



Welcome to

The Linguistic Academy of El Paso;

A Cultural Demonstration Site

Opening the World of

Multiple Languages and Cultures to our Students



Superintendent's Message

Dear Linguistics Academy of El Paso Community,

It is a real honor and causes a great deal of excitement to partner with you in establishing the newest addition to our school district, the Linguistic Academy of El Paso.

There are magnet schools and specialty schools of all sorts, shapes and sizes in America, but linguistically directed and targeted education like ours is not common. There is a reason for this.

Foreign tongues dropped

Traditionally, until about 20 years ago, people who were seeking a doctorate or other advanced degrees in education were required to study what was then commonly referred to as a "foreign" language.

In many cases, students would master all their required coursework except the "foreign" language requirement. With the tremendous pressure that came from these failing students and other students about these failing and restrictive classes, many universities simply backed away from or dropped the "foreign" language requirement. It is rare today that a university makes "foreign" language a mandatory requirement for a higher-level degree.

I studied in an era when doctorate studies required fluency in a second, or in some cases third language other than their native tongue.

During my studies at Michigan State University, my intention was to join the Government Services Division, preferably the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). I studied languages so that I might be eligible to work in other countries for the FBI.

When I graduated from Michigan State, I was granted an interview with the FBI and my intent was to accept employment with



that very important branch of our government. However, a few years before my graduation I got married, and my spouse did not like the many rigors that would come with being an FBI agent, including a rigid travel schedule and physical danger.

Languages pay

Thus, I reviewed my college curriculum to decide what I could do with the course work I had studied for many years. I decided to become a language teacher.

I took additional courses to become certified as an educator, and earned the credits necessary to be certified as a teacher of a second language. While making these career adjustments, I began to research the advantages of studying "foreign" languages.

I discovered that there were very few people who studied the teaching of second and third languages. But those who did were rewarded over and above others with the same qualifications who did not.

I also found that many jobs would pay a bonus to employees who could converse fluently in a second or third language.

There are other advantages that might not be as evident. Students who study second or third languages, when compared against other students with similar backgrounds, attain higher test scores and display a greater degree of discipline.

New expectations

With all this in mind, it is the intent of the Linguistic Academy of El Paso to give our students an advantage over all non-Academy students against whom they will compete professionally throughout their lives.

The former Ibero school did a great job of promoting the advantages of acquiring a second or third language. We want to take the same

"We invite you to visit us."

mission and vision a step further.

We expect our students at the Academy to be verbally proficient in a second language by sixth grade.

We now offer Spanish, German, Chinese, Russian and French at the Academy. We will continue to emphasize the importance of understanding the cultures and languages of people from other countries, just as foreign countries respect us for being able to speak their language.

Our students are involved in a demonstration type of school, meaning that within the next one to three years, administrators from other schools will begin visiting the Linguistic Academy of El Paso to study the methodologies and technologies used in our teachings and in the promotion of providing a multinational education.

We are focused

We invite you to visit us in the coming months as we host special events to honor and promote the languages and cultures of other nations. This will include sharing the music, food and other aspects of daily living in foreign countries.

Please give us any feedback you might have about our Academy. And by all means, please talk to us about your child's education. We are highly focused on making sure that each and every one of our students reaches his or her potential in order to better succeed in the global community of the future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joe E. Gonzales "Dr. G"

Superintendent

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Publication Contact:

Yvette Buehring M.Ed

District Coordinator for Development

Burnham Wood Charter Schools

785 Southwestern Drive / El Paso, TX / 79912

1-830-299-2009

The Rise of The Linguistic Academy of El Paso

By Kevin Garcia



The journey of learners is rarely a straight line. It is often filled with valleys, mountains and everything in between. But it's the journey that makes the experience worthwhile.

The newly established Linguistic Academy of El Paso is the journey of one campus that strives to make multicultural learning a foundation for their students.

A few months ago, the Ibero Academy in El Paso reached out to Howard Burnham Charter School District and presented them with an opportunity. They had reached a point where they could no longer remain open as a campus.

Campus Resurrected

But at the same time, Ibero administrators didn't want to see their many students miss out on a highly diversified style of learning, one that placed emphasis on dual language and multicultural experiences.

Howard Burnham Charter School District knew immediately they wanted to step up and build upon what Ibero Academy had started.

Dr. Joe Gonzales, superintendent of Howard Burnham Charter Schools, realized just how important that campus was to the area.

He said, "We immediately knew we had to do whatever it took to ensure that the campus remained open and continued serving students of our area."

"We had to act immediately."





There was clear evidence of the innovative approach that Ibero took to teaching and learning. It was an approach that aligned with the successful Howard Burnham style of education.

The stars seemed to be aligning, and Howard Burnham was certain they wanted to acquire Ibero Academy and continue its efforts. Still, the journey to make Ibero Academy part of the Howard Burnham family would be a challenge.

Dr. G admitted that “an expansion to include a new campus would be very challenging and require multiples levels of support. Luckily, we had the support of many. Ultimately, we were granted the expansion, enabling us to acquire Ibero.”

Gaining that expansion was not easy. Plenty of work was required and completed at the local and state levels to ensure that not only did Ibero become part of Howard Burnham, but that it would open its doors by the first day of the 2019-2020 school year.

Among the first steps was choosing a new name for the Ibero campus. Staying true to the multicultural learning and dual language program the campus offered, the Linguistic Academy of El Paso was born.

It’s a name that encompassed the mission of the campus. Dual language was not only expected but celebrated by parents, students and the community, a tradition that Howard Burnham plans to continue.

A bright future

Today, the new Linguistic Academy of El Paso is already thriving and generating excitement about its new journey. It’s a journey in which students are able to learn about the world around them and contribute to it.

There is still plenty new to come, but the Linguistic Academy and all involved are energized, motivated and hopeful about its future.

The Linguistic Academy; a true Burnham Wood School

By Yvette Buehring



The Burnham Wood Family of Charter Schools carries with it years of tradition, high standards and the highest expectations. Having been consistently recognized since its founding, the school district continues to produce “the best of the best” students through innovation and attention to student and staff growth.

The program is the result of the tremendous vision and service that our schools’ founders, Mrs. Iris Burnham and her husband, Mr. Howard Burnham, exhibited by establishing this

state- and nationally recognized educational enterprise.

Our unique culture

Without their fortitude, determination and persistence, Howard Burnham Elementary, Vista Elementary and Da Vinci Middle and High Schools would not exist today. Thus, hundreds of El Paso students would have been denied the “World Class” education they have experienced. The winning traditions that have become the culture of our schools are unmatched anywhere.

Notably, over the last three years, under the guidance and direction of the present School Superintendent, Dr. Joe Gonzales, aka Dr. G., the programs have exceeded all expectations and enhance all aspects of our schools.





Not only are Da Vinci, Howard Burnham and Vista Del Futuro Schools excelling, a new campus has been added to the fold. The Linguistic Academy of El Paso: A Cultural Demonstration Site is poised to be the prize of the district. Having been the only school district asked to purchase the former private school because of its esteemed reputation, the Howard Burnham Charter School District immediately recognized the potential of the of the new campus. Its campus vision mirrored that of our district.

Our vision

The superintendent's vision for our school district, for both now and the future, include:

- A strong partnership with parents.
- Continued emphasis on academic excellence.
- Further additions to our extracurricular activities.
- Greater exposure of our students to colleges and universities through on-campus visits.
- Greater opportunities for student leadership experiences.
- Greater student intern placement experiences.

Our leadership role

All stakeholders look forward to very soon presenting The Linguistic Academy of El Paso as the program that all schools emulate and aspire to become. The school very nicely "fits in" with the rest of the family of charter schools known as Burnham Wood, with its robust offerings of:

- Robotics
- Music
- Theatre
- Sports
- Languages
- Leadership
- Educational Coaching

We are most proud of the newest addition to our family, the Linguistic Academy!

Soon, other schools will join the growing Burnham Wood Family as the demand for our program increases and enrollment continues to grow significantly. That growth will allow us to serve even more students from throughout the El Paso area.



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The Linguistic Academy offers lots of options

By Kevin Garcia



With the start of the Linguistic Academy of El Paso comes the opportunity to offer unique offerings and programs for students and families.

Our priorities include keeping students engaged with the learning community and providing them extracurricular activities and special programming that makes them well-rounded individuals. We don't just want our students to be book smart, we want them to be experience smart.

Aside from the traditional subjects of reading, writing, math, science and history, students at the LAEP will be immersed in programs that encourage them to think critically in an ever-changing world.

Students decide

Maybe they want to learn strategy through a classic game of chess? Or Maybe they want to journey to the future through a robotics club where they will build their own robots?

At Linguistic Academy, every student will be able to pursue interests that could one day turn into a very prosperous career. Many of our students who enjoy building can take their skills and develop them further in our engineering club.

If a student is more about moving and being physically active, then they will love that the Linguistic Academy has plenty of sports activities available. We even have dance classes available for those who simply want to move to the beat and let the music guide them.

In addition to sports and dance, there are plenty of ways for students to let their creativity and talent shine. The LAEP will offer music classes for any student who wants to explore a world of melody. They will be able to create music for everyone to hear.

Student voices matter

If their creativity is more about colors and visuals, they will be able to create masterpieces through our art classes. Or they can begin their acting career with our drama classes and make the world their stage as they become story tellers.

One of the great aspects of the Linguistic Academy of El Paso is its commitment to having students' voices heard.

We exist because of our belief in children and their education. For this reason, students will be able to take part in Superintendent Student Cabinet meetings where they will be a part of the decision-making and vision for the campus.

Finally, school wouldn't be cool without field trips! Students at LAEP will be able to participate in adventures where they will be immersed in different environments, languages and cultures. They will learn through these engaging experiences and have fun too.

The Linguistic Academy of El Paso is dedicated to producing students who are well-rounded and who will be ready for whatever challenge life throws at them. By offering this very diverse programming, students will be able to experience a little of everything and find what makes them happy.

"We believe in children and their education."

Afterschool programs help nurture young minds

By Yvette Buehring



"Effective afterschool programs bring a wide range of benefits to youth, families and communities. Afterschool programs can boost academic performance, reduce risky behaviors, promote physical health, and provide a safe,

structured environment for the children of working parents." (Youth.gov)

In an effective after school program, children can meet and connect with new people and this can lead to improved behavior and fewer emotional problems. In a quality program, as is the case at the Linguistic Academy, emphasis is placed on nurturing good character traits, such as respect and open-mindedness.

Students improve social skills and build self-confidence in a safe and supervised setting that is less stressful. As a parent, you can concede that a child who is more excited about school will put in more effort to succeed.

The Linguistic Academy employs proven methods that engage students after school, including:

1) Robotics

With a growing economy that has a higher demand for STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, math), it's important that the

next generation learns how they can make a difference in their communities and the world.

LA robotics classes give students the opportunity to dive deep into the world of robotics and explore how computer programming and robot design can solve both small and big problems.

Not only do our robotics programs help to establish the STEM concepts, they also work to build on students' team-building skills as they work to complete fun challenges. These collaborative skills are essential for student success, no matter what subject they choose to pursue in the future.

Parents and students at the Linguistic Academy are invested in the development of a top-quality Robotics Program meeting at least two days a week and work toward maximizing the opportunity for program growth.

The highly recognized and awarded Da Vinci Robotics Team works closely with the elementary robotics teams, inviting the groups to participate with their teams every Tuesday and Thursday at the High School campus.

2) Music

The benefits of exposing kids to music are well documented. In fact, different forms of music have been found to be effective in



increasing the ability to focus, concentrate, calm, soothe, and relax. It can also enhance learning, creativity and critical-thinking skills.
-Lauren Martin

Special needs children also benefit from music lessons by nurturing kids' creative side, relieving stress, improving math and listening skills, self-esteem, and improved test scores, and improved language skills.

At the Linguistic Academy, we are moving our students towards having the edge over their competition someday post-secondary. In fact, The Arts Education Partnership states, "Employers identify creativity as one of the top five skills important for success in the workforce (Lichtenberg, Woock, & Wright, 2008)."

In the LA Afterschool program, ages 3-10 are offered private lessons by highly qualified professionals in piano and violin, as well as the oboe and violin. The young musicians enthusiastically receive instruction twice a week.

3) Sports

The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports recommends that children exercise for at least 60 minutes every day. In fact, a study demonstrated that sports improve a child's academic performance, self-esteem and social competence. In addition, sports participation bolsters children's ability to solve problems and maintain normal weight, while enhancing physical coordination and strengthening muscles and bones. Sports can:

- Relieves Stress
- Promote Healthy Competition
- Boost Self-Confidence
- Encourage Sportsmanship and Teamwork
- Cultivate Lifelong Relationships
- Teach Children How to Manage Pressure

Superintendent Dr. G. believes sports helps grow student leaders by having high school student athletes facilitate elementary sports activities. This proven method helps the "student coaches" to model good

sportsmanship while enhancing foundational athletic skills. The Linguistic Academy offers a wide array of sports opportunities for LA scholar athletes to participate in, including:

- flag football
- cheer/dance
- volleyball
- basketball
- track
- baseball
- softball

4) Language

As a Dual Language program, the Linguistic Academy takes advantage of the benefits that come from learning a foreign language at an early age. As district leaders recognize, in many occupations, speaking foreign languages makes you more marketable and valuable to any company.

Therefore, teaching foreign languages to kids can set them up for a lifetime of success. And because a developing mind can pick up languages quickly, it is most advantageous to teach one or multiple languages to our young linguistic students.

Studies have found that multilingual students had better problem-solving and critical thinking skills, more creativity, improved memory, better multi-tasking abilities, and better flexibility of the mind.

Finally, the empathy and cultural understanding that children learn from studying a foreign language can help them in all aspects of their lives, from playing at school to understanding their peers in the workplace as adults. The skills fostered through language enhancement are applied in all other aspects of the school program.

Linguistic Academy students participate in Spanish half-day instruction and are provided with the opportunity after school to receive instruction from expert teachers in French, German, Russian and Chinese.



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Afterschool programs are **top-notch**

By Daniella Breacher

After School Program Facilitator/PK3 Teacher



The Linguistic Academy of El Paso: A Cultural Demonstration Site, is concerned with the integral development of students and will always offer the necessary tools to face the challenges that today's world presents. This is

why we propose and offer different after school programs in the academic, cultural and sports fields.

As the name says, at The Linguistic Academy of El Paso, we are committed to each child having the opportunity to develop different languages such as Chinese, French, Russian and German. This is in addition to the daily instruction in English and Spanish.

It is important to keep up with the current trends in education. That is why we offer a Robotics program with

experts in the field and well-trained volunteers. As a result, students will be well prepared, excited and ready for competitions.

Music is an important part of any child's development. Therefore we offer programs in which students can explore different instruments such as violin and piano, and thus develop their musical skills.

Sports can be an integral part of the academic experience. Students have a variety of options which are available depending on the season. Students can choose from among flag football, volleyball, soccer, cheerleading or dancing, among others.

"Daily instruction is in English and Spanish."

The Linguistic Academy of El Paso aims to always be at the forefront of education excellence and offers superior after school programs.



Da Vinci senior Teaches French after school

by Jesse Olivarez
Da Vinci High School senior



Hi! My name is Jesse Olivares and I am a senior at Da Vinci High School. But I'm also a teacher. Let me explain.

We all know that the Burnham Wood Charter School District provides a bonanza of opportunities for everybody. But in my case, I had the chance to become a teacher to the district's youngest members.

The beauty of French

I am now teaching French to students between 3 and 9 years old at our district's newest school, the Linguistic Academy of El Paso. I'm taking advantage of the opportunity to use my communication skills and passion for academics as I teach French.

French is a language spoken in many countries, not just in France. Teaching the language allows me to stimulate my abilities and thrive in this new environment.

French is a beautiful language and by teaching it to others, I feel as if I am opening new opportunities, not just for myself but for all my little students.

I have always been fascinated by the French language, and I am delighted to share

*"This has
changed my
life's panorama."*

my knowledge of it with the growing minds of tomorrow's leaders.

Spending my afternoons with children who are energetic and eager to learn has been a unique experience. We enjoy a lot of interaction in our oral lessons, and

by putting on mini-plays and having small class competitions.

Besides having fun during the learning process, it is very encouraging to watch young children develop a passion for the language I love. It amazes me how quickly they grasp the content of what I'm teaching.

Perhaps one day they may become the polyglots of the future.

Teaching French has empowered me to give back to the school district I love. It has changed my life's panorama as I prepare a foundation for my students to enjoy future successes while being forged into tomorrow's leaders.

One-stop shop

This is just another example in which the Linguistic Academy district lives up to its name as a site of cultural demonstration where students can be enriched across different disciplines, all in one place.

Mastering robotics develops important life skills

By Mariana Gonzalez
Robotics coach/ 3rd grade teacher



In our third-grade robotics class at the Linguistic Academy of El Paso, we seek to promote and teach a variety of basic life skills to our students, including teamwork, accountability, dedication, critical thinking and problem solving.

All is relevant

These are all skills that are very important to each of us in our daily everyday lives. They also have real world applications.

We also encourage students to be passionate about the fields of STEM, science, technology, engineering and math.

Once students learn these skills and have a solid foundation, we will transition into more complex areas of science. We will engage in activities that are required within the entry levels of mechanical engineering, programming, mechanical and computerized design, and math.

We work hard to develop these life skills and I hope that this class will inspire our students to earn their college degrees and possibly pursue a career in the fields of science and technology.




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Linguistic Academy is preparing my daughters for life

By Lidia Azul Robles

I realized how grateful I was for the choices my parents made in my education when I was sitting for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam. I had to endure a four, four-hour sections exam with less than a 50 percent pass rate.

There was no way I could have successfully passed that exam if I had not learned good test-taking skills, dedication and discipline during my childhood education.

My husband and I also want to give our children the best education possible, and we are grateful for their new beginnings at The Linguistic Academy of El Paso.

As a toddler, I attended Ignacio Zaragoza in Juarez, and later went to Morehead, and then Coronado High School. I obtained my Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Accountancy from Texas State University and successfully passed the CPA exam at the age of 24.

During junior high and high school I participated in various extra-curricular activities, including playing the violin. My years in orchestra gave me a tremendous amount of discipline, perseverance and confidence that I still use in my daily life.

The best is here

We are very happy our daughters received a strong foundation with Ibero Academy. They spent six years at there and Ibero prepared them well for attending The Linguistic Academy of El Paso.

At Ibero, they had a dual language program and they also learned Chinese. They developed good emotional intelligence and made an incredibly close bond with many friends, teachers and coaches.

We were so happy to see that on their first day of school at The Linguistic Academy, the first person they saw was their old coach. They hugged him tightly and had a smile from ear to ear. They also hugged many of their old teachers and staff and have since made new special friendships and bonds with their new



*"This is
priceless
to us."*

teachers and classmates.

When our daughters received the schedule for the after-school activities, they quickly chose Violin, Piano, French, Russian, Chinese, Robotics, and Cheer and Dance. When I picked them up recently, they did not want to leave their French class because they were playing a learning game and the score was tied.

Above and beyond

Their teacher is a young role model. We are so happy that they can look up to him. He speaks several languages, is a current student at Da Vinci and is already

earning college credits at The University of Texas at Austin.

The Linguistic Academy has superseded every expectation we had. Administrators were able to build a strong curriculum and quickly got the school up and running in record time.

I see the teachers, administrators and coaches walking around the classrooms and school grounds. I see them interacting with all students in the lunch room and at the after school programs.

Rapid growth

The fact that our second and third graders love their school so much they don't want to leave is something that is priceless to us.

They were already speaking many words and singing songs in four different languages after only three weeks at the school. They are learning good test-taking skills as they are tested every week, and they are excited about going to school and enjoying their new school very much.

Thank you, Dr. G., all the administration, staff and teachers at The Linguistic Academy of El Paso for bringing a high level of education excellence to our community. As a parent, I am confident that our daughters are in the best of hands and will be better prepared for whatever challenges lay in their futures.



The Linguistic Academy Approach to Learning

By Kevin Garcia



Language is the driver of all learning. How well we communicate with each other lends itself to discovery and innovation. Language can be written or spoken. It is the vehicle that we use to navigate the world around us.

At the Linguistic Academy of El Paso, the learning of languages and multicultural experiences is of paramount importance.

When a child is born, one of the first things a mother will hear is their beautiful newborn's cry. It is the very first time a baby will begin to develop their voice. In the next few months, the same baby will begin putting together sounds and absorb all that we tell and show them.

From words to sentences

They are learning even if they can't yet put into words what they are learning. Eventually, the very same child will speak its first words and then its first sentences. Slowly they are developing a language they will use to communicate with the world.

The experience of developing language skills is shared by all, but the languages that are spoken are unique. With over 7 billion people in the world today, there currently exists about 6,500 different languages. Every one of them is unique and special.

The Linguistic Academy of El Paso strongly believes that exposing students and helping

them learn additional languages will provide them with a stronger education and with the ability to navigate multiple cultures throughout the world.

One way the Linguistic Academy achieves this is through constant practice and immersion. There are six different languages taught at the Academy. Aside from English and Spanish, which are critical to our geographical location, additional opportunities exist for students to learn German, Chinese, French, and Russian.

Every day, students are practicing these languages and developing communicational skills in each language that will serve them in the future. They are not only learning how to pronounce words, but they are learning vocabulary and meaning in order to formulate sentences. The goal is to make them fluent by constant practice.

It's all about culture

Aside from the practicing the language, students are also being immersed in the culture. They are provided lessons about each culture and exposing them to the views and traditions held by individuals thousands of miles away. By teaching them about various cultures, students are becoming multicultural as they become multilingual.

The Linguistic Academy Approach to Learning is focused on the learner. It is designed to prepare them to enter various cultures and fully participate through knowledge of the language. By practicing every day and becoming multilingual, they will have a lifetime of unlimited opportunity in an ever-changing world.

"The goal is to make them fluent."

Teachers and students blaze new trails at Linguistic Academy

By Turina Mendoza,
PK3 teacher



My career at the Burnham Wood Charter School District began in August 2017 when I became front office manager at Howard Burnham Elementary. In the course of my two years there, I grew professionally in ways I did not expect.

Honored to be here

I was fortunate enough to work with an amazing staff of true professionals who taught me so much, and I was able to see how much they cared about the students. Working at Howard Burnham allowed me to see our superintendent's vision for the district first-hand through the implementation of extracurricular activities, various sports programs and advancement opportunities for employees.

Dr. Gonzales places a high emphasis on strong academics, well-trained staff and an overall positive and professional environment. When we knew that The Linguistic Academy was going to be a part of the Burnham Wood district, I knew this was a great opportunity to move into a new stage of my career.

I was fortunate to be able to transfer to the Linguistic Academy and begin my career in teaching. The transition has been smooth, and in the few short weeks I have been here, I have witnessed the extremely positive direction our campus is moving.

In addition to all the wonderful and committed teachers and staff, the array of after-school programs available to students is remarkable as they are able to partake in a variety of activities that can only enhance their academic and personal development.

It is an honor to be a part of this innovative district and I look forward to being a part of its growth and innovation for years to come.





Why Change Can Be a Good Thing

By: Jamie Livingston

2nd grade teacher, Linguistic Academy



Nestled in the lush Upper Valley of El Paso lies a newly owned Burnhamwood Charter School: The Linguistic Academy of El Paso: A Cultural Demonstration Site.

Although it's the inaugural school year for the campus, it still holds many of the core values and traditions held by its former iteration, Ibero Academy.

The love of learning

As a teacher who has been with the district for three years now, two of those spent at DaVinci, working with elementary students for the first time has been a transition. But, one thing remains the same: fostering a love of learning and watching my students succeed.

Even though the campus is under new leadership, Ibero's roots are still firmly planted within the community. Their culture is still very much present down the halls of LAE. The parents are very supportive of our leadership and teachers. The students come in every day ready to learn, all the while having to learn and adapt to a Texas curriculum.

Dr. G's futuristic vision

As a parent myself, it can be challenging to know what lies in store for my student, both academically and emotionally. Will they learn everything they need to know before the STAAR test in May? Will they have friends to sit with at the cafeteria?

As teachers, we strive to make sure every student is learning, not necessarily the same way or at the same pace, but we value the relationships we have built with our administrators, parents and our students.

We take trust with each child very seriously and we work hard every day to adapt to each student's needs. We make fly-by-the-moment decisions daily, but it's always with the students' success in mind.

The district's newest property would not have been possible without the direction and vision of our superintendent, Dr. Joe Gonzales. Since his arrival in July 2017, Dr. G has always found a way to help make our district the best of the best and is constantly thinking of the future.

He also is very supportive of our administrators, who work tirelessly to improve daily life on each of the campuses. Together, we are all one big team eager to provide our students with a world-class education!

I am excited to make this transition to elementary this year. I'm learning just as much as the students are. I know under the continued leadership of Dr. G and our campus administrators, our students will thrive academically. They are already learning so much at LAE and take so much pride in being a part a wonderful campus!

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Happy to be attending Linguistic Academy

By Marifer Casas

5th grader at Linguistic Academy



Hi, I am Marifer Casas. I am a 5th grader at Linguistic Academy. I think that attending the Linguistic Academy could be a unique lifetime opportunity. Here, students get to learn many languages, including Chinese, Russian, German,

Spanish and French.

Knowing these languages that could help me travel to other countries to learn about different cultures around the world. It could also help me when I start my professional career. To me, this is a great learning experience that may open new doors I never dreamed of.

This school is different because of our teachers and the many programs available to us. My teachers, Ms. Bond and Ms. Norma, encourage us to learn from our experiences. They always include hands-on activities that make their class a lot of fun and interactive. I especially enjoy science and history.

I also think that our daily lessons will help us learn Spanish and English because half the day is spent learning in Spanish, and the other half in English.

Knowing how to speak correctly in Spanish and English is very important, especially living along the U.S./Mexico border. Knowing both languages can help in our daily lives as well as later in life as we begin our professional careers as adults.



我说普通话

Wǒ shuō pǔtōnghuà

I speak Mandarin Chinese



A word from the principal

By Georgina Heras-Salas



Our mission at the Linguistic Academy of El Paso: A Cultural Demonstration Site is to provide all students an opportunity to become bilingual and biliterate while enhancing awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity.

Our Two-Way Dual Language program fosters high levels of academic achievement through instruction in two languages. While our initial delivery of instruction is taught in English and Spanish, our goal is to eventually incorporate additional partner languages such as German, French, Russian and Mandarin throughout the instructional day. Hence, creating a globally intelligent life-long learner.

Research has shown that learning and

acquiring a second language is highly beneficial. It often provides those who are immersed daily in a new language the benefits of intelligence while improving memory and concentration.

As educators, we understand that language is complex, and while speaking and learning a foreign language gives your brain an academic workout, it will eventually lead to self-confidence in a highly competitive world.

As a second language learner myself and principal of the Linguistic Academy, I can truly appreciate the vast opportunities that institutions such as ours can offer anyone who is ready to experience an exciting journey toward learning a new language.

The best way to learn

The academy's environment allows students to connect with native speakers in English and Spanish, which is hands-down, the best way to learn a new language. Students speak and study the new language everyday while teachers make text-to-text and real-world connections.

I am personally grateful to have been given the opportunity to lead and showcase the exciting academic and social experiences here that our students will remember the rest of their lives.



Burnham Wood Charter School District's Counseling program helps students

By Christina Body



Burnham Wood Charter district's counseling department has a very simple goal. It's a goal that is directly aligned with the superintendent's vision to grow young leaders.

Reaching all students

As the Linguistic Academy's professional school counselor, my priority is treating and educating the whole child. While I do focus on achievement, attendance, and behavior/discipline, per the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Model, I also put emphasis on the student's emotional and social wellbeing.

The school counseling program established within the Burnham Wood Charter School District is based on data-informed decision-making and is delivered to all students on all campuses systematically.

The program includes a developmentally appropriate curriculum focused on the mindsets and behaviors all students need for postsecondary readiness and success.

The program also focuses on closing achievement and opportunity gaps through treating the whole child with an emphasis on his/her emotional, social, and academic welfare.

By carrying out the goals of the program with fidelity, results have shown an improvement in student achievement, attendance, and behavior/discipline.

Linguistic Academy

ADMINISTRATION



Georgina Heras-Salas M.Ed.

Principal

University of Texas at El Paso BS

Stephen F Austin M ED

"I'm a firm Believer that all children can learn in two languages or more." -G. Heras-Salas



Yvette Buehring M.Ed.

District Coordinator for Development/AP

St. Mary's University B.S

Concordia University M.Ed

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest".

-Benjamin Franklin



Christina Body

Counselor

East Carolina University B.S.

"Serving the needs of the school for the success"

-C. Body



Erika L. Cazares

Linguistic Academy

Administrative Assistant

Instituto Tecnológico de Chihuahua

"Be the change you wish to see in world." -Gandhi

Linguistic Academy **STAFF**



Danielle Breacher *Pk3/AfterSchool Lead*
 Universidad Autónoma De Ciudad Juárez
 2 years as a teacher in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico
 6 years as a teacher in El Paso, Texas
"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest". Benjamin Franklin



Norma Elena Lozoya *4th*
 Universidad Autonoma De Ciudad Juarez
 10 years experience as an educator
"My goal is to help every student learn in their own way".



Mariana Gonzalez *3rd*
 UTEP
 1 year of teaching experience
"My purpose as a Bilingual teacher is to forge a new generation that will embrace their culture, identity, and their education".



Jamie Livingston *2nd*
 Stephen F. Austin University
 3 years teaching. 5 years total spent in Education
"I'm here to instill a love of learning in my students and to watch them accomplish success in all areas".



Jeanette Guthrie *Kinder*
 University of Phoenix
 Former PK-4 English Teacher Ibero Academy El Paso
"My essential role as a teacher is to guide students to reach their highest potential and use these tools and knowledge to become valuable members of society".



Stephanie Dominga Bond *5th*
 University of Phoenix – BS in Education
 19 years of experience
"Teaching – the profession that creates all other professions".



Turina Mendoza *Pk3*
"My role at Linguistic Academy is providing Pre-K 3 and Special Ed instruction".



Vanessa Morris *Pk4*
 UTEP
 9 years experience in education
"When you learn the sky is the limit".



Ruben Campos *PE/Coach*

UTEP

5 years

"A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning". Brad Henry



Mariana Medoza Del Valle *1st*

UTEP

Learn to swim instructor for City of El Paso Acqatics.

Student teacher at Parkland Elementary (1st grade).

"Students learn when in a safe and fun environment".



Brenda Ivonne Vela *Pk4*

UTEP (Bilingual Education)

I graduated from UTEP on May 2004

My experience as a teacher is on Bilingual Education and Dual Language.

HISD (Houston Independent School District

Private Schools (Fathers Yermo, and Ibero Academy)

EPISD

Burnham Wood Charter School District

"The influence of a good teacher can Never be erased".

Ashley Y. Vasquez *Nurse*

UTEP

BS in Nursing

"I fell fortunate to be a part of a growing district that cares so much about their students. As your school nurse, it brings me great joy to have the opportunity to educate students and support achievements in their learning process to help create healthy bodies for our future".



Laura Salgado *Art/Aftercare*

ENPEG "La Esmerlada" Mexico City, Mexico

2 years of teaching art to elementary school grades

"My role is to encourage the children to explore their creative side through the arts".

Edgar M. Ramos

Graduated from University of Texas at El Paso, bachelor's degree in Multidisciplinary studies.

Have 3 years of teaching experience in School, and Another 4 years teaching private lessons, main instruments are guitar and piano.

"The Human mind is like a fertile field, on which seeds are constantly being planted. All human minds are fertile, but only for the kind of seed they are prepared for. – Miguel Ruiz.



Francisco J. Acosta, *PE*

U.A. CH. L.E.F (Universidad Autonoma De Chihuahua)

16 years experience

"Siempre dar lo mayor de mi en lo que hago"

Linguistic ACADEMY

Student QUOTES

"I enjoy learning at the LA because we could learn different languages."

Uriah Archuleta
2nd grade

"I enjoy learning at the LA because it has a lot of activities"

Julissa Perez
2nd grade

"I like this program because I want to learn a new language."

"I like this program because you're able to build robots"

Shephard Mata
3rd Grade

"I like this program because I like to learn"

"My favorite thing that we have learned about so far is languages"

Madisol
3rd Grade

"I enjoy learning at the LA because tengo buenos maestros"

"My favorite program at the school is French."

Luna Guerra
2nd grade

"My favorite thing that we have learned about are las regiones de estados unidos"

"I enjoy learning at the LA because I love this school."

Francisco
2nd grade

"My favorite program at the school is that I love violin and art."

Analucia Morales
2nd grade

"I enjoy learning at the Linguistic Academy (LA) because we have after school activities"

"My favorite program at the school is Chinese."

Daniela Vela
3rd grade

Miyu Guerra
3rd grade

"My favorite program at the school is robotica"

Ximena Salgado
3rd grade

"I like this program because I like to learn German"

Lesly Bazan 3rd grade
"My favorite program at this school is the after school program because it's fun to learn French."

"I enjoy learning at the LA because I love this school."

Christian
2nd grade

"My favorite program at the school is flag football."

Michael Villa
3rd Grade

"I enjoy learning at the LA because I learn so much."

"I like this program because I want to learn a different language."

Dante Marquez
2nd grade

Improvements at the Linguistic Academy

by Kevin Garcia



The Linguistic Academy of El Paso is not focused on just providing excellent teaching in the classroom, it also strives to increase the opportunity for students outside the classroom as well.

Arena for all

But providing students with extracurricular activities is not always easy. It requires people and space. Luckily, we are able to have both, and plan on creating state of the art facilities that expand on our commitment to our students and community.

One of the most anticipated improvements that will occur at the Linguistic Academy is the creation of a basketball arena. This arena will be able to house hundreds of fans and will serve the entire Burnham Wood Charter School District.

This facility will allow students from all campuses to use the courts and develop a greater sense of community as we host other campuses and events.

In addition to the arena, there will be outdoor facilities that support programming and physical education at the Academy.

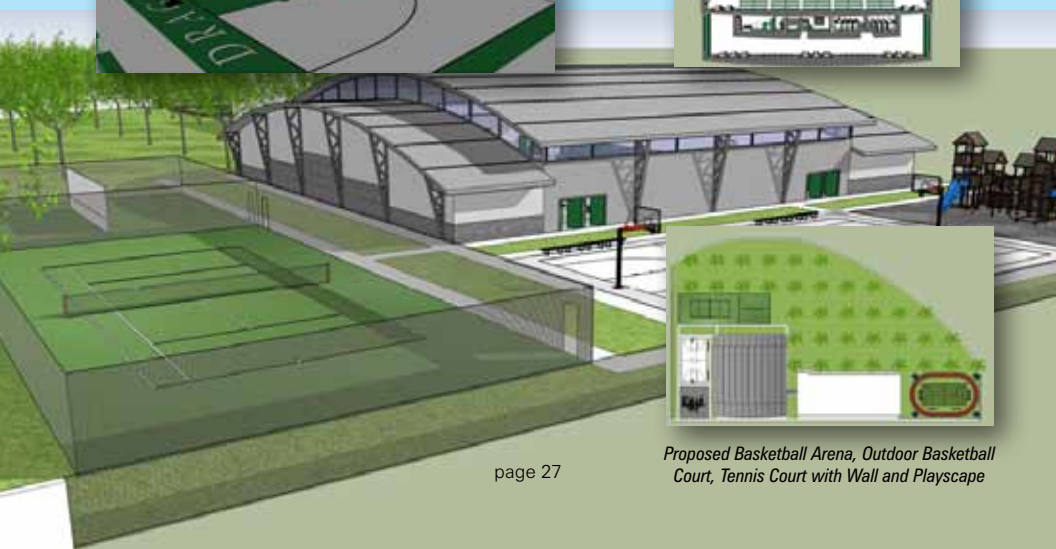
Our younger students will enjoy playing on a new and large playscape, while our older students will enjoy the outdoor basketball and tennis courts.

The new track and soccer field will host plenty of games and events for years to come.

We are excited about the future of our facilities. We look forward to continuing our commitment to our students and families and providing them with the spaces needed to learn, grow, and play!



*Proposed
Basketball
Arena*



Proposed Basketball Arena, Outdoor Basketball Court, Tennis Court with Wall and Playscape

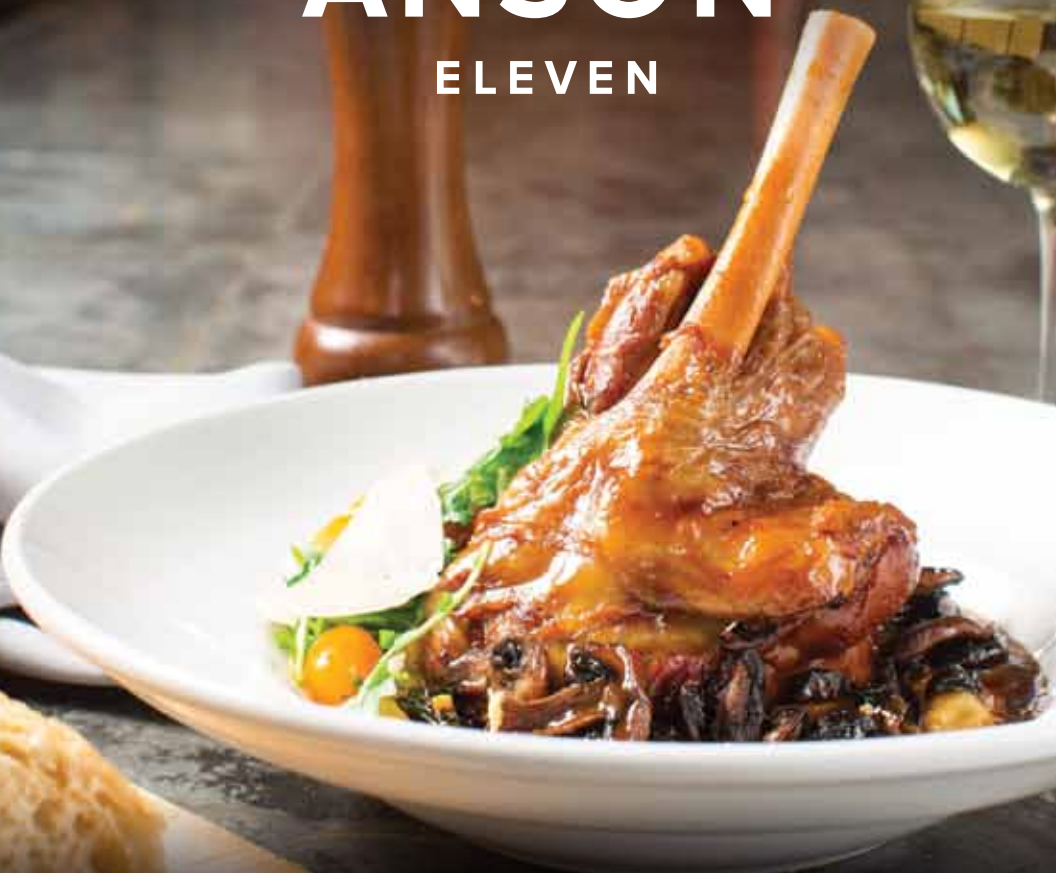
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