



Uplift Meridian Preparatory Language Policy

“The limits of my language are the limits of my world.”

–Ludwig Wittgenstein

Vision

To be a collaborative community of educators, families, and scholar inquirers to place scholars on a college-ready path and to develop globally-minded, courageous and compassionate leaders who will be at the helm of their communities.

Beliefs

We believe that all teachers are teachers of language who promote language growth with our students. We strive to create a multilingual community of respectfully trusting students who love learning while in a multicultural setting. We aim to:

- **Empower students as language owners**
- **Promote the enjoyment and meaning of language via Inquiry**
- **Through the promotion of metacognition students will work to believe in themselves and be language risk takers**

Student Language Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- 333/595 English Speakers- 262/595 Spanish Speakers- 262/595 Identified as English Language Learners
Language of Instruction	<p>Identification and Placement of English Language Learners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification of English Language Learners- Home Language Survey, Woodcock-Munoz and IPT• Placement: General Education classroom defined by language proficiency or ESL pull-out services• Teacher Observation and judgment• Honor parent requests <p>Fluent English and Native English Learners: English Language Arts and Reading with an emphasis on the district scope and sequence delivered through balanced literacy structures Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS)• Using the Units of Inquiry for the vocabulary, comprehension strategies, writing, and oral expression/listening in context• Teach using gradual release <p>English Language Learners: English Language Arts and Reading with an emphasis on language learning through balanced literacy structures and Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS)• Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI)• Using the Unit of Inquiry to explicitly teach academic - vocabulary, function, forms, as well as the social language rules needed in Linguistic• Teach using gradual release



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Mother Tongue Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to native language• Promote use of native language in classroom• Celebrate culture through literature and classroom experiences• Encourage students to be models of mother tongue• Differentiates instruction for native speakers to accommodate for the students who have a strong base in their mother tongue• Incorporate Spanish in PYP vocabulary, community and classroom activities• Invite parents and community members to enter into and be a part of classrooms as readers, writers, and speakers in a variety of languages• Write Units of Inquiry to support cultural identities• Provide language support for families• Translate all documents into mother tongue• Communicate in multiple languages (newsletter, web site, phone, messengers)• Invite parents into our building for a variety of purposes, e.g. Concilio, Parent University, ViP• Support from parent volunteers• Library books in mother tongue
Additional Language Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spanish language instruction K-5• Support Spanish language development along with cultural awareness in the classroom• Incorporate Spanish in all classrooms (including specials)• Use environmental print in Spanish
Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote all staff as language teachers• Build capacity of inquiry-based learning and instruction and the language needed to engage in inquiry• Implement SIOP strategies to support language instruction in the classroom• Participate in book studies surrounding conceptual learning, inquiry and focused instruction• Thinking Maps• Collaborate and reflect on language and culture within and among IB schools• Develop a continued understanding around ELPS and TELPAS (Performance Indicators) for all teachers• Inquire into International-Mindedness• Visit IB World Schools• Use data to drive language instruction• Continue IB training

Language Policy Review

The Uplift Meridian Preparatory Language Policy will go into effect on August 9, 2016, and will be reviewed annually and when changes are deemed necessary.