

**Christian Evers Elementary  
Northside Independent School District**



**Vision**

Every student will develop into solution finders, lifelong learners, and global citizens of high character.

**Mission**

Cultivate a transformative educational experience.

**1715 Richland Hills  
San Antonio, Texas 78251  
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**Person Nominating Evers Elementary: Talia Hernandez-Principal**

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**[Evers ES Video Link](#)**

## **Overview**

Evers Elementary is committed to cultivating a transformative learning experience for all students. Our vision is to provide all students with opportunities that will develop them into solution finders, lifelong learners, and citizens of high character. While our mission and vision are fundamental in providing a transformational learning experience, it is the values that each faculty and staff member hold that empowers our work each day. Guided by the Northside Independent School District (N.I.S.D.) Learner Profiles, Evers cultivates a transformative learning experience through various methods with a focus on: social emotional learning, blended learning, community and family engagement, and enrichment programs. The following information illustrates transformational learning at Evers Elementary and exemplifies its impact on student achievement.

## **Background**

Evers is located on the west side of San Antonio and serves 600 students in grades PK through 5th grade. Our campus demographics encompasses the following: 63% of students are identified as economically disadvantaged, 19% of students receive special education services, and 56% are considered at-risk. Our special education is one of our largest student services programs. 112 students are students with special needs and our campus has four self-contained classrooms. Evers is an English as a Second Language (ESL) campus. 7% of our students are Emergent Bilinguals (EB). The campus demographics includes the following: 71% Hispanic, 12% White, 9% African American, 3% Asian and 5% identified as two or more races.

In addition, Evers houses the Headstart Early Childhood Program and provides early childhood education and family support for children starting at 3 weeks to 5 years old. This partnership allows our school to provide enhanced wraparound services to better serve our campus community. Our school is located near Lackland Airforce Base and 8% of our students are military affiliated. Our campus mobility rate is approximately 15%. This has become a challenging factor for teachers as they work on assessing the skills students come in with and as teachers develop a plan for learning.

## **Focus Areas**

Our campus-wide initiative for the 2022-2023 school year is implementing Blended Learning in an effort to impact student achievement with learners who come to us with advanced technology knowledge and with the understanding that we must adapt to the needs of our students. This focus is also tied with the transformational target for our school titled Article V: Organizational Transformation. Blended Learning allows us to target instruction so that all students are engaged, challenged, and experience success in all capacities of our Learner Profiles. We focus on designing instruction and opportunities for students to be collaborators, communicators, creators, innovators, leaders, learners, critical thinkers, and solution finders.

## **Work**

Blended Learning requires our teachers to create learning opportunities with the learner in mind. Our teachers create playlists which allow students to have both flexible paths and pacing. This empowers students to take ownership of their learning and removes the construct “one size fits all” for instruction. In addition, the teacher-created playlists consist of online activities that allow the learning to extend beyond the physical walls of the classroom. Our teachers take risks embracing the capabilities technology provides. Blended Learning also provides opportunities for students to engage with each other in offline activities where students are exposed to hands-on experiences. After conducting a student panel this year, students voiced their desire to

engage with real world opportunities by communicating, creating, and collaborating with their peers. This is also where we see students take on natural leadership roles. Students are able to demonstrate their work through different modalities based on their strengths. As students take more ownership of their learning, the teachers are able to target instruction through small group teaching and adjust a pace specific to the needs of the students. Professional Learning Communities (PLC) allow our teachers to analyze data and plan for instruction based on student needs while supporting each other as they develop the instructional opportunities with our learner profiles at the forefront.

Our learning organization understands that in order for students to thrive academically, their social emotional needs must also be considered. Our campus focuses on the well being of our students and teachers primarily through the use of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). We analyzed campus data, heard the needs of our teachers, and surveyed the community to determine what was most needed. Through feedback, we have implemented our school-wide expectations to create a culture of respect, responsibility, and safety. Students have the opportunity to earn Unicorn Bucks when they follow school-wide expectations. Class meetings, “relaxation stations” in every classroom, and morning mindfulness in which students are given the opportunity to meditate and do other self regulation activities such as yoga and mandala colorings helps students communicate their needs more effectively and establishes a safe environment. Students also learn to set goals for themselves through our leadership program and have opportunities to celebrate achievements and be recognized when demonstrating Pillars of Character qualities.

At Evers, we provide dynamic opportunities for students to develop a purpose, nurture interests, and inspire lifelong learning through extracurricular activities. Student ambassadors are taught to model schoolwide expectations, welcome new students to our campus, and foster friendships amongst classmates. Safety Patrols greet our community in the mornings and afternoons and help implement safety procedures around the campus. Student Council teaches students to be critical thinkers and to advocate for campus and community needs. Project ACORN teaches students about the native plants that grow in our area and teaches sustainable and healthy lifestyles. Running Club teaches and supports healthy lifestyles, while Art Club, Choir, and Strings foster the arts. Our STEM clubs such as: Young Astronauts, Lego Robotics, Solar Cars, S.T.E.A.M. Team, Flight Club and Cardboard Arcade allow students to explore project-based learning activities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics that extend the curriculum taught in the classroom. Christian Evers Television (CETV) creates opportunities for students to become familiar with news media, journalism, and theater arts while broadcasting the daily campus news in the mornings.

## **Results**

We take pride in our work as we continue to support the needs of the whole child through Blended Learning, PBIS, and our extracurricular activities. This has increased our daily attendance school wide average from 91% to 93% for the year, which shows that our community engagement fosters meaningful relationships among students, families, educators, and the community in order to impact student success.

Our campus accountability rating has been an immense celebration for our school. Our campus rating moved from a C status to a B status for the 2022-2023 school year.

Our core beliefs have contributed to high levels of engagement and a shared commitment to excellence because here at Evers every child deserves the opportunity to reach their maximum potential.



Principals'  
Institute

● ● ● N2 Learning

**SCHOOLS**  
**TRANSFORMING**  
● ● ● ● **LEARNING**

### Superintendent Endorsement

I endorse and support the nomination of Talia Hernandez  
as a School Transforming Learning.

Superintendent's Signature: Jessica Palemaris

Date: 2/23/23