

Nuestro Mundo Community School *A Progress Report*

Presented by:

- Gary Diaz Zehrbach, NMCS Principal
- Martin Scanlan, NMCS Planner & NMI Board Member
- Jane Belmore, Asst. Superintendent
- Jennie Allen, Lead Principal
- Chris Hodge, Frank Allis Principal

10/18/04



NUESTRO MUNDO & FRANK ALLIS

What an amazing start we've had this year! We welcome the partnership of Nuestro Mundo Community School which is embedded in the Frank Allis School Community. We will continue the collaborative effort to further strengthen this partnership. Welcome Nuestro Mundo!



A PROMISING PARTNERSHIP 2004-2005

Message from the Principal of Nuestro Mundo:

"We are fortunate to be embedded within Frank Allis Elementary School. The staff at Allis has warmly welcomed us. We feel that the relationship between NMCS and Allis has been, and will continue to be fruitful."

CHRIS HODGE, PRINCIPAL
FRANK ALLIS ELEMENTARY

GARY DIAZ ZEHRBACH, PRINCIPAL
NUESTRO MUNDO COMMUNITY SCHOOL

GOALS

- 1) CONTINUE TO BUILD UPON A POSITIVE PARENT - SCHOOL RELATIONSHIP
- 2) CREATE A LEARNING ENVIRONMENT THAT IS SAFE FOR ALL CHILDREN
- 3) CONTINUE TO ENGAGE EVERYONE IN THE EXCITING PROCESS OF LEARNING
- 4) CONTINUE TO MAKE AND SUSTAIN BRIDGES BETWEEN THE NMCS & ALLIS.

BRIDGES BETWEEN NMCS & ALLIS

- BRIDGE COMMITTEE
- PLC
- RESPECT ALLIS



BRIDGES CONTINUED...

- LEADERSHIP TEAM
- EQUITY
- MANAGEMENT TEAM
- PTA
- OTHER COMMITTEES



Relationships of Nuestro Mundo with Allis and MMSD





“ALONE WE CAN DO SO
LITTLE, TOGETHER WE CAN DO
SO MUCH” – HELEN KELLER

NMCS: THE STAFF

- Principal: Gareth (Gary) Diaz Zehrbach
- Secretary: Seeking Bilingual Secretary
 - Patti Larson, Jenny Cox, & Diane Braun
- Teachers:
 - Luz Celedón
 - Ana Salcido
 - Elena Zermeño
 - Rick Hata (Title 1)
 - Marcia Hoke (volunteer)
- Allis Bridges (Teaching): Kim Bires-Jenich, Laurel Lee, Connie Greene, Amy Nelson, Pete Steele, Jim Stevens & Gary Mory
- Allis Bridges (Support Staff)
- NMI Board



OUTLINE

- 1) Review of School Mission and Goals**
 - **Relationships, Curricular Goals, Site Leadership Council**
- 2) Timeline of Key Events to Date**
- 3) Current Status and Upcoming Goals**

1- Nuestro Mundo Community School Mission & Goals

Nuestro Mundo is a dual-immersion school where children learn to communicate in two languages: English and Spanish.

We are a free public charter school that accepts students in a similar manner to other MMSD public schools.

Mission

At NMCS we join with diverse families and the community to create a successful and unique learning environment through the use of dual language education and democratic decision-making. The child-centered, community-based and multicultural curriculum promotes high academic achievement in English and Spanish and prepares students to become active, global citizens. At Nuestro Mundo Community School we are building Our World, together.

DISTRICT SUPPORT

- JENNIE ALLEN
- EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
 - ESL/BILINGUAL & SPEC. EDUC.
- BUSINESS SERVICES
- TEACHING AND LEARNING
- HUMAN RESOURCES
- PUBLIC RELATIONS
- LEGAL SERVICES



NUESTRO MUNDO 2004-2005

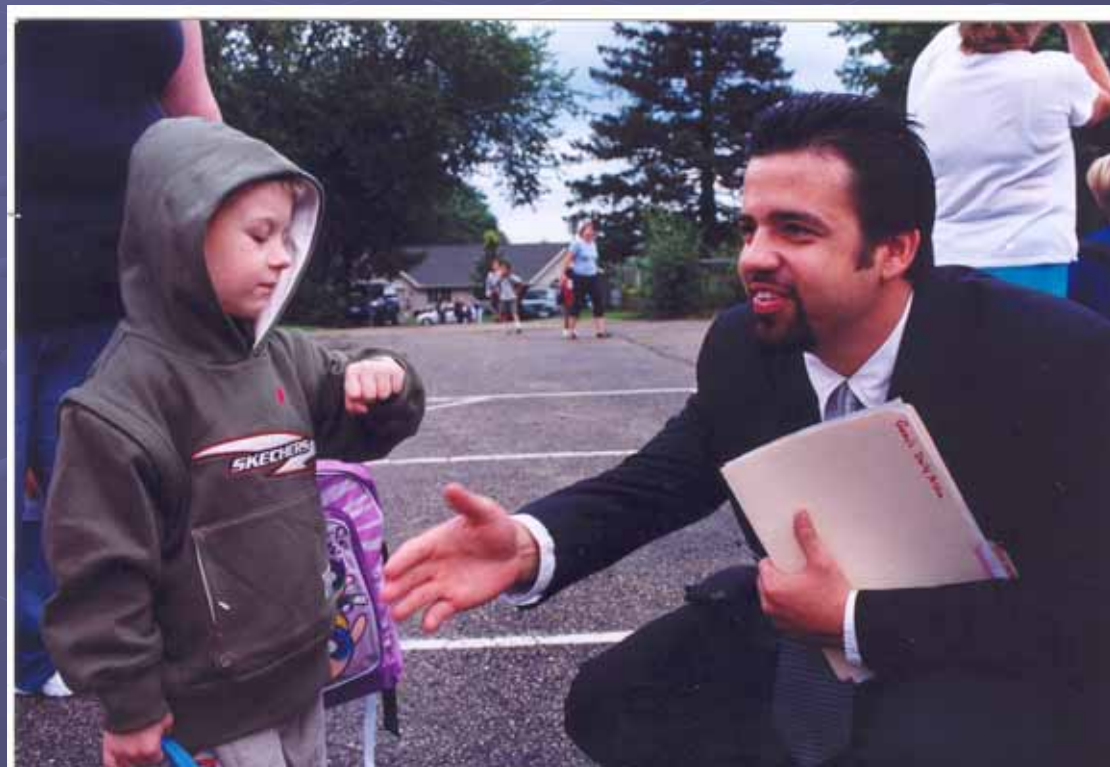
- FIRST SCHOOL YEAR
- KINDER ONLY AND THEN BUILD
- 90-10 INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL
- PRIOR RESEARCH



FIRST DAY



PRIMER DIA...



PRIMER DIA/FIRST DAY



NUESTRO MUNDO



Curricular Goals at Nuestro Mundo

The Nuestro Mundo curriculum envelopes the content of the MMSD curriculum into the dual-language immersion program and the school mission of Nuestro Mundo.

Instructional programs at Nuestro Mundo enable students to:

Achieve at or above grade level in reading, writing, math, science, and social studies according to MMSD and Wisconsin Academic Standards.

Develop oral and written proficiency (social and academic) in both English and Spanish.

Demonstrate positive cross-cultural attitudes and high level self-esteem as they develop bilingualism (listening and speaking), biliteracy (reading and writing), and biculturalism.

Participate in multicultural communities within a variety of contexts.

Curricular Goals at Nuestro Mundo

At Nuestro Mundo:

- The focus of instruction is the core academic curriculum of other MMSD schools.
- High quality language arts instruction will be provided in both Spanish and English.
- Children from Spanish speaking homes will learn social and academic English.
- The target language, Spanish, will be used for a majority of the day in early grades with all children.
- An **additive** bilingual environment will affirm the values of bilingualism.

Specific Benefits

- Bilingualism

- English
- Spanish

- Math

- Intercultural interaction

Site Leadership Council - SLC

As a community-based charter school, a strong school-home partnership is essential at Nuestro Mundo.

The Site Leadership Council (SLC) of Nuestro Mundo uses democratic decision-making to allow parents and community members to play an active role implementing the policies and mission of the school.

Parent participation:

- Application process
- Parent Meeting and/or Interview
- Parent Commitment
- Welcome Picnic
- SLC Meeting





2 - Timeline of Key Events

- 1/12/04 Charter School Proposal
- 2/23 Planner hired
- 2/27 Site selection finalized and Admissions / enrollment process established
- 3/1 Contract with MMSD ratified
- 3/2 Allis School Staff notified of decision to place NMCS at Allis
- 3/3 Priority Admissions Period commenced
 - Communication plan targeted Spanish-speaking families.
- 3/3 Implementation planning with MMSD commenced
 - Meetings with key personnel continued over next 12 weeks.
- 3/9 Presentation to Allis School PTA
- 3/18 Site visits to 2 dual-immersion schools in Milwaukee joined by Allis staff and Nuestro Mundo volunteers
- 3/19 Priority Admissions Period ended
- 3/25 Site visits to 2 dual-immersion schools in Milwaukee joined by Allis staff and Nuestro Mundo volunteers

Timeline of Key Events (continued)

- 3/22 Kindergarten Screener
- 4/14 Bridge Committee with Allis Staff formed
- 4/15 Parent Meeting
- 4/19 Parent Meeting
- 4/28 Bridge Committee meeting
- 5/3 Interviews with teacher candidates commence
- 5/12 Bridge Committee meeting
- 5/15 Carnivallis
- 5/18 DPI Charter School Conference
- 6/24 Teachers hired
- 7/1 Principal Gary Zehrbach begins
- 7/13 Welcome picnic for families
- 7/29 SLC Meeting
- 8/2 Implementation Grant Submitted
- 8/5 C. Hodge and G. Zehrbach meet with J. Allen
- 8/9-8/20 CARLA Immersion Education Conference for NMCS administration and faculty & Investigations Workshop



Current Status (Students)

- Enrollment Process

Students: 49 students

Allis attendance area: 75%

- 25% from several other MMSD schools

Linguistic breakdown:

English only- 29

Spanish exposed- 8

Spanish dominant- 12

% of English Only to Spanish Capable: 60%-40%

Demographics

- **Gender**

- 26 Female & 23 Male

- **Race/Ethnicity**

- Hispanic: 34.6%
- African-American: 14.3%
- Asian: 4%
- White: 46.9%

- **Poverty Level**

- 43% Free & Reduced Lunch





Upcoming Goals

Goal 1: Continuing to develop an effective dual immersion curriculum

Goal 2: Improve the linguistic balance

Goal 3: Developing SLC

Goal 4: Building bridges with Allis

Goal 5: Continuing to engage the parents and other community members.

Goal 1: Continuing to Develop an Effective Dual Immersion Curriculum

Nuestro Mundo Community School was conceived and started to present an alternative to the early-exit transitional bilingual programs offered in the traditional public schools of the District. It is essential that Nuestro Mundo builds an effective dual immersion program through rigorous professional development and innovative instruction. We are committed to continuing to work with the Division of ESL / Bilingual Education in the Department of Educational Services at MMSD to explore, develop, and promote this research-based educational approach.

Goal 2: Improve the linguistic balance

The current linguistic breakdown is not as balanced as desired. We seek to have a balanced population of Spanish-dominant and English-dominant students. We will continue to work to improve this balance throughout the year and in the years to come.

There is nothing magical about 50:50 ... this has been adopted primarily for its socio-cultural impact, not necessarily its language teaching potential.

- Fred Genesee

The difference is more in the population than in the approach:

- Dual language program is content and literacy instruction in two languages for an extended period of time without regard to population
- Two-way immersion program is a specific type of dual language program in which you have roughly equal numbers of native English speakers and speakers of another language

- Liz Howard

Goal 3: Developing SLC

The Site Leadership Council (SLC) is a key component that makes Nuestro Mundo Community School distinct from traditional public schools. The SLC has begun with strong involvement and it will be important to build on this during the first years.

- *July 29th, 2004 – 1st meeting (Identified Projects: Directory, Family Night At the Library, Resource List, Calendar)*
- *September 21st, 2004 – Supplemental Assessment*
- *October 19th – 3rd Meeting*

Goal 4: Building Bridges with Allis

Nuestro Mundo Community School is a school within a school. We have begun to build strong bridges with the Allis school community through the leadership and collaboration of Chris Hodge and Jennie Allen. We will continue to emphasize and build upon this during these first years.

Goal 5: Continuing to engage the parents and other community members.

- Volunteerism
- Partnerships
- Research
- Speaking Engagements