



Santa Clara County  
Office of Education



National Bilingual/  
Multilingual Learner  
Advocacy Month

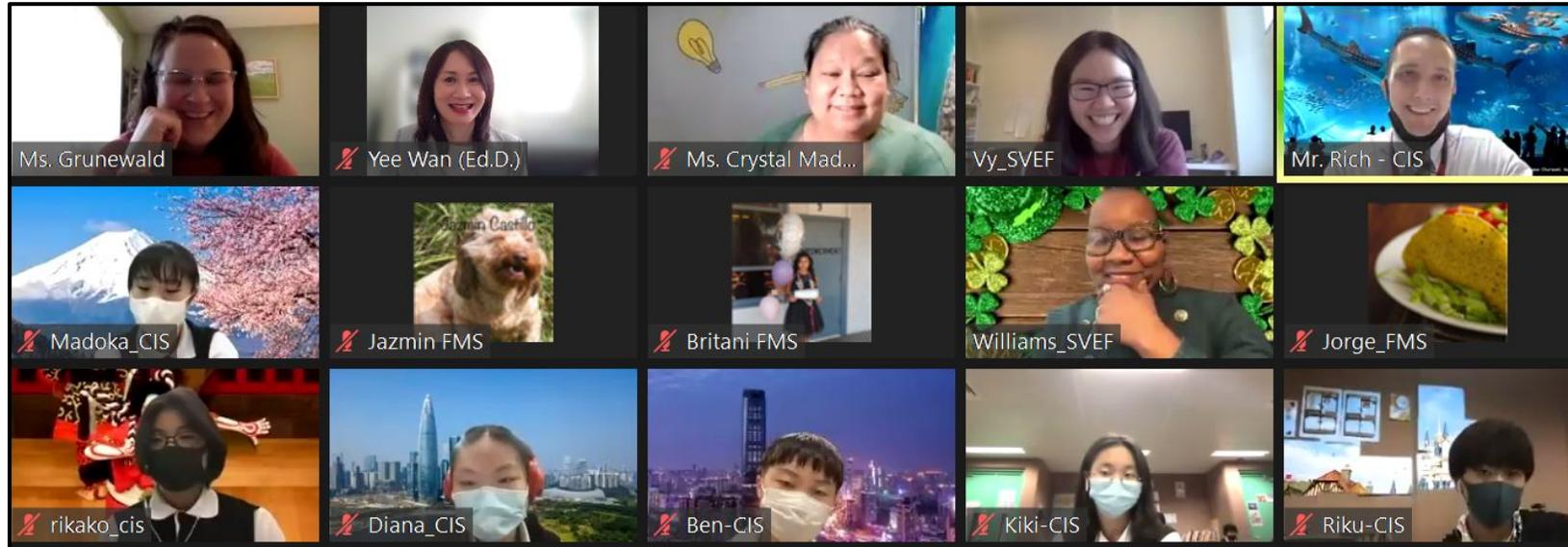
# National Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month Virtual Celebration

*Multilingualism & the Pandemic: Lessons Learned & Moving Forward*

SIGNATURE PRACTICES FOR MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS  
IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

THURSDAY • APRIL 22, 2021 • 4 - 5 P.M.

# Alum Rock Union School District Global Exchange Program at Fischer Middle School: Grades 6-8



# Alum Rock Union School District Global Exchange Program at Fischer Middle School



**Team Co-Leads:** Dr. George Kleidon, Denise Williams, Dr. Yee Wan

**Team Members:** Katherine Grunewald, Crystal Madril, Vy Nguyen, Keysha Doutherd, Richard E. Poulin III

The Global Exchange Program is a partnership between Alum Rock Union Elementary School District, Canadian International School in Singapore, the Santa Clara County Office of Education, and Silicon Valley Education Foundation. The purpose is to increase the skill set of students to use technology effectively while experiencing Global Education through engagement in Project Based Learning (PBL), Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM), and language development. This online program is available for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

# Alum Rock Union School District Global Exchange Program at Fischer Middle School



**How is your program responding to the needs of your multilingual students during the pandemic?**

*“Providing authentic and novel learning experiences with technology and collaborative learning regardless of language proficiency and learning styles to support students making authentic connections and developing global skills.”*



I am from a picture that has family members



Created by Jorge - “Where I Am From”

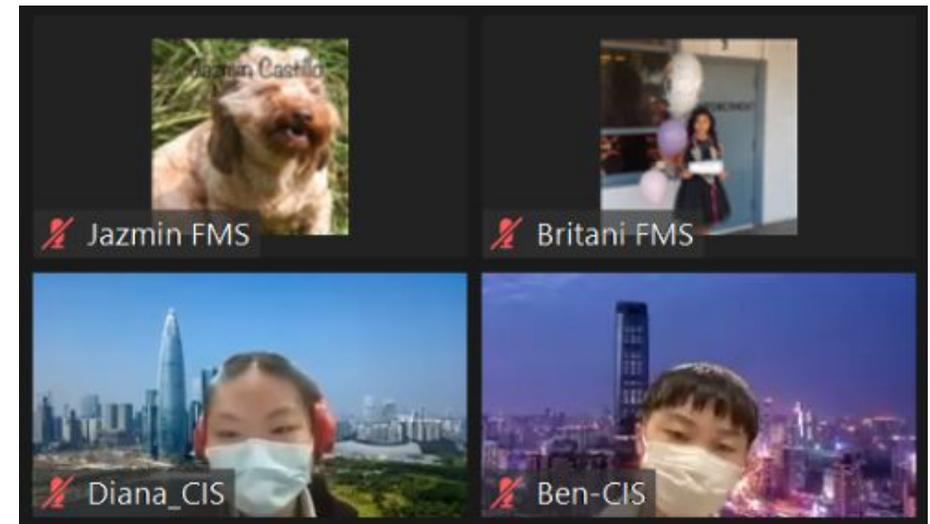
“The teachers work with their students on what is that student’s niche, what are they proud of most: from their family, from their heritage, from their culture, and what do they want to show off, to show and teach other students”

# Alum Rock Union School District Global Exchange Program at Fischer Middle School



What aspect of your program are you the most proud of?

*“Students proudly sharing their unique stories, identity, and culture. Students’ perseverance in overcoming new learning environments and meeting new cultures to complete challenging work that went beyond school hours.”*



# Alum Rock Union School District Global Exchange Program at Fischer Middle School



**What do you envision doing differently moving forward?**

*“Looking for more authentic connections and partnerships in our community and beyond.”*



# Berryessa Union School District Mandarin Dual Immersion Program at Cherrywood Elementary: Grades K-5



# Berryessa Union Mandarin Dual Immersion Program at Cherrywood Elementary



**Team Lead:** Tina Tong Choy

**Team Members:** Sophia Dong, Yanni Fan, Ying Hu, Lei Liu, Yilan Liu, Ching Fan Wang, Min Wei

BUSD's Mandarin Immersion Program started in the Fall of 2018. We have focused on utilizing the best researched practices for acquiring language and integrating the program with the larger school community. All of our teachers are SEAL trained and work closely with their English only colleagues daily to ensure that all students are getting high quality instruction all day long. Our parents have also been critical in helping to support our program through the Mandarin Immersion Parent Advisory Committee.

*“In the future, we hope our bilingual and biliterate students will be contributing global citizens who have a love of learning.”* – Tina Tong Choy, Principal

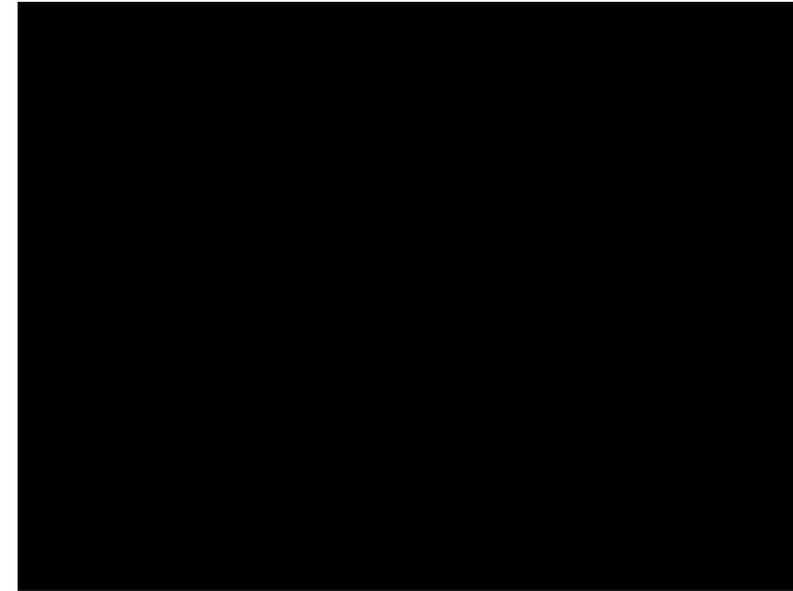


# Berryessa Union Mandarin Dual Immersion Program at Cherrywood Elementary

**How is your program responding to the needs of your multilingual students during the pandemic?**



**Min Wei, Kindergarten MI teacher**



**Sophia Dong, First Grade MI teacher**

# Berryessa Union Mandarin Dual Immersion Program at Cherrywood Elementary

## What aspect of your program are you the most proud of?

**Yanni Fan, Kindergarten MI Teacher**



*“In our Mandarin Immersion Program, I am so proud of our amazing students. They work as language models for each other, and develop fluency and literacy in two languages – Mandarin and English. They show true interests in learning the Chinese language and culture, and learn to understand different perspectives and appreciate the diversity in our classes. I am also proud of the wonderful collaboration with our ELA partner teachers. Without the great teamwork, we would not accomplish our program goals and achieve the successes that we have made so far.”*

**– Ying Hu, 1st Grade MI Teacher**

# Berryessa Union Mandarin Dual Immersion Program at Cherrywood Elementary



## What aspect of your program are you the most proud of?



*“As a teacher in the Mandarin Immersion program, I am most proud that our MI program serves as a bridge with our community. Parents who send their kids to our school are attracted to the culturally diverse families at our school. From first-generation immigrants to non-heritage families to 2nd generation American-born Chinese, speaking and writing Chinese is the common goal for their children. I am also proud that we celebrate Chinese heritage and holidays with the school as a whole. It provides experiences for students and families who do not speak Chinese to learn something new about Chinese language and the culture.*

*The recent news about Asian hate crimes is tragic. How can we fight back and stop the hatred? Of course, we need local public safety programs; however, the best way is never violence, but mutual understanding through communication. Our MI program is equipping our students between two cultures. They are the ambassadors among our communities to fill the gap between the mainstream and the Asian American community.”*

**– Ching Fan Wang, Third Grade MI Teacher**

# Berryessa Union Mandarin Dual Immersion Program at Cherrywood Elementary

What do you envision doing differently moving forward?



**Yilan Liu, 2nd Grade MI Teacher**

**Lei Liu, 2nd Grade MI Teacher**



# Milpitas Unified School District

## Building a Multilingual Community of Mentors that Promote Success for Multilingual Learners Grades 9-12



# Milpitas Unified School District

## Building a Multilingual Community of Mentors that promote success for Multilingual Learners: Grades 9-12



**Co-leads:** Raul Patino, Karisa Scott, Norma Morales, Aldine Dimmick

**Team Members:** Joy Kim, Kieu Pham, Sanjana Barr, Caitlin Bellotti, Casandra Parada, Elizabeth Ellmore-Trujillo, Mary Leggin, Joanna Butcher, Liza Gable, Brett Webber, Ben Pang, Mimi Nguyen, Sejee Kim, Sharon Diep, Jonathan Ho, Moises Fagundes, Mandy Cottengim, Celina Reyes, Lisa Topping, Kristina Edwards, Lauren Bajitos, Annette Rodarte, Jennifer Garcia

Milpitas Unified School District is committed to providing our English Learner students educational opportunities and pathways that promote high-level of English Language Development and academic achievement to ensure college and career readiness.

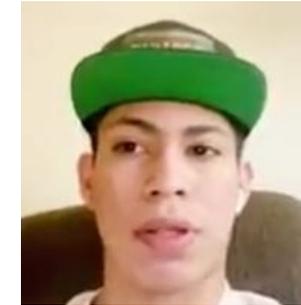
We value cultural and linguistic diversity of our students and embrace diversity to enhance our instructional programs and community at large. There is also tremendous diversity and complexity from individual to individual, school to school, and community to community. MUSD continue to empower its educators with resources and opportunities to support their learning, reflection, and implementation of best practices. Teachers need an understanding of the kind of supports their ML students need, the assets of bilingualism that students bring to the classroom, and the experiences of their students living in and across multiple language worlds.

# Milpitas Unified School District

## Building a Multilingual Community of Mentors that promote success for Multilingual Learners: Grades 9-12



**How is your program responding to the needs of your multilingual students during the pandemic?**



- ❑ These students were identified via data analysis as failing three or more of their courses this past Fall – this means they all are not on track for graduation.
- ❑ Our ML students are facing a lot of challenges and are in need of a mentor, an advocate, someone “in the system” that can help them navigate their online learning and credit accumulation.
- ❑ While our educational goal is measurable academic achievement, the big picture goal is connecting with these young ML students and developing skills that will impact the course of their future and expand their options.

# Milpitas Unified School District

## Building a Multilingual Community of Mentors that promote success for Multilingual Learners: Grades 9-12



### What aspect of your program are you the most proud of?

That our MHS mentors are serving ML students the best they can by approaching them as individuals and learning about their particular experiences and identities, rather than making assumptions or basing their decisions on group-level terms. That said, they are better understanding their individual students' needs. This is crucial information for planning instruction and knowing what kind of support and scaffolding will benefit students in order for them to engage with and access the curriculum.



**Mr. Ben Pang**  
Mathematics Teacher  
Milpitas High School

# Milpitas Unified School District

## Building a Multilingual Community of Mentors that promote success for Multilingual Learners: Grades 9-12



### What do you envision doing differently moving forward?

- ❑ Providing our mentors/teachers with a well designed instructional support across the different content areas that includes culturally sustaining practices and integrated and designated English language development.
- ❑ Implementing effective research-based instructional practices for promoting multilingual students' content and language learning.
- ❑ Pausing and reflecting on current practices as a means to encourage and support self-reflection and to help identify opportunities for enhancing existing instructional practices with multilingual students.

# Morgan Hill Unified School District

## Language Ambassadors: Celebrating the Linguistic Diversity in Our Community

### Grades K-8



# Morgan Hill Unified School District

## Language Ambassadors: Celebrating the Linguistic Diversity in Our Community

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**Team Lead:** Cathy Moss

**Team Members:** Fiorella Scibetta, Ashley Cowdin, Victoria Sorensen

The Language Ambassadors Program encourages students to learn languages and cultures other than their own. For some students, this also means exploring their own family's cultural background. Our "Language Ambassadors" are proud to welcome and support new students who are learning English as a second language. They also participate in an end of year Multicultural Expo Event and receive recognition.

# Morgan Hill Unified School District Language Ambassadors: Celebrating the Linguistic Diversity in Our Community



How is your program responding to the needs of your multilingual students during the pandemic?



# Morgan Hill Unified School District

## Language Ambassadors: Celebrating the Linguistic Diversity in Our Community



What aspect of your program are you the most proud of?

***Partnering with Community Members to Teach Students About Different Languages and Cultures***

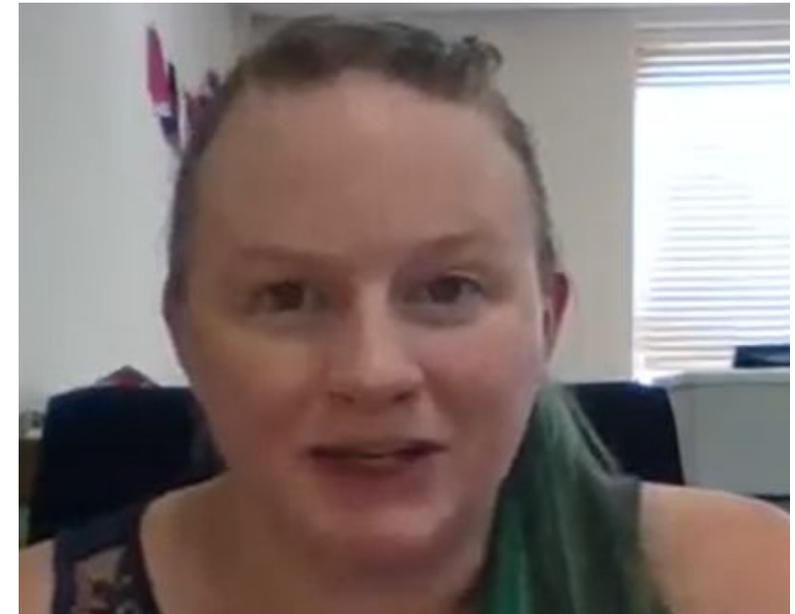


# Morgan Hill Unified School District

## Language Ambassadors: Celebrating the Linguistic Diversity in Our Community



What do you envision doing differently moving forward?



# Sunnyvale School District

## New Middle School Seal of Biliteracy Program

### Grades 6-8



# Sunnyvale School District New Middle School Seal of Biliteracy Program



**Team Lead:** Ron Hammond

**Team Members:** Grace Chiarella, Amy Angeles Villavicencio, Colleen Lynch Espinoza, Katy Jao

A Board Resolution establishing a Seal of Biliteracy and Pathway to Biliteracy Awards was passed on March 5, 2020, supporting the district's vision for biliteracy, and their dual immersion program, Juntos, which began in kindergarten in 2015. This school year the first class of Juntos students will complete 5th grade. Approximately 25 students will earn either the Seal of Biliteracy Pathway Attainment Award or the Bilingual Service and Participation Award. Starting 2021-2022, the students will continue to 6th grade at the middle school level and will start working towards SSD's first Seal of Biliteracy Pathway Pursuit of Bilingualism Award, which can be earned in 8th grade. Mr. Hammond and his team tirelessly collaborated to create the structures and systems needed to implement these Seal of Biliteracy and Seal of Biliteracy Pathway awards.

# Sunnyvale School District New Middle School Seal of Biliteracy Program



How is your program responding to the needs of your multilingual students during the pandemic?

## Social Emotional Well-Being

Asset Building Mindset / Policies / Language  
Cultural Competency  
Positive Relationships

2nd Step Curriculum  
Advisory

Acknowledge Alliance  
(Resiliency, SEL)

CHAC  
(Counseling Support)

*“[We have] a robust understanding of cultural sensitivity, and immersing our understanding as educators [of our] multifaceted learners of multi-cultures... and the diversity of their home experiences and how we can bring that to the learning platform and support learners.”*

# Sunnyvale School District New Middle School Seal of Biliteracy Program



What aspect of your program are you the most proud of?

*“Supporting all students ... [with] the immediacy of technology – the Chromebooks, the iPad, the hotspot ... and having a team that focused on each of those elements... the action was immediate.”*



*“Coming together as a community to support each other ... supporting our unions to make sure everybody has what they need ... in a supportive and respectful way ... We’re all committed to the same purpose”*

# Sunnyvale School District New Middle School Seal of Biliteracy Program



**What do you envision doing differently moving forward?**

*“Anomalies force change. And we can never look back and say we can see or think about the world in the same way... These experiences have allowed us to move forward and really continue in a way that is really different... making certain that we keep that lens of possibility and invention forward.”*

