Newcomer Academy

at Newbury Park High School

DELAC Presentation
March 29, 2022

Steve Lepire, Principal
Norma Lopez-Magana, Social Worker
Edith Cortes, Counselor
Julieta Rodriguez Martinez, Teacher

CVUSD FORWARD
Newbury Park · Thousand Oaks · Westlake Village

Acknowledgements

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- Mr. Alejandro Fernandez, Bilingual History Teacher
- Ms. Jennifer Best, Math Teacher
- Mr. John Abney, English Teacher
- Ms. Erin Fay Stillwagon, Science Teacher
- Mr. Michael Contreras, History Teacher
- Ms. Kylene Hatton, Math Teacher
- Ms. Edith Cortes, Bilingual Counselor
- Ms. Norma Lopez-Magana, Bilingual Social Worker
- Ms. Julie Tan, Bilingual Facilitator
- Ms. Azaybath Gonzalez Vazquez, Bilingual Paraeducator
- Mr. Jared Martinez, Bilingual Paraeducator
- Ms. Icela Sabory, Bilingual Counseling Secretary

Presentation Outline

- Acknowledgements
- Newcomer Definition
- Why a Newcomer “Academy”
- How Students are Identified, Informed and Enrolled
- Current Enrollment
- Sample Academy Schedule
- Parent/Guardian Outreach and Support
- Testimonials
- Success Metrics
- Questions

Newcomer Definition

- “Newcomer is an umbrella term for foreign-born students who have recently arrived in the United States. Newcomer students may include, but are not limited to, asylees, refugees, unaccompanied youth, undocumented youth, migratory students, and other immigrant children and youth identified by the local educational agencies. Newcomer students come from many different countries and diverse cultural backgrounds. These students come to school with various levels of education experiences and speak a variety of languages, which may or may not include English.” (California Department of Education (CDE))

Why a Newcomer “Academy”

- Centralize services and supports to maximize resources for students and families
  - Smaller class sizes
  - Specific scheduling cohorts
  - Bilingual teachers and paraeducators
  - Bilingual Social Worker
  - Community outreach and resources (e.g. housing, medical, food)
  - Targeted interventions
  - Targeted presentations and trainings
  - Focus on “wrap around” with students and families - beyond academics
  - Integrated supports in non-ELD required courses
- Create a community with the students and families
  - Examples of International Holiday Celebration with families prior to winter break
  - Share resources between and among families
- “Academy” allows for reduced graduation credits for those newly arrived to U.S. as juniors and seniors or a 5th year of high school.

How Students are Identified, Informed and Enrolled

- A newcomer student is a student who has been in the U.S. 2 years or less and is at Level 1 (Beginning) in learning English
- Information flyers highlighting the benefits of enrolling in the Newcomer Academy are provided to the student and their parents/guardians upon enrollment in their neighborhood high school
- HS Counselor and Academy Social Worker meet with family to talk about the Newcomer resources, supports and services
- Families can opt-in to the Academy
- Students at WHS and TOHS who opt-in to Academy are provided with free transportation
- Students can return to their neighborhood school after 2 years in the Academy, or are welcome to remain at NPHS after if they choose
- Continuous enrollment possible throughout the year

Current Enrollment

High School	Total Newcomers by Neighborhood School	Opted to Enroll in Academy
Newbury Park High School	38	37
Thousand Oaks High School	19	10
Westlake High School	6	3
Century High School	0	0
Totals	63	50

Newcomer Academy Sample Schedule

- Sample Newcomer Schedule
  - English Language Development (ELD) 1
  - English 9 CP
  - Integrated ELD Algebra 1
  - PE 10-12
  - Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English (SDAIE) Social Science or SDAIE Biology
  - Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Elective
- Tutoring Services
  - Targeted tutoring services available specifically for newcomer students during lunch time. As an incentive, our social worker has made special arrangements with the cafeteria staff where she picks up the student lunches so students do not have to wait in line to get their lunch. Tutoring is provided by student peers who are fluent in Spanish.

Parent/Guardian and Family Outreach and Supports

- The Newcomer Academy's social worker works individually with all Newcomer families to identify and connect much needed resources and supports (i.e. housing, access to food, medical, dental, community resources, etc.).

- Academic/Attendance/Student Wellness related home visits have been made to ensure parents are made aware of the school concerns. These visits are made when communication via other means has been unsuccessful.

- Newcomer Parent Meetings
  - Newcomer Families Meeting - August 11, 2021
    - Information was provided to parents/students about the Newcomer Academy program and support services. Newcomer staff was introduced to all families. The meeting ended with school tours.
  - Newcomer/ELAC Parent Meeting - October 21, 2021
    - This meeting focused on technology and parents were provided assistance on how to connect to Q.
  - In partnership with ELAC and the CVUSD Parent Outreach program, newcomer parents are personally invited to attend these meetings that have presented on topics such as community resources, CANVAS support and family-school communication.

Social Worker Testimonial

Norma Lopez-Magaña

Teacher Testimonial

Julieta Rodriguez-Martinez

Student Testimonial

[redacted]

NEWBURY PARK

HIGH SCHOOL

[redacted]

Sherly Santos

Academy Success Metrics

- To determine if the Academy is serving the intended purpose, the following metrics are monitored and will inform end-of-year decisions:
  - Enrollment
    - How many students opt-in compared to total District enrollment
  - Daily attendance rates
  - Graduation rates (Including students who qualified for AB 2121 for credit reduction)
  - Grades and work production
  - Family engagement
  - Staff input (e.g. have access to necessary materials, trainings, etc.)

Questions?