



INSTITUTE FOR
SCHOOL AND
COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS

Early Learning | K-12 | Partnerships



Latinx Heritage Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates and recognizes the contributions Hispanic Americans have made to American society and culture and honors five of our Central American neighbors (ancestors from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America) who celebrate their Independence days in September. Texas A&M University-San Antonio and The Institute for School and Community Partnerships host events to celebrate Latinx heritage all month.

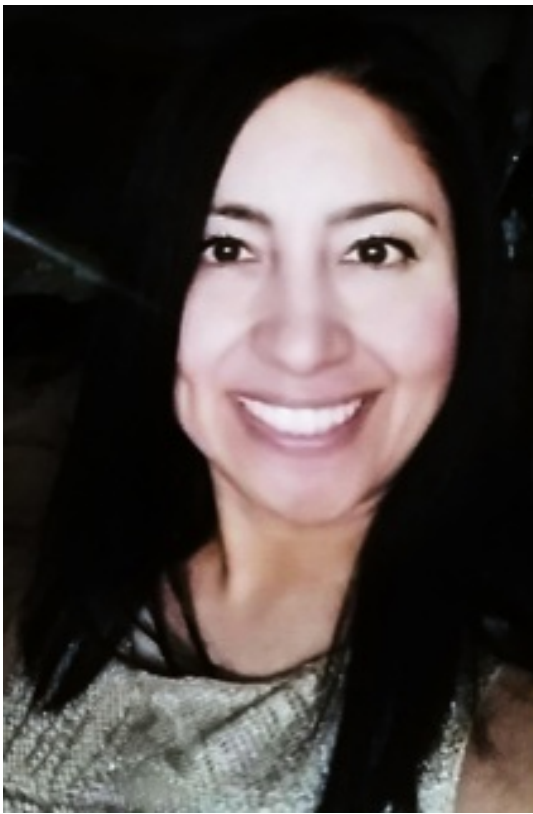
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Inaugural ¡Vivan Los Niños!

¡Vivan Los Niños! is a family-friendly day of Latin-infused festivities co-hosted by Texas A&M-San Antonio and Nuestra Gente Tribute™ in partnership with the Office of the President, **The Institute for School and Community Partnerships**, the Office of Equity and Inclusion, and the Division of Student Engagement and Success. Fun and free for San Antonio and Bexar County families, this inaugural children's celebration included activities related to cultural arts, literacy activities, games, entertainment, art tours, and performances, as well as free community resources.

¡Vivan Los Niños! was held on **Saturday, September 24, 2022**, at the A&M-San Antonio campus.



New Institute Faculty in Residence

The [A&M San Antonio Institute for School and Community Partnerships](#) model for Innovative Lab School campuses includes having a university faculty member from Texas A&M University-San Antonio assigned to each lab school campus. The Faculty-in-Residence model is a unique approach to bring the university lab schools to the community.

For each SB1882 Innovation Lab School campus, the Institute places a Faculty-in-Residence with specialized skills specific to the campus. Three new Faculty-in-Residences have joined the Institute team. From left to right, Dr. Sonia Sanchez is working with the [Winston Intermediate School of Excellence](#), Dr. Salma Boyd is working with [Gus Garcia University School](#), and Grace Aguirre-Garcia is assigned to the [Burlleson School for Innovation and Education](#). Each Institute team member is charged with a set of strategies that help move their campuses closer to their campus goals.

First Professor in Residence

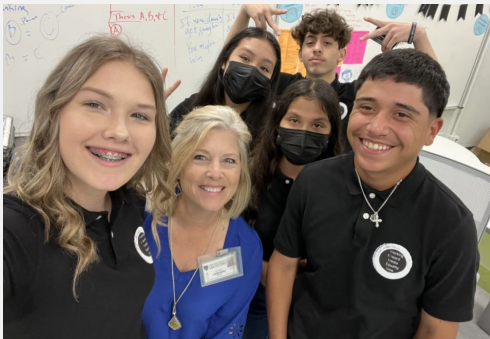
A&M-San Antonio's first Professor-in-Residence, Julie Riedel, has helped establish an exemplar Residency model and pathway for the university and community partners to strengthen talent pipelines.

The teaching and learning laboratory school model by A&M-SA is not only a site for school age children



to attend and receive a high quality public education but also a site where university students can practice their professional skills in a real-world context. This includes pre-service teachers observing and teaching in a supportive context. A&M-SA is expanding on the traditional pre-service teacher models to include contextualized learning programs for students, across disciplines and programs, not just focusing solely on teacher education.

By creating an educator workforce and schools that are better prepared to respond to the needs and challenges of students in authentic school settings, we positively affect the climate and culture on the campus while supporting the needs of the community. The goal is to provide a learning environment that is socially, emotionally, culturally, and academically supportive of all students, regardless of need, to create the optimal opportunity to focus on improving academic performance. Julie's work is with the CAST Schools.



CAST Blog on Teacher Preparation



SB1882 Case Study at Texas Public Charter Schools Conference

The [Texas Public Charter Schools Conference](#) was held the last week of September in San Antonio, Texas. Edgewood ISD's Chief of Innovation, Theresa Salinas, and Institute CEO, Dr. Henrietta Muñoz, were invited to showcase the Edgewood - A&M-San Antonio story with conference attendees. Long-time supporter of SB1882 campus development, Dr. Suhk Kaur of [Edreimagined](#), facilitated this session for the Charter School Conference.



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