

Mission Statement

Our mission at Francisca Alvarez Elementary is to develop inquirers who are knowledgeable, caring and who can apply their learning to many facets of life in order to create a more peaceful world. We make great effort to achieve a safe and challenging school with rigorous standards and measurable goals for all students. We encourage a learning environment that embraces intercultural understanding. Our students seek college and career readiness through collaborative partnerships that encourage and promote lifelong learning.

Parents as Partners in Learning:

How can you, as a PARENT, get involved?

- Volunteer in your child's classroom, the library, in the computer lab, at lunch, etc. (See our Parent Specialist, Ms. Irma Santos)
- Provide communication between yourself and school that is regular, 2-way, and meaningful (See your child's teacher, e-mail, or behavior folder).
- Participate as a full partner in decisions that impact your child and family.
- Portfolios are a part of documenting student growth and reflections over the course of the students' elementary career. Ask your child to see his/hers often when visiting the school.
- Collaboration with the community, through partnerships, which are mutually beneficial to our school and the community.
- You are always welcome at Alvarez! We need your support and assistance to make our school the great place that it is here.



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**Francisca Alvarez Elementary School
IB Candidate School**

**Learning
Today...
Leading
Tomorrow**

Learner Profile & IB Attitudes



Our Language Policy

As members of a world community, we value knowledge of multiple languages. Alvarez scholars participate in instruction designed to help students acquire both the English and Spanish language. Students receive Spanish language instruction at least twice a week for 30 minutes at a time. Social Studies is used as a vehicle for learning about people's cultures, customs, and languages.

Primary Years Programme (PYP) (ages 3 – 12 yrs.)

Regardless of location, size, or make-up, an IB PYP school strives to develop an internationally minded person. The mission of IB:

- 🌐 To develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people.
- 🌐 To create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.
- 🌐 To work with schools, governments, and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.
- 🌐 To encourage students worldwide to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

Themes of Knowledge (Units of Inquiry)

- ★ Who We Are
- ★ Where We Are in Place and Time
- ★ How We Express Ourselves
- ★ How the World Works
- ★ How We Organize Ourselves
- ★ Sharing the Planet

Service & Positive Action

Choose
Act
Reflect



Transdisciplinary Skills

Social Skills
Communication Skills
Research Skills
Thinking Skills
Self-Management Skills

8 Fundamental Concepts

- ❖ **Form:** What is it like?
- ❖ **Function:** How does it work?
- ❖ **Causation:** Why is it like it is?
- ❖ **Change:** How is it changing?
- ❖ **Connection:** How is it connected to other things?
- ❖ **Perspective:** What are the points of view?
- ❖ **Reflection:** How do we know?

“The whole art of teaching is only the awakening of the natural curiosity of young minds.” —Anatole France

*Only schools authorized by the International Baccalaureate (IB) as IB World Schools can offer any of its three academic programmes: the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP), the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP), or the IB Diploma Programme. Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted. For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit <http://www.ibo.org>.