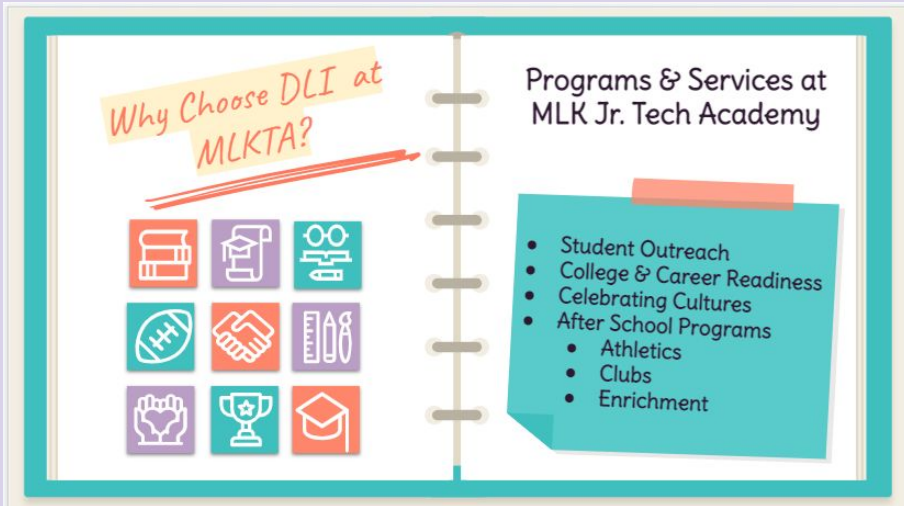


# DLI at MLKTA

## Dual Language Immersion

Volume № 2 | February, 2023



### DLI Roadshows (Las Palmas & Madison)

MLKTA in conjunction with the TRUSD English Services Department worked collaboratively in the recruitment efforts of bringing in the next cohort of DLI students to MLKTA. A meeting was conducted with parents and respective staff members from both Las Palmas and Madison Elementary Schools. Parents were able to see and hear firsthand about the academic program relative to DLI at MLKTA in addition to other components that contribute to our school culture such as clubs, athletics, after school programs, amongst other programs. Overall, in having the opportunity to engage in this two-way dialogue in fielding questions to better clarify the dynamics of DLI at MLKTA, proved very beneficial.

## NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

DLI Roadshow

DLI Teachers and Students "Getting Busy"

Awards/SBAC Rally

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



**TwinRivers**  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

### WHO CAN ENROLL INTO THE DLI PROGRAM?

Students who have been enrolled in an elementary DLI program from Kindergarten to grade 6 are eligible to enroll. Additionally, Spanish-speaking students who are newcomers to the US education system (3 years or less) with mid to strong literacy skills in Spanish are welcome to join.

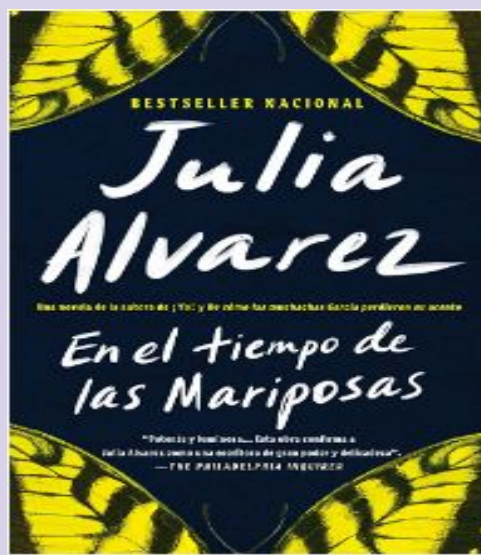
To learn if your child is a good candidate for DLI, contact MLKTA for more information.  
916-566-3490

# MLKTA DLI TEACHERS and Students "Getting Busy"



## Jemina Jones, Spanish Language Arts

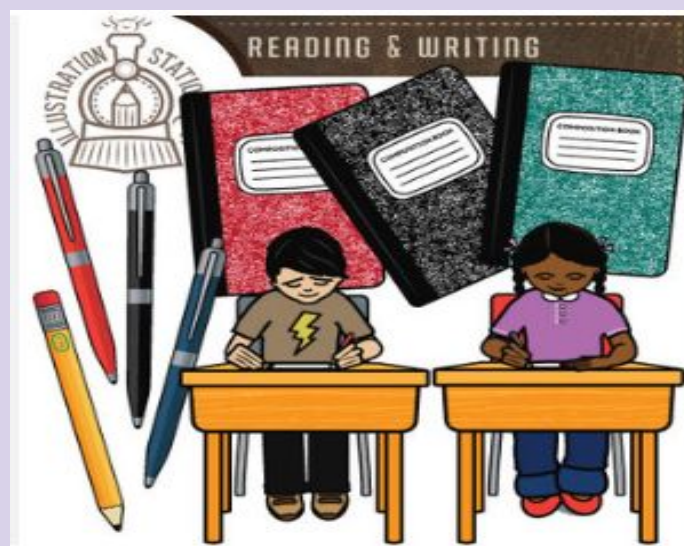
Students are continuing to work on Communication, Culture and Connection to World Language State Standards. Students are also having the opportunity to engage in collaborative tasks based on research based pedagogical (Art of Teaching) strategies. Prior to what is pictured, students worked in cooperative groups of three where each group focused on a different country (not necessarily all Spanish speaking). Students explored all the geo and political structures of their selected region, put together a report/essay and created a slide deck for their oral presentations. Students have also been reading "En el tiempo de las mariposas," a twelve chapter novel by Julia Alvarez. The reading and analysis of this novel builds on the prior learning focuses mentioned prior. Ms. Jones also exposed students to a visual version where they were able to more effectively comprehend the content. Ms. Jones taught how to properly use graphic organizers such as Venn Diagrams and T Charts to note similarities and differences between the novel and film. This is meaningful instruction and learning occurring for our DLI students in their Spanish class.





### **Sarah Gilliken, English Language Arts**

Students are reading the classic novel, "The Outsiders." Ms. Gilliken's long-term and short-term objectives are to build community in the classroom, pique students interest in reading while developing their vocabulary skills. This is a vital skill set for students to develop considering DLI students' long-term goal is for them to obtain the Seal of Biliteracy, which is one of three pillars of the DLI program. Ms. Gilliken, who is also the Department Chair for our English Language Arts department, facilitates opportunities for students to build their stamina for the Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium (SBAC) test. In the midst of these instructional and learning activities, students are also improving in their reading fluency and improving in their comprehension skills which these skill sets support their learning across curricular areas. Similar to what is occurring in Sra. Jones class, students will also compare elements of the story in multiple forms of media. This is a proven strategy to engage students while building their understanding of the content of the story. Students have also written personal narratives addressing a time where they felt proud of themselves. Instruction and learning activities pertinent to reading and writing align with Common Core Curriculum Standards. All in all, these learning opportunities continue to be of great benefit to our students ongoing academic success.





### **Ramon Castillo Juarez, History (Spanish)**

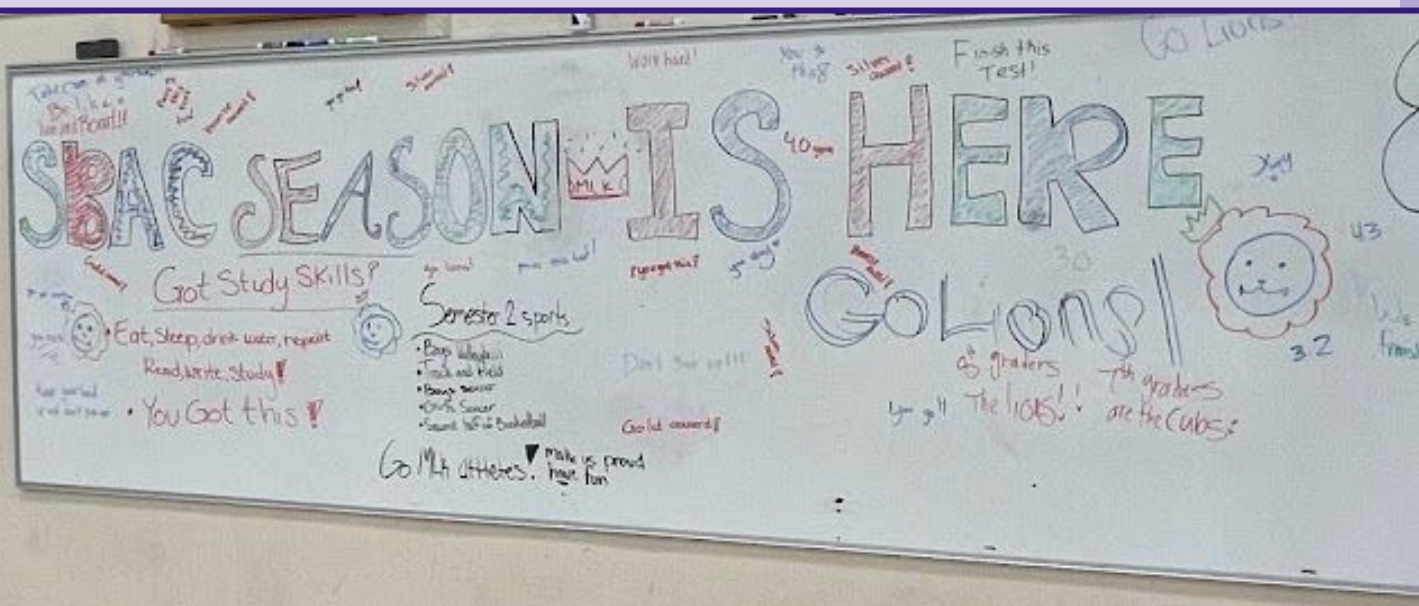
Our DLI teachers designate time to collaborate across curricular areas. In this case, Mr. Castillo is aware that our students are currently reading the novel, "En el tiempo de las mariposas" with Sra. Jones in their Spanish class. The content of this story is about the Mirabal sisters' experiences during the reign of the brutal dictator of Rafael Trujillo. To better facilitate their understanding of the historical context, Mr. Castillo reviewed with students how Trujillo attained and maintained authority over the island nation. This was accomplished by comparing and contrasting Trujillo's rule to that of absolutist kings in medieval Europe. Each student was responsible for creating their own individual T-chart. Again, this validates that students are learning valuable skill sets that are reinforced and applied across subject areas. This learning activity was especially significant because students made it clear that THEY wanted to learn more about dictators and resistance to oppression. In the coming weeks, students will be completing the last facets of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade standards and be able to move on to other ideas and concepts. Mr. Castillo expressed that due to students' interest in dictators and revolutions, he is planning on using the last few months of school to focus on Latin American revolutions. This is the definition of Culturally Responsive and Relevant Instruction that engages our students and provides information that they can relate to.



# MLKTA Awards Assembly/SBAC Rally



On February 3, 2023, MLKTA hosted a 2nd Quarter Awards Assembly/SBAC Rally. Our students were being recognized in the categories of academic excellence, attendance and iReady growth which outlines increases in students' reading Lexile levels. 15 out of the 17 students who are part of the 7th grade cohort in our DLI program received an award for one of the aforementioned categories. MLKTA is continuing our pursuit of excellence in our academic program as our teachers continue to refine instruction and embed interventions that support our students continuous overall progress and advancement.





**WE ARE  
MARTIN LUTHER KING**



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL, MR. MARSHALL

Greetings MLKTA Families. The month of February was a very eventful one. MLKTA in conjunction with the TRUSD English Services Department worked collaboratively in our recruitment efforts of bringing in the next cohort of DLI students to MLKTA. Meetings were conducted with parents and respective staff members from both Las Palmas and Madison Elementary Schools. In following up to our DLI Parent Meeting at Madison on 1/31, we were able to host prospective parents at Las Palmas on 2/10 and again on 2/16 at Las Palmas' ELAC Meeting. Parents were able to see and hear firsthand about the academic program relative to DLI at MLKTA in addition to other components that contribute to our school culture such as clubs, athletics, after school programs amongst other programs. Overall, in having the opportunity to engage in this two-way dialogue in fielding questions and better clarifying the dynamics of DLI and MLKTA overall proved very beneficial. The DLI Instructional Staffs from MLKTA, Las Palmas (Host) and Madison participated in the DLI Team Meeting Collaboration on 2/23. Meaningful discussions were carried out in preparation for more effectively aligning curriculum for DLI students K-8.

At MLKTA, there has been an explicit focus on preparing our students for the upcoming SBAC administration which will begin on April 24th. Best instructional practices are being discussed regularly but in addition to discussing strategies, plans of actions have been put into place to best support students in their preparation. Some of those items include the proper use of Anchor Charts (Visual Aides), cross-curricular academic language, explicit SBAC practice test questions, and test taking strategies just to name a few. We will continue to build upon our school wide ongoing academic areas of focus such as reading and writing across all subject areas as well as use data to drive instruction. Intervention plans