

TECHNOLOGY & EDUCATION EQUITY

At FLA, our goal is prepare students for the modern world through an increased focus on technology. At the beginning of each school year, every student is equipped with a laptop or other digital device in order to ensure they are fluent in technology by the time they move on to their next educational home.



Teachers utilize technology in project-based curriculum, blended learning environments and other creative teaching styles.

At FLA, we're more than just a school, we have built a family culture where multiple family members attend kindergarten through eighth grade. While we have high expectations for all students, our team has created an environment where ALL of our students grow and flourish. Our diverse student population offers students exposure to a variety of ethnicities and backgrounds of families from all across the Kansas City area. Our teachers embrace this diversity to creatively engage their students, providing an excellent educational experience.



3450 Warwick Blvd. Kansas City, Missouri 64111

(816) 418-6000

www.KCPublicSchools.org/FLA

Facebook: KCPSFLA

Twitter: KCPS_FL A



DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP INNOVATION

Kansas City's only Mandarin Chinese & Spanish Language Immersion School



Foreign Language Academy

Serving students kindergarten through eighth grade



ABOUT FLA

Serving students
Kindergarten thru
Eighth Grade

Bell Times:
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

KCPS Zone:
FLA is a signature
school. Any student
within the KCPS
boundary may apply.

Uniforms:
Solid white, black, red,
gray, light blue or navy
blue polos with short
or long-sleeves (must
have a collar).

Black, tan (khaki) or
navy blue pants, skirt,
jumper or shorts. No
denim is allowed.

At Foreign Language Academy, our goal is to deliver a **world-class educational experience** in Kansas City. A Kindergarten through eighth grade program, FLA currently offers the only Spanish and Mandarin Chinese immersion program in the metro.

As a family-based school, FLA offers a variety of programs, sports and activities to our students. With an internationally-diverse staff, FLA students excel beyond traditional urban limits to experience exceptional learning and academic success.

WHY LANGUAGE IMMERSION?

Immersion education is a method of instruction in which the regular school curriculum is taught in the target language (Spanish or Mandarin Chinese). The foreign language is the vehicle for instruction; it is not the subject of instruction. Beginning in kindergarten, teachers and students communicate in the target foreign language. It quickly becomes second nature.

Immersion is the best way for a student to become fluent in a foreign language. It opens the door to other cultures. In addition, early exposure to a second language enhances a child's understanding of English.

Bilingual students have multiple advantages, no matter the language. Research indicates early age proficiency in a second language enhances a child's cognitive ability, improves overall school performance and gives a student a competitive advantage in high school, college and the workforce.

SCHOOL EVENTS

At FLA, our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is very active and invite all parents to join the fun! Our PTO meets monthly and plans a variety of activities and events for students over the course of the year. From arts night to National Junior Honor Society, FLA offers a variety of opportunities for students and families to come together after school hours.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Who can attend FLA?

A: Any student who lives within the Kansas City Public Schools attendance boundary and meets the school's enrollment requirements can attend a Signature School.

Q: How do I fulfill the additional admission requirements?

A: Once you have submitted your enrollment application, call the school office to schedule a time to complete the admission requirements.

Q: Can my student enroll in FLA at any grade level?

A: Students may enter FLA at Kindergarten and first grade. After first grade, students must demonstrate proficiency at grade level in Spanish or Mandarin Chinese.

FLA ATHLETICS

Foreign Language Academy is proud to provide a variety of different girls and boys sports for our middle school students throughout the school year. Each of our scholar athletes are challenged to perform both on and off the field, dedicating time to his/her studies and sport, as well as donating time to community service.

FLA's Sports:

- Girls Volleyball
- Cross Country
- Boys Soccer
- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball
- Girls Soccer
- Track





THE MISSION OF

Foreign Language Academy is to empower students to be independent, life-long learners who take initiative to solve local and global problems. Our community creates a multilingual learning environment which emphasizes inquiry, leadership and critical thinking.



CREATING LEADERS

The goal of FLA's International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program along with the Leader In Me program is to go beyond just teaching to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who are motivated to become tomorrow's leaders.

We aim to develop students who think critically and are prepared for tomorrow's global economy. By providing programs that offer students essential life skills and leadership characteristics, students can help build a better world through inter-cultural understanding and accountability.

Students learn how to learn

Students develop unique approaches to learning skills that help them take responsibility for their own education and understand how knowledge itself is constructed. They are encouraged to try different approaches to learning and to take responsibility for their own academic progress.

FLA students are encouraged to:

- Think independently and drive their own learning
- Ask challenging questions and think critically
- Develop critical research skills
- Become accountable for their actions and educational success

SCHOOL EVENTS:

PTO Meeting

Chinese New Year Celebration

Hispanic Heritage Month Program

Arts Night

Talent Show

Black History Month Celebration

National Junior Honor Society Induction



STUDENT LIFE

Challenging tomorrow's leaders with IB

By providing an academically rigorous education in a unique language immersion program, we challenge and nurture our students.

FLA is an official International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Program (K-5) and Middle Years Program (6-8) candidate school in the metropolitan area. Designed to foster creativity in learners, IB students are part of a global learning community where critical thinking skills are nurtured along with a positive classroom culture.

A family-based school

Joining FLA provides families with the ability to choose one school for their student's elementary and middle school education. Students join FLA in kindergarten and grow their way through their eighth grade year.

As a middle school, FLA offers a variety of school sports including girls volleyball, girls and boys basketball as well as soccer, cross country and more. Plus, FLA offers performing arts for our middle school students with band, choir and debate.

Ready for the next step

Every classroom within FLA prepares the student for the next step in his/her education journey. Children who learn in a comprehensive foreign-language environment consistently outperform their peers and excel in communication, critical thinking and creativity. Students leave FLA prepared to move on to their choice of high schools including Missouri's top high school, Lincoln College Prep Academy.

Spanish & Mandarin Chinese Immersion

IB Candidate School

Debate

Middle School Sports

National Junior Honor Society

Band

Choir

First Lego League Robotics Program

Chess Club

Free Before & After School Care

Composting/ Recycling Initiative



SPANISH & MANDARIN CHINESE IMMERSION

We are the premier Spanish and Mandarin Chinese language immersion program in Kansas City. We have developed a program that will help prepare our students for success learning a second language, as well as in their academic career.

Studies have shown that the brain of a young child has several areas active in language acquisition. Not only are they able to quickly pick up the second language, learning Spanish or Chinese assists in their understanding of English grammar.

Giving students a head start

Spanish and Mandarin Chinese immersion students at FLA are adaptable and ready to interact successfully with a wide variety of people. Children who learn in a full foreign language environment consistently outperform their peers. They excel at communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity. Students from FLA consistently rank number one in the end-of-course Algebra I tests as well as lead the way in other traditional academic rankings.

Along with the academic benefits, learning a foreign language creates an exceptional cultural awareness of others. Providing exposure to a second language at an early age often leads to a more open and diverse global view later in life. Developing globally conscious citizens is an important part of FLA's mission.

How does it work?

Immersion is a method of instruction where regular school curriculum is taught in the target language. Using gestures, pictures and games, the teacher shows the young students how to make the connection between the object and the new word.

Through the target language, the kindergarten student will acquire reading and language, math and social studies skills. As students continue to hear the foreign language, they will begin using their target foreign language words, phrases and sentences in every day curriculum.

Spanish Immersion

Spanish is an important language within our country. A language spoken from the streets of Madrid to the foothills of the Andes, Spanish is one of the most popular languages for children in the U.S. to learn today. Plus, a rising number of employers prefer individuals who can speak Spanish fluently.

At FLA, Spanish is the language of instruction for all classroom instruction (except for specials). The curriculum is aligned with that of KCPS and FLA students often exceed these standards.

Each year, eighth grade Spanish students fundraise throughout the year to help support a trip to Costa Rica. This provides students with an extraordinary experience outside the country as well as an opportunity to utilize their language skills in everyday life.

Mandarin Chinese Immersion

While English and Spanish are the two most popularly spoken languages in the USA, Chinese is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. Of the Chinese dialects, Mandarin is spoken as a first language in a vast area of northern and southwestern mainland China.

As companies continue to grow from local businesses to global organizations, international businesses prefer to hire people who speak more than one language. China has become a huge market, and business leaders are looking for people who can speak Chinese and operate successfully in a Chinese cultural context.

At FLA, Mandarin Chinese is the language of instruction for all classroom instruction (except for specials). The curriculum is aligned with that of KCPS and FLA students often exceed these standards.

