



Bilingual Multicultural
Education Program (BMEP)
Recognition Awards
2021



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award Schools

Albuquerque Public Schools

Superintendent: Scott Elder

Bilingual Multicultural Education (BME) Director: Jessica Villalobos

Coronado Dual Language Magnet School

Principal: Sandra L. Castro

In 2009, Coronado Elementary opened as a Dual Language Magnet school in the Barelás Community. As a Dual Language program, Coronado offers a two way immersion program for all students in an 80/20 model. Core content is taught in Spanish, as well as support classes such as Library, PE, and Garden. As a Magnet program, Coronado is completely free of address boundaries and students attend from all over the city. In the Fall of 2018, Coronado Elementary became the 1st Nationally Certified Magnet School in New Mexico, via a rigorous process through Magnet Schools of America.

The mission of Coronado Elementary School is to ensure that students will enrich their community and the world by ensuring success as biliterate, life-long learners. In order to develop this, we strive to provide opportunities for students to be able to see the value in their own language and culture as well as that of others through service learning and community service projects. As our program continues to grow, we look for more opportunities to ensure we are providing rigorous BMEP instruction to all of our students and it is a welcoming place for our entire community.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award Schools

Albuquerque Public Schools

Superintendent: Scott Elder

BME Director: Jessica Villalobos

Emerson Elementary

Principal: Renee Gallegos

Emerson Elementary School is part of a rich, vibrant community known as the International District in Albuquerque. Emerson serves families from diverse backgrounds, providing English language development and bilingual programming. We support our students by providing a Dual Language program using a 90/10 model to gradually build our student's skills and knowledge in Spanish and English. Within our 3-hour program we follow our Curriculum Alignment Plan, which guides our teachers. Our students receive Spanish Language Arts, English Language Development and another hour in the content area in Spanish. Our teachers use the current curriculum provided by the district, the Common Core standards, and methodologies and strategies that scaffold learning in two languages. Our goal is to have students who are bilingual and biliterate and able to perform proficiently in a global setting.

The family and community are viewed as active and involved members of our school. We see the family as the first teacher and we are here as the educators of Emerson to support the family in achieving their goals for their children. We have several family and community events throughout the year to help families connect to resources while maintaining a strong sense of belonging. It is our sole goal and purpose to help children become active and involved citizens of Albuquerque. We work collectively to support a strong foundation in language skills, the development of strong relationships, and the confidence to advocate for themselves. Instruction in a Dual Language setting is an important part of our work and what we do at Emerson.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award Schools

Albuquerque Public Schools

Superintendent: Scott Elder

BME Director: Jessica Villalobos

Eugene Field Elementary

Principal: Veronica Nolan

At Eugene Field Elementary Community School, we put children first and, as a community, we strive to achieve excellence together.

Our mission at Eugene Field Elementary Community School is to assist all children in becoming literate, successful, life-long learners reaching their highest potential as productive citizens.

When we teach each other, learn from each other, and help each other, together we grow!

Eugene Field Elementary Community School is located in the southeast area of Albuquerque, NM. Nestled in between the historic subdivisions of Huning Highland and South Broadway, Eugene Field has educated the children of its communities for over 90 years!

We educate children beginning with our Pre-Kindergarten all day program and continue up through fifth grade. Eugene Field is a Bilingual school using the Heritage Model to support the native languages of our English Learners.

Eugene Field Elementary is proud to participate in the only Community School Collaborative in the state of New Mexico. Along with the schools of Lew Wallace Elementary and Longfellow Elementary, we make up the Downtown Community Collaborative. All three schools are the hub for the combined communities and are committed to building relational capacity in order to create relationships that support our students and families so they may thrive collectively.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award Schools

Albuquerque Public Schools

Superintendent: Scott Elder

BME Director: Jessica Villalobos

Kit Carson Elementary

Principal: Cindy Rael

Nestled in the South Valley, rich with diversity and tradition, sits Kit Carson Elementary School. Offering a rigorous Dual Language program for grades K-5, our program provides multiple opportunities not only for academics, but also for students to develop social and emotional skills, communication skills, and friendships that last for years. We have had a stable program for almost 11 years. Our teachers collaborate and share ideas with each other, the community knows our teachers and communicates with the school, as our Administrator is Bilingual. We have multi-generational families that have been a part of our program. Our families join us at Cafecito, International Day, Bilingual Day. They are our watchdogs and sit on judging panels for the Bilingual Seal. This is what makes us special—the families.

Kit Carson's Dual Language program broadens students' perspectives, allowing students to achieve biliteracy through Dual Language immersion. We are currently on our 3rd year of offering the Bilingual Seal. We had one of our students win the District Spanish Spelling Bee last year. We also have a soccer team with one of our Dual Language teachers as the coach, and the love that the teachers have for the students is evident in their teaching and relationships with the families. Kit Carson is proud to serve our community, offering a wonderful Dual Language Program. We are humbled to be recognized for this award and look forward to continuing our program.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award Schools

Albuquerque Public Schools

Superintendent: Scott Elder

BME Director: Jessica Villalobos

Pajarito Elementary

Principal: Debbie Larribas

Pajarito Elementary is a 100% Title One school located in the southwest corner of Albuquerque, New Mexico. We have 309 students in grades kindergarten through fifth grade and an additional 67 students in pre-kindergarten. 34 percent of our students are second language learners, with Spanish being their first language. Pajarito has had a Dual Language class at each grade level, PreK through fifth, for 6 consecutive years. Our staff of dedicated teachers and educational assistants believe that fluency in multiple languages is an asset.

Pajarito aims to have our Dual Language students become bilingual and biliterate. Pre-Kindergarten students are taught 100% in Spanish with language supports for English speakers. By third grade our students receive half of their instructional content in Spanish and half in English. All of our Bilingual endorsed staff mentor students and offer supports in obtaining their Elementary Bilingual Seal. In school year 2019 -2020, 72% of our fifth grade Dual Language students met the requirements to receive their Seal. We are on track to have 100% of our students receive their Seal in school year 2020-2021.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award Schools

Gadsden Independent School District

Superintendent: Travis L. Dempsey

BME Director: Manuel Leyva

Chaparral Middle School

Principal: Rita Avila

The Chaparral Middle School focus is on our students' learning. We continue in our belief that all kids are OUR kids. Students' language learning is consistently addressed across all content areas. All teachers, administrators, and coaches have high expectations and focus on aligning Common Core State Standards, Next Generation Science Standards, Spanish Language Arts Standards, and WIDA English Language Development Standards with rigorous levels of instruction. Academic language development has been the focus across all content areas. We are aware of who our English Learners are, their proficiency levels, and their language domain strengths and challenges. We, teachers and administrators, along with our Instructional Coach, are committed to ALL students, and leverage student strengths to support growth. We embrace and value students and their families and make informed decisions that benefit each student as an individual.

Outcomes of state assessments show that our students have continued to make progress towards academic language development, which supports them in mastery of state standards. Our 7th and 8th graders have exceeded Spanish language proficiency expectations and score at or above district and state levels. Our use of resources, effective practices, and continued willingness to work together speaks to the strength and passion of this school and its leadership. There is a love and a passion that students feel at Chaparral Middle School (CMS). Our students are valued and the environment that is created is safe and loving. Our school culture is a benefit and strengthens learning. We have used student input to make our virtual learning environments comfortable. The CMS community is willing to take risks because they know that they are supported by our school and we can count on one another. Students have been given the opportunities to use technology tools to make language connections and to support them in making connections to their native language and building on their academic language in both English and Spanish. Through the difficulties of school closures, CMS continues to engage students, and we know how lucky we are to be a part of this small community "Con Corazón."



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award Schools

Gadsden Independent School District

Superintendent: Travis L. Dempsey

BME Director: Manuel Leyva

Gadsden Middle School

Principal: Veronica Quinonez

Gadsden Middle School (GMS) continues in the direction of validating and honoring students, their families, and their community. Teachers, administrators, and instructional coaches work together in professional learning communities (PLCs) to develop lessons that are aligned to grade-level standards. They focus on ACCESS data, state assessment data, and short cycle assessment data to determine the strengths and challenges of their students. Capitalizing on student strengths, GMS works collaboratively to create a positive school culture while building a culturally and linguistically responsive learning environment. They have implemented a new Dual Language program, the first secondary school in the Gadsden Independent School District to take on this opportunity. Continuing the Dual Language program gives students the opportunity to earn the New Mexico State Seal of Bilingualism and Biliteracy upon graduation and demonstrates how the school values the community's bilingual culture. This school's ability to plan for the long term success of students is what contributes to their BMEP effectiveness



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award School

Gadsden Independent School District

Superintendent: Travis L. Dempsey

BME Director: Manuel Leyva

Loma Linda Elementary

Principal: Crescencio Cardona

Loma Linda Elementary has not had a multi-year track record of consistent effectiveness until recently. Analyzing assessment data and working to target student needs has proven successful. School-wide interventions leading our English learner students to English language acquisition and working with the Phonemic Awareness in the lower grades will continue to promote success throughout the school. The district training of teachers and instructional coaches, as well as the professional support of Dr. Antonio Fierro, will lead to greater success as we transition to the Dual Language Program in the coming years.

Loma Linda works with all stakeholders. Parental involvement through our Family Engagement Team has been quite effective through the years. Parental involvement has not diminished during the difficulties of remote learning, but flourished with virtual Open House, Coffee with the Principal, and Academic Nights. Flexibility has been key to much of our success. Looking forward, face-to-face instruction will solidify our efforts to bring students to success, as we work with the community and push forward.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award Schools

Gadsden Independent School District

Superintendent: Travis L. Dempsey

BME Director: Manuel Leyva

Sunland Park Elementary

Principal: Maria Barraza

The mission of the Sunland Park Elementary Transitional Bilingual Model is to develop creative, lifelong learners who work collaboratively and contribute to the community. The goal for Sunland Park Elementary is to provide students with the opportunity to become bilingual and biliterate and develop multicultural awareness. Sunland Park Elementary School acknowledges that in order to achieve academic success, students need both a means to acquire content-related knowledge and a means to achieve proficiency in English and Spanish. The goal is for all bilingual participants to attain language proficiency and meet academic content standards and benchmarks in all subject areas. Through the development of students' primary language, students learn to value their cultural background. As they communicate across language barriers, students also learn to respect and appreciate the diversity of other people and cultures. At Sunland Park Elementary, administration, teachers, and staff are committed to providing learning opportunities for all. The students' and families' cultures are reflected in curriculum and teacher-student interactions, which creates a healthy school environment that honors the various cultural and linguistic identities of the students. Students come from primarily working-class backgrounds and many of parents work two jobs. Sunland Park Elementary believes the Transitional Bilingual Model will help empower bilingual families to be active in their children's education.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award Schools

Santa Fe Public Schools

Superintendent: Dr. Veronica Garcia

BME Director: Lisa Vigil

Capital High School

Principal: Jaime Holladay

Capital High School in Santa Fe, NM offers a Heritage Bilingual program led by Principal Jaime Holladay. The Heritage program is available for students in grades 9th - 12th. Capital High School validates and affirms all students' languages and cultures. The rigorous program provides students with the tools necessary for success in post secondary pursuits. Capital High School is an AVID National Demonstration School and works to integrate AVID throughout the school and in all classrooms. Capital High School has implemented a mentorship program, in collaboration with Earthcare and Poder Familiar, for newcomers. English learners have participated in a community-based project that was presented to the Mayor and City Council of Santa Fe. Most recently, three different student groups—Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), and Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)—have collaborated with a nonprofit to produce bilingual Public Service Announcements (PSAs) focused on combating COVID-19.

Capital High School continues to graduate high numbers of Seniors that attain the State Seal of Bilingualism and Biliteracy (SSBB). In 2015 Capital High School graduated 20 students with the SSBB and in 2020-2021 the school plans to graduate 82 Seniors with the SSBB. The growth reflects an increased awareness and value of bilingualism within the school community.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Recognition Award Schools

Santa Fe Public Schools

Superintendent: Dr. Veronica Garcia

BME Director: Lisa Vigil

César Chávez Elementary

Principal: Amanda Chavez

César Chávez Elementary in Santa Fe, NM is an 80/20 Dual Language bilingual program led by Principal Amanda Chavez. The Dual Language program is available in grades Prek - 5th grade. César Chávez Elementary is committed to multicultural and rigorous education while developing confidence, independence, academic excellence and personal growth in the classroom. César Chávez Elementary embraces students' diversity and prepares students to become global citizens. César Chávez Elementary will continue to provide an enriching bilingual program dedicated to the culturally and linguistically diverse population it serves.

Parents play an active role in the César Chávez Elementary community. César Chávez Elementary started a group called "Abriendo Puertas" where parents receive instruction on becoming leaders in their own community and how to advocate for their children's education.





Bilingual Multicultural
Education Program (BMEP)
Excellence Awards
2021

Awarded for maintaining consistent
performance over the course of multiple years



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Excellence Award Schools

Albuquerque Public Schools

Superintendent: Scott Elder

BME Director: Jessica Villalobos

Albuquerque High School

Principal: Ryan Homistek

Albuquerque High School (AHS) is a comprehensive high school of approximately 1,800 students. The AHS student body reflects the multi-ethnic mix that typifies the state. Because the school is the oldest school in the district, it enjoys a strong heritage of tradition and community support. It is situated on the same campus as the district's Career Enrichment Center and Early College Academy, which offer advanced courses in science, modern language, and computer technology, as well as skills training in selected areas. The school population represents a variety of educational and socio-economic backgrounds.

At Albuquerque High, students have the opportunity to take Advanced Placement® coursework and exams. As a result of these opportunities and our students' achievements, US News and World Report ranked AHS as the comprehensive school with the highest level of College and Career Readiness in APS. In 2019, AHS increased graduation rates to 72.9%, scored at the 90th percentile in College Level Exams, and has the highest pass rates in Albuquerque Public Schools for AP Spanish Language, AP Calculus AB, and AP Calculus BC. The Embassy of Spain in the U.S. has recognized AHS as the best high school in the U.S. for Bilingual Spanish Education. For several recent years, AHS has had a higher percentage of Ivy League college acceptances than any other APS high school. Albuquerque High School is proud to have graduated 65 students with the Bilingual State Seal and 58 with the APS Bilingual Seal in 2019-20.

The Albuquerque High School Bilingual Program Advisory Committee operates under the following mission:

To offer and promote to all AHS students' equitable access to our bilingual education programs. With the support and advocacy of AHS and its community partners, the Bilingual, Dual Language and English Language Learning Programs will use culturally relevant and diverse instructional strategies and data to increase student achievement and develop a bilingual, bi-literate, multicultural community. Students will be empowered with a strong cultural identity and global awareness that will reflect throughout our school and impact our society.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Excellence Award Schools

Albuquerque Public Schools

Superintendent: Scott Elder

BME Director: Jessica Villalobos

Dolores Gonzales Elementary

Principal: Lori Stuit

Para lograr que nuestros estudiantes sean bilingües y bilingües, DG provee una enseñanza 70/30 (k-1) y 50/50 (2-5). Además, ofrecemos intervenciones de apoyo a los estudiantes que lo requieran en ambos idiomas. DG trata de mantener la diversidad cultural, a través de actividades extra curriculares culturales como los grupos de baile Folklórico, guitarra, baile latino, mariachi, y teatro. Invitamos a artistas de la comunidad a presentar en la escuela, y ahora durante el tiempo virtual nuestros niños han sido invitados a ver presentaciones de arte y cultura virtual. También involucramos a la comunidad en eventos culturales como “Un libro una escuela” en los dos idiomas y el concurso nacional de deletreo en español. Los estudiantes de 5to grado participan el programa del “Sello Bilingüe”. Nuestro comité de padres bilingües BPAC promueve eventos como El Día de los Muertos y otras presentaciones culturales. El personal de DG somos anfitriones de los visitantes nacionales e internacionales del evento anual “La Cosecha”.

Dolores Gonzales uses a 70/30 model for K-1 and 50/50 for grades 2-5 to support students on their journey of becoming bilingual and biliterate. We offer academic support and interventions in both languages. We support cultural diversity through extra-curricular cultural activities such as Folklórico dance, guitar, latin dance, mariachi, and theater clubs. We host community artists who perform for students, and during virtual instruction students have been able to attend concerts and museums remotely. We involve our community in cultural events such as “One Book, One School,” where all families are reading the same book in English and/or Spanish together. Students participate in the Spanish Spelling Bee, and our 5th grade students have been participating in the Bilingual Seal program. Our Bilingual Parent Advisory group supports special events such as El Día de los Muertos and other cultural presentations. Dolores Gonzales has hosted visitors each year from other states and countries attending La Cosecha conference.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Excellence Award Schools

Albuquerque Public Schools

Superintendent: Scott Elder

BME Director: Jessica Villalobos

West Mesa High School

Principal: Mark Garcia

Established in 1967, West Mesa High School is located on Albuquerque's West Mesa and serves nearly 1,700 students. We have a rich history of academic, extracurricular, co-curricular, and cultural excellence.

Our motto is "Knowledge today, success tomorrow." We inspire academic achievement by building a community of lifelong learners and creating opportunities for success through learning achievement.

West Mesa students come from various backgrounds. Our student body includes 375 English Language Learners and serves 619 students in our heritage model bilingual program. We offer home language support with Spanish for Heritage Speakers and Spanish Language Arts. Our students come from primarily a working class background and many of our parents work two jobs. In addition, about 40% of our student population works in order to help provide for their families.

Our Bilingual Program strives to graduate students who are bilingual, biliterate and culturally competent so that they are college and career ready. Our goal is to create a rigorous program as well as provide mentorship for bilingual students. West Mesa works to make personal connections with students, which in turn, boosts graduation rates. One way we accomplish this is through Escuela de Padres. Escuela de Padres is a monthly meeting where parents and students explore various school- and family-related topics. The meetings are conducted bilingually. We believe this program will support our capacity to empower our bilingual families to be active in their children's education.

Finally, we are very proud of our bilingual seal program. In the quest to obtain the seal of Bilingualism and Biliteracy, students take a total of 16 courses in 4 key areas and they must maintain a minimum of a 2.0 grade point average in each category. The program is flexible and each program of study is individual to every student. During their senior year, a bilingual seal candidate must prepare and present a bilingual portfolio to a committee. When students demonstrate their bilingualism, biliteracy and cultural competence, they are awarded the Albuquerque Public School's seal of Bilingualism and Biliteracy.



Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Excellence Award Schools

Albuquerque Public Schools

Superintendent: Scott Elder

BME Director: Cynthia Pefrotty

New Mexico International School

Principal: Todd Knouse

New Mexico International School (NMIS) is a locally-chartered school, established in 2011 as a K-5 elementary school. We are authorized by the local school district in which we reside – Albuquerque Public Schools. There is no tuition, nor are there attendance areas in which families are required to live. Because we are a charter, we are a school of choice. Everyone here, from the employees to the families, is here because of a conscious decision.

Recently we expanded our program to include middle school; this year we moved up to seventh grade, and eighth grade will happen the following year. Our academic program is one of rigor. Our drive is for children to push the educational process through inquiry-based education. Additionally, the school has an academic goal for all students to exit the program in eighth grade bilingual and bi-literate in Spanish and English and with a conversational level of Arabic. To this end, our students are taught in an “immersion” environment. Students in K-8th are taught all their subjects in Spanish, even though our students are mostly native English speakers. Students are introduced to the Arabic language in 4th grade and will continue through middle school. Students progressing through our middle school have certain subjects taught in English, and some in Spanish, but all at a high level of academic language proficiency.

Our school is one of a small handful of World Schools, an authorized International Baccalaureate. This means that our students will be exposed to a global curriculum. Our staff members promote an awareness of various customs around the world. We encourage our students and families toward cultural and religious tolerance, as well as ecological responsibility. The parents/guardians of our students are expected to support this agenda. Regardless of the language abilities of our parents/guardians, it is expected that multiculturalism and multilingualism is promoted in the home. NMIS places high value on the arts. Our students receive violin lessons twice a week from a violin teacher, licensed in Suzuki-method violin instruction. Additionally, our students receive twice-weekly visual arts instruction from a licensed art teacher.

We are an incredible school community, held together by our common values described above. We offer a program that is on-par or superior to many services available only to gifted programs and private schools.

Bilingual Multicultural Education Program Excellence Award Schools

Ruidoso Municipal Schools

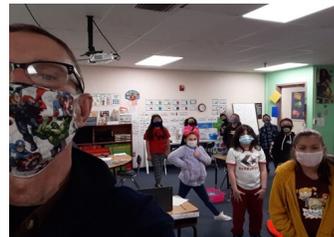
Superintendent: Dr. George Bickert

BME Director: Mayra Lucero

White Mountain Elementary

Principal: Rebecca Ferguson

White Mountain Elementary strives for high achievement, good citizenship, pride and accomplishment through rigorous instruction and assessment. Students enrolled in the Dual Language program at White Mountain Elementary develop positive attitudes about other language and cultural backgrounds as well as positive attitudes towards themselves as learners. The dual language educational experience at White Mountain Elementary produces students who feel comfortable with speaking the second language and interacting with members of other ethno-cultural groups. Research states, “bilingual children have stronger and more flexible cognitive abilities,” and our students at White Mountain Elementary exhibit these qualities in that they solve logical problems and multi-task in various academic requirements. White Mountain Elementary will continue to value the heritage language and the identity of our students as we keep evolving in the virtual and hybrid learning settings.





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