



Camerado Springs Middle School

Language Policy

Our Belief

United with the International Baccalaureate-MYP philosophy, Camerado Springs Middle School believes that language and literacy are the fundamental skills necessary for student success. Language is the connection between our curriculum elements and the construction of meaning. Language is how students articulate their understanding and share their knowledge with others. As such, we believe all teachers are language teachers and play a vital role in the growth and development of students.

Students who are language learners are:

- **Inquirers** - Those who search for understanding of the world around
- **Reflective** - Those who know their strengths/weaknesses and consider input from classmates, teachers and parents
- **Caring** - Those who support and encourage others
- **Open-Minded** - Those who are open to other's points of view and appreciate existing cultures
- **Communicators** - Those who express themselves confidently and creatively in many ways

Camerado believes these qualities are what lead to exemplary practices, both in and out of the classroom. Characteristics will be introduced, modeled and encouraged in each classroom and all areas on campus.

English Language Instruction

English is the language for instruction in classrooms. Teachers work to ensure a variety of literacy strategies are used to promote English Language instruction. Instruction is designed to meet the five modalities of deep learning: Do, Talk, Read, Write, Visualize. Lessons include, but are not limited to:

- Instruction designed with clear examples of connections to local and global contexts
- Strategy Instruction such as front loading content vocabulary; using context clues; using graphic organizers; visually represent content (pictorials)
- Explicit instruction around Approaches to Learning, designed to build habits of lifelong learners
- Opportunities for students to reflect on own learning
- Opportunities for students to work collaboratively, drawing on individual strengths and abilities
- Emphasize authentic learning experiences and encourage curiosity

Mother Tongue Support/English as a Second Language

English Language Development (ELD) Instruction is identified as a possibility for students based on a Home Language Survey, which is completed by parents at the time of enrollment. The ELPAC test is then administered and a determination of services is given based on the overall results. If eligibility requirements are met, the

student receives designated ELD support outside of the classroom as well as integrated support within the classroom.

Spanish Language Instruction

At Camerado Springs, Spanish Language instruction (World Language Acquisition) is an integral component in all grades. Students in Grade 6 (MYP Year 1) work to develop a foundation in conversational language usage and cultural awareness. Students in Grades 7 & 8 (MYP Years 2 & 3), build on their foundation and enhance their language acquisition through an immersive and interactive approach. Language Acquisition teachers support students multilingual development through reading, writing, and oral language.

We believe it is imperative for students to gain an international understanding of cultures in order to become responsible members of our global society. We work to incorporate opportunities for students to explore customs, traditions and everyday life in Spanish speaking countries throughout the world.

Resources and Support Services for Language Development

Special Education

Students who have met the eligibility requirements for Special Education services are supported by the classroom teacher, as well as the Special Education service providers. Teachers work collaboratively to ensure the implementation of the students' IEP (Individualized Education Plan) and subsequent goals. All services are provided in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE). Please refer to our *Inclusion Policy* for more information.

Speech and Language

Students who have met the eligibility requirements for Speech and Language services are supported by the classroom teacher, as well as the Speech-Language Pathologist. Teachers work collaboratively to ensure the implementation of the students' IEP (Individualized Education Plan) and subsequent goals. All services are provided in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).

Library

The Library Media Center is open from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on student contact days. In 2018 we upgraded our book collection by 100,000 new titles, supporting the student's interests. By providing students with access to current titles, we are encouraging a lifelong love of reading and learning.

Technology

Camerado students interact with a variety of technology that supports language development. Some examples include: Chromebooks; document cameras; and programs such as Rosetta Stone. Our staff is continuously working to integrate new applications in order to meet the needs and interests of our students.

English Language Development (ELD)

All students identified as needing intensive English Language Support receive designated ELD support in a small group environment. Additionally, all English Language Learners (ELL) receive integrated ELD instruction within their classrooms by Cross-cultural Language and Academic Development Instruction ("CLAD") certified teachers who are proficient in using Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English ("SDAIE") methodologies and practices.

Student goals are tracked for adequate yearly progress as required by Title III, and staff conduct conferences to inform families of their students' goals and progress. The process of identifying and reporting student progress is reviewed yearly by the District EL Coordinator.

Translation Services

To ensure parents as active participants in their child(ren)'s learning, Buckeye Union School District and Camerado Springs Middle School provide translation services upon request.

Communication and Review of Policy

Camerado Springs Middle School shares its Language Policy with all stakeholders at the beginning of each school year in student information packets, parent handbooks, and links on the school website. The Pedagogical Leadership Team reviews the Language Policy yearly to ensure its practices remain relevant and accessible for all students.

Works Cited

International Baccalaureate Organization, *Guidelines for Developing a School Language Policy*: Geneva, Switzerland. 2008.

International Baccalaureate Organization, *Learning in a Language Other Than Mother Tongue in IB Programmes*: Geneva, Switzerland. 2008.

International Baccalaureate Organization, *Making the MYP Happen*: Geneva, Switzerland, 2000.

We also gathered ideas for organization and wording from the following IB MYP school language policies:

H. Clarke Powers, California, USA

Frank C. Martin International K-8 Center, Florida, USA

Parkway Middle School, Kissamee FL

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