



February 2025

EHS February 2026 Senior Spotlight: Meet Emily Guzman-Solares



If you could use one word to describe yourself, what would that word be?

One word that truly describes me is passionate. When I participate in anything and acquire an interest, I become fully invested in it. I have never just liked something; I love everything that I do.

As you start your second and final semester of high school, your schedule includes the course, “Student Voices in Action”. Why did you choose this class?

This class was one of the recommended classes to take for my career path. I’m hoping this class will reinforce my love for civil engagement. Plus, I also love Ms.

Chiavuzzo. She is an excellent teacher who reinforced my love for learning. I am excited to be part of this hands-on, interactive class with my peers and see what I learn and accomplish.

Did you know that February 20, 2026, is World Day of Social Justice? Does this day have any meaning to you? The Theme for 2026 is “Empowering Inclusion: Bridging Gaps for Social Justice.”

Yes, World Day of Social Justice is important to me. The 2026 theme resonates with me not only due to the current political issues but the struggles many communities and minorities have faced historically. This day is a reminder of the importance of equality, and creating opportunities for everyone, no matter their background.

Do you have a favorite subject?

English and history have always been tied for first place. My love for English has much to do with my struggles to learn it as a second language at a young age. That might seem confusing, but, to me it signifies the challenges I overcame and the outcome I came to love. Now I’m an excellent writer and have many essays and pieces I proudly let people read—it’s a way to explore ideas, tell stories, and express myself. History is just as important because I love learning about the past and understanding the stories, struggles, and achievements that shape the world we live in today.

Who is your favorite teacher and why?

I don’t have just one favorite teacher, but many. The teachers I hold dear to my heart all have an amazing ability to make each subject engaging and meaningful; it’s something I truly admire and will always appreciate. So here are my favorite teachers in no particular order: Mr. Hammer, Mr. Ballek, Sra.

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Rivera, Mrs. Hammer, and Mrs. Drum. They are truly the best educators out there. These teachers have truly impacted my high school experience, each teaching me unique lessons that have shaped who I am and will continue to guide me long after graduation.

What activities do you participate in at school?

Oh gosh, where to start? I am very involved in school, and I enjoy staying active in my school community. I am the President of Ewing High School's Key Club, Co-Vice President of Student Council, and Co-Vice President of Rotary Interact Club. I also serve as the Events Coordinator for the Black Student Alliance and am an active member of the Yearbook Club. I am also a proud member of the National Honor Society. In addition to my leadership roles in clubs, I am a two-sport varsity athlete. In the fall, I dedicate my time to field hockey, where I served as a team captain during my last season, and in the spring, I play lacrosse, a sport that has become a huge part of my high school experience.

What awards or acknowledgments have you received in school or outside of school?

To start my senior year, I was named September Student of the Month. During my junior year, I received an award for being the Most Improved Player and third lead scorer on my lacrosse team, as well as an award for Outstanding Achievement in the Yearbook Club.



What accomplishments are you most proud of?

I am most proud of accumulating over 300 hours of community service. Reaching this milestone has been incredibly rewarding, and I am still actively involved in volunteering. Through my service, I've had the opportunity to help a variety of causes, connect with different people, and see the real impact of giving back. Community service has taught me the importance of empathy, and it reinforced my decision to run for Key Club president.

What is your favorite memory of high school to date?

My favorite memory of high school to date has to be when I scored three goals in lacrosse against one of our school's rival teams; that was great. Senior Sunrise is also a great memory that makes me incredibly happy.

Who or what has positively impacted your life?

My mother, Celia Solares, has had an incredibly positive impact on my life. She has been my strongest support, often behind the scenes, providing strength in moments when I didn't even realize I needed it. Playing sports has also shaped my life in a meaningful way. Whether I'm low to the ground gripping my hockey stick or leaping into the air to catch a ball in lacrosse, I feel completely free—free from the

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pressures of academics, home life, extracurriculars, and other stresses. On the field, I can focus, push myself, and simply enjoy the moment, which has taught me discipline and the importance of doing some things I truly love.



How do you define success?

Defining success is crucial in reaching your own goals, because everyone has their own definition. My definition of success isn't loud or out there; it's to simply be content, to live a life where I couldn't, by any means necessary, ask for or want more.

What are your plans after you graduate from Ewing High School?

I plan to attend a 4-year college and pursue my passion for law and criminology. In the future, I will further my education as I plan to attend law school.

What is your favorite quote or book?

One of my favorite quotes is, "If you walk the footsteps of a stranger, you'll learn things you never knew, you never knew." - *Pocahontas*

This quote reminds me that everyone has their own story, experiences, and perspective. No matter how different we may be, we are all human. I pride myself in taking the time to understand and build empathy for others. The movie *Pocahontas* also touches on topics that have meaning to me, such as cultural understanding and history.

What are your hopes and dreams?

One of my biggest hopes and dreams, while commonly talked about, is traveling. I've never hoped for something more than to own a map of the world filled with pins marking the places I've been.

Tell us something about yourself that your peers don't know... only if you would like to share.

Something my peers don't know about me is that I've read a total of 439 books from my freshman year to date!

Lastly, you are a role model for your younger twin brothers, who are in eighth grade at Fisher Middle School. What words of wisdom do you have for them as they continue to pursue their own interests and educational journey?

The biggest piece of advice I would give them, besides all the things I've already lectured them about, is to truly pursue their own personal interests. Even though they are twins and best friends, they are still two different individuals, and it's important for each of them to discover what they're passionate about

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and follow their own paths. It's completely okay if those paths look different. And, of course, keep playing sports!



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