

“Be the Difference!”



# Superintendent's Newsletter

- Dr. Frederick Clarke



## Manara Academy Voted as one of the Top 10% of Best Charter Schools for 2018!

A recent poll conducted by niche.com rated Manara Academy in the top 10% of charter schools in the DFW Metroplex. The ranking was based on academic achievement, diversity, and parent surveys. Spread the word! Manara Academy's focus on developing the “whole child” through project-based, leadership, and foreign language acquisition is accomplished through an aligned, rigorous curriculum coupled with instruction that meets the needs of diverse learners. We are very proud of this recent accomplishment as we continue to strive for excellence!

## North Texas Giving Day Thank You!

Thanks to your generosity, we received three times the donations compared to last year! We are truly appreciative for the staff and students who helped increase our donations!

## Exemplary Educator Honored by the Manara School Board

This past month Cassie Holler, Technology Teacher at the Arlington STEM Academy was honored for her outstanding work preparing our children for the future!

## Foreign Language Program Improvements...

As you know, Manara Academy has one of the most comprehensive Foreign Language programs in the nation. You will not find many school districts who offer an instructional program for learning a foreign language beginning in Kindergarten. Most districts offer languages, but it is typically only an introduction once a week for an hour. Here at Manara, we instruct Foreign Language daily (Arabic, Spanish or French). Currently we are in the process of making our program even better! We are working with the University of Oklahoma to align our curriculum AND develop comprehensive tools that will accurately assess student levels for placement and differentiated instruction. Our foreign language program is truly a shining star!

## Irving Elem-Leadership Academy World's Fair/Cook-Off

Last year's first annual Culture Fair was such a tremendous success, this year we have changed the name to the World's Fair/Cook-Off. In addition, we will be hosting two World's Fair events. The first, for Irving Elementary and Leadership Academy students, will be on November 4th, from 10:00–2:00. The second will be at Arlington STEM Academy in March (date TBD).

Students will have their grade level Culture Projects on display. In addition, you will have the opportunity to sample many fine foods. At the conclusion of the Cook-Off, we will tally your votes and award 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for “Best Entree”, “Best Dessert”, and “Best Student Dish (Dessert or Entree)”.

### **WE STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS!!!**

We are asking for adult and student volunteers to help out. We need rovers, greeters, cook-off sales, amateur photographers, etc.

Please sign up at the web address below if you want to volunteer during the event.

If you would like to bring a dish you are proud of, please sign up to be one of our cooks at

<http://tinyurl.com/manaraworldfair>

## International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at Manara!

This fall we have been gearing up for our implementation of the International Baccalaureate (IB) program at the Leadership Academy. The staff has begun training as we transition into the application phase of the program. It is our goal that the incoming 9th grade students will be able to earn an IB Diploma. We are very excited about embarking on this journey to develop a world renowned program that will give our students the opportunity to become Global Leaders! If you would like more information, please visit <http://www.ibo.org/benefits/>

## Gifted and Talented Program:

Look for an announcement soon from your campus principal about how students can qualify for our new Gifted and Talented Program. More information is posted on our web site at <https://tinyurl.com/manaragifted>

## Principal Valdez Performs!

At a recent superintendent's meeting hosted by Manara Academy, students performed for the audience, and Principal Valdez showed us why he is not just a great leader—he is also a very talented musician! (see picture above) Thank you Mr. Valdez!

## Upcoming Events

- Nov 11th—Board Meeting
- November 4th—World's Fair/Cook-Off at Irving Leadership Academy
- Nov 14th-16th-Early Release Days (SLCs)

