - Watersmart Landscaping, Bernd Leinauer, and parent fundraising.

"Thanks to ALL the hard work, donations, and perseverance of our stakeholders," said Christy Takacs, the school's executive director. "Our students, staff, and community now have access to a beautiful playground area! We are forever grateful to all those who have gotten us this far, and are looking forward to what we can accomplish through our Move-a-Thon to complete the project!"

For information on how to donate to the JPTA school's playground, please contact [jptafoundation@jpaultayloracademy.org](mailto:jptafoundation@jpaultayloracademy.org). For information regarding the Move-a-thon event, contact Rebecca Berkson at [Becca.berkson@gmail.com](mailto:Becca.berkson@gmail.com).

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