



DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

THINK FOR MYSELF - THINK ABOUT OTHERS - THINK BEYOND TODAY

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



We are off to a wonderful start to the 2026–2027 school year at LILA! As I reflect on these first several weeks, I am grateful for the opportunity to serve a community of dedicated students, families, and staff that make LILA a special place.

There are so many great things happening throughout LILA. Our students are settling into their routines and embracing the learning that happens both inside and outside the classroom. A strong focus on language acquisition and the IB Attributes is evident throughout our school. We are encouraging students to be curious, thoughtful, reflective, open-minded, and willing to take risks as learners—skills that will serve them well far beyond their years at LILA.

As I continue to learn more about LILA's traditions, strengths, and the people who make our school community thrive, I am excited to continue the ongoing development and focus on making our mission and vision a reality. Each day brings new opportunities to listen, learn, connect, and better understand the many ways our community comes together to support our students. I look forward to partnering with all of you as we continue on this journey together!

NEW MATH CURRICULUM

LILA has adopted a new math curriculum to align to the new Minnesota math standards and to improve our overall district outcomes in math. After a thorough review of math curriculums we have chosen to start using REVEAL math. Staff will be rolling out the curriculum throughout the year.

ALEKS online programming available at home to continue to expand math skills.



ADVANCED LEARNERS SUPPORT

At LILA, we believe that Advanced Learners:

- Come from all racial, ethnic, and cultural populations, as well as all economic strata.
- Require sufficient access to appropriate learning opportunities to realize their potential.
- Can have learning and processing disorders that require specialized intervention and accommodation.
- Need support and guidance to develop socially and emotionally, as well as in their areas of talent.
- Require varied services based on their changing needs.

CHECK OUT OUR
PLAN HERE

DISCOVER HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



LILA Foundation

LILA Foundation shares a vision for strengthening the school's future and expanding opportunities for students and educators by maintaining an endowment that supports educational excellence and long-term growth.



LILA PTO

Parents come together to provide support by volunteering, fundraising for programs, equipment, and supplies, and participating in a variety of community-building activities. Joining gives parents an opportunity to meet other parents and contribute to the success of Lower School and Kinder Center.



LILA Booster Club

The LILA Booster Club is the parent-led 501(c)(3) behind Arts, Activities, and Athletics in grades 6-12. They raise funds, launch new programs, and show up so every Dragon can play, perform, and belong.



LILA Advocates

Advocates come together and share their experience, expertise, and perspective in a variety of formal and informal settings. The focus is a strong desire to help LILA succeed through advocacy at the state legislature.

GET INVOLVED HERE

Sign up to be a part of one of these groups or choose to volunteer at an event at least two times throughout the year.



LILA STRATEGIC PLAN

As a community, we will continue to work on a new strategic plan throughout this school year. This will be an important opportunity for us to listen to our community, reflect on where we are today, and thoughtfully consider where we want LILA to go in the future. Our goal is to build on the many strengths of LILA while ensuring that our priorities continue to support student achievement, language acquisition, inquiry, belonging, and our commitment to developing globally minded citizens.

Keep an eye out for upcoming surveys and community listening sessions throughout the year!

SEE THE **2022-2027**
STRATEGIC PLAN HERE

MINNESOTA PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND

All public schools receive money from the MN Permanent School Fund - this is an established trust fund that has not tax implications. This November there will be a ballot question to increase the money schools will receive. Learn more and make sure you vote to support all public school students!

What is the MN Permanent School Fund?

MN-PSF **VIDEO** HERE

MN-PSF **FAQ'S** HERE

LILA IN THE COMMUNITY & NEWS

Lakes International Language Academy receives another Best High Schools award from the US News & World Report! LILA Upper School is rated the 15th-best high school in Minnesota.



Lakes International Language Academy has been nominated for the Business Innovation Award through the Forest Lake Chamber of Commerce for the Dominican Republic Environmental Leadership Trip.

MEET OUR LANGUAGE AMBASSADORS



CARLOS

El Salvador
First



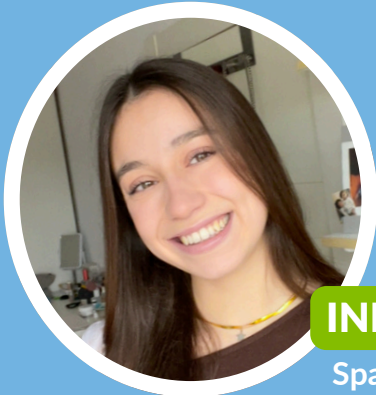
CARLOTA

Spain
Kindergarten



FEI

China
Kindergarten



INÉS

Spain
Kindergarten



KAREN

El Salvador
Kindergarten



RICARDO

Spain
Kindergarten



GAO XING

China
Fourth

LILA's Language Ambassadors are student teachers who bring authentic Spanish, Chinese, and cultural experiences into our immersion classrooms while supporting teachers and students. Their presence gives LILA students more opportunities to practice language, build confidence, and connect with the world around them.

LEARN MORE ABOUT
LANGUAGE AMBASSADORS HERE