

LAS LINKS SUCCESS STORY
Georgetown Independent School District (ISD)

"We love being able to share the growth of our students in dual language with the community."

Janna Jackson, Director of State & Federal Programs, Georgetown ISD

Supporting Emergent Bilingual Students and Their Families with LAS Links Español

In this success story, Janna Jackson, Director of State & Federal Programs at Georgetown ISD in Texas, shares the many ways her district uses LAS Links® Español—from helping students on their path toward Spanish language proficiency, to supporting professional learning opportunities for teachers, and providing resources for parents on student progress and growth.

Why did your district select LAS Links?

We needed a way to assess how all our Dual Language (DL) students were progressing in the four domains in Spanish. We needed something to show their strengths and weaknesses so we could target instruction and professional learning.



What Emergent Bilingual (EB) challenges do you have in your district/schools?

Our community recently transitioned from an earlyexit bilingual program model to a two-way dual language program. With that we have found some academic challenges in terms of aligning Spanish resources and assessments to monitor progress and continuously improve instruction.

How is LAS Links used in your organization?

We use LAS Links Español to help our teachers celebrate individual student strengths and pinpoint needs, as well as to identify trends as a whole across the campus and district. We test the students, then meet with teacher teams to discuss the data and how to improve our teaching practice to support student needs. We also share the fifth-grade results with our middle school Spanish teachers so they can anticipate needs for differentiated instruction.

Which features are particularly important to your organization? How do they address specific concerns and needs?



ORGANIZATION SUMMARY

• Number of schools: 18

• Grade levels: PK-12

• Total population: 13,200

• Number of EBs: 2,200

• Percentage of EBs: 17%

STUDENT POPULATION

• African American: 6%

• Asian/Pacific Islander: 3%

Caucasian: 42%

Hispanic: 44%

• Other: 5%

PROGRAM TYPE

• ESL, Dual Language

We appreciate that the program assesses all four domains in Spanish, similar to TELPAS (Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System) for English. The test scoring and reporting services have been helpful in that it provides quick results and objectivity. The individual reports are detailed and user friendly for educators and parents.

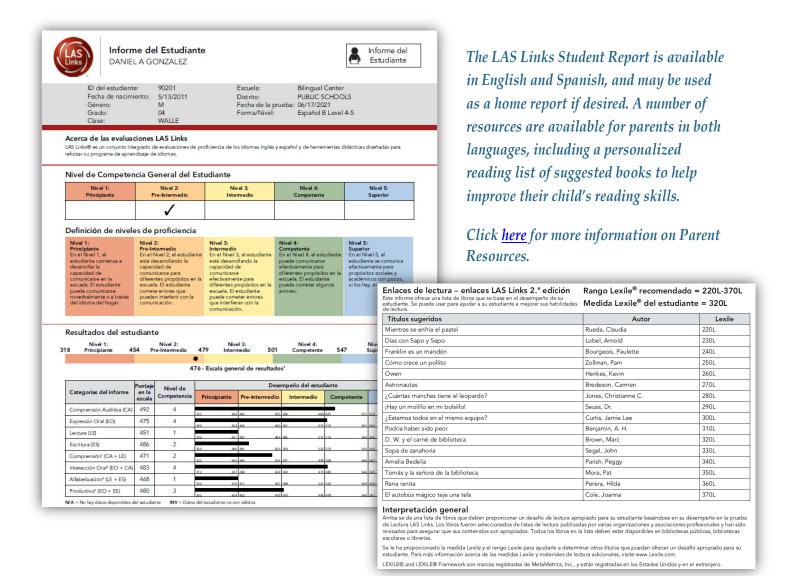
What strategic plans do you have in mind as you move forward with LAS Links progress monitoring?

We will be using LAS Links Español as part of our overall program evaluation for Dual Language. We will use it as we plan professional learning opportunities for those teachers as well as our middle school Spanish teachers who are teaching former DL students.



What LAS Links data/report(s) do you find most useful to your organization?

The score reports are very detailed and easy for teachers and parents to understand. We love being able to share the growth of our students in dual language with the community.



Visit <u>www.LASLinks.com/Texas</u> for More Information

Watch Our Feature Video: LAS Links Online

