

Global Ambassadors Language Academy, 13442 Lorain Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44111
Contact: Meran Rogers, Executive Director at ([REDACTED])
Abstract Narrative - CSP Grant For Expansion of High Quality Charter School, 84.282E

Title: Expansion of Language Immersion School – Global Ambassadors Language Academy

Project Description: Global Ambassadors Language Academy, GALA, is a language immersion elementary school located in Cleveland, Ohio. GALA is open to all Ohio residents, and no prior language skills are required of students to enroll. GALA offers both a Mandarin and Spanish immersion program, in which students may only enroll in one program. GALA is the first language immersion school in Northeast Ohio, and only Mandarin immersion school in Ohio. After five years of planning, in August 2016, GALA opened its doors to sixty K-1 students. As an independent startup school, GALA started with only K-1 students and will grow a grade level annually until we reach K-8. In year two of operation, GALA more than doubled in size from 60 K-1 students to 134 K-2 students this 2017-18 school year. Already, GALA has 184 K-3 students enrolled for the upcoming 2018-19 school year. Based on enrollment interest, GALA’s projection to serve nearly 600 K-8 students annually by 2023 is on track. GALA student population includes: 64% qualified for Free or Reduced Lunch, 60% residents of Cleveland, 4% Asian, 30% Black, 49% White, 16% multi-racial, and 1% Native American, with 34% Hispanic. In grades K-2, GALA provides daily instruction in all subjects (math, science, social studies, language arts) in Mandarin or Spanish for 70% of the school day (4.5 hours) and 30% in English (2 hours). In grades 3-5, instruction is provided in Mandarin or Spanish for 60% of the day and 40% in English, and in grades 6-8, 50% in the Mandarin or Spanish and 50% in English.

Goals: (1) Expand GALA to add six grade levels and over 400 new students during the five year grant period; (2) At least 80% of students will meet language immersion proficiency levels in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Mandarin or Spanish; (3) 80% of K-8 students will meet their growth goals on the NWEA MAP in Reading and Math; (4) 80% of K-8 students will achieve “at grade level” or above RIT scores on the NWEA MAP in Reading and Math. Annually; and (5) 80% of grades 3-8 students will score “proficient” on Ohio’s State Standardized Assessments in Reading and Math.