

ELlevate! & PIONERAS

U.S. Department of Education Grants
Office of English Language Acquisition

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Presented by

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US Department of Education Grants

- Two grants awarded for the amount of \$4.3 million dollars
 - **PIONERAS**-Bilingual Elementary & Early Childhood Campuses
 - **ELLevate!**-Denton High School & Braswell High School
- Purpose: Increase the academic achievement of English Language Learners
- 5-year grants from September 2016 through August 2021
- Only 49 total grants were awarded in this federal competition
- Denton ISD is the only partner with TWU for both grants

ELLevate! Grant

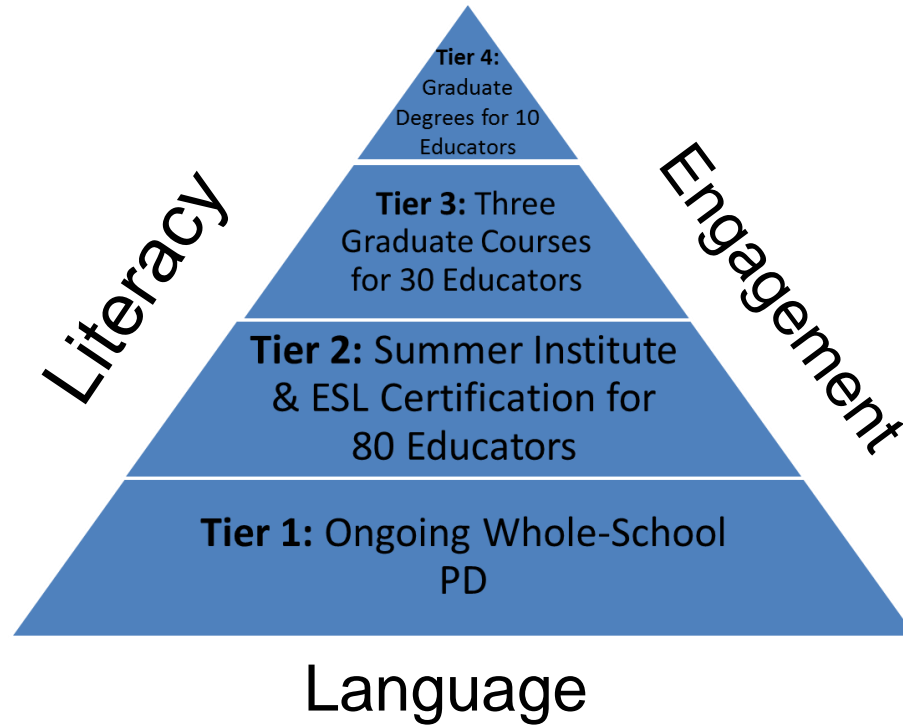
ELLevate! - \$2.1 million

English Language Learner Educators Vested in the Advancement of Teaching Excellence

Goals:

- To increase educators' knowledge of teaching English Language Learners (ELLs) in the areas of *language, literacy, and engagement*
- To increase educators' engagement with ELLs' families
- To increase ELL student academic achievement

ELLevate's Tiered Approach to Support ELLs



ELLevate's Four-Tiered Approach

Tier 1: Whole-School Professional Development for Educators

- Funding for professional development sessions for each participating high school
- \$54,000 for the duration of the grant to provide campus wide professional development focusing on ELL instruction (faculty meetings, special training, and PLCs)

Tier 2: 40 Educators from Each Participating High School

- One-week summer institute at each high school with the National Writing Project
- \$1,000 stipend per participating teacher
- Classroom resources
- ESL certification supplemental training resources and testing/certification fees

ELLevate's Four-Tiered Approach

Tier 3: 15 Educators per School

- 3 graduate courses offered at their campus
- \$5,000 stipend
- Additional funding available to attend and present at conferences

Tier 4: 5+ Educators per School

- Complete a graduate degree at TWU tuition-free
- Ongoing support from ELLevate! staff

ELLevate! Faculty Participating in Graduate Courses

Denton HS Teachers	Assignment
Amber Bush	English Teacher
Carron Collier	Math Teacher
Mary Gilliland	English/Reading Teacher
Tara Hartford	Biology Teacher
Robin Hay Ho	ELL Center
Carl Hermann	English Teacher
Laurie Kinne	9th English I/Pre-AP English I teacher
Jennifer Phillips	English / Instructional Coach
Amy Romero	Librarian
Seth Ross	ESL/English Teacher
Rebecca Thomason	Latin/English Teacher
Roniesue Ullrich	SPED
Additional applicants will be added to cohort	

PIONERAS Grant

Project PIONERAS - \$2.2 million

Professional **I**mprovement through **O**ptimization of
Native-language **E**ducation and the **R**ealization
of **A**cademic/familial **S**ymbiosis

Goal:

To improve the language and literacy skills as well as the academic achievement of the over 1,700 Spanish dominant English Language Learners in Denton ISD's dual language (DL) classrooms

Project PIONERAS

Undergraduate

Provides TWU students in EC-6 Bilingual/ESL with undergraduate courses

- 3 undergraduate-level courses
- Spanish-language study abroad program in Costa Rica that includes another 2 undergraduate-level courses

Graduate

Provides professional development through graduate courses for current Denton ISD dual language classroom teachers

- Tuition and fees for 3 graduate-level courses (\$4,500) and 10 teachers have the opportunity to complete a Master's or a Doctorate degree (\$13,500)
- Two one-time stipends
 1. A stipend for books, supplies, materials, and TExEs fees (\$1,000)
 2. A stipend for teaching materials at the completion of the program (\$1,000)

PIONERAS Graduate Cohorts

17 dual language teachers have applied to TWU's graduate program to participate in the PIONERAS project

Cohort 1

<u>Campus</u>	<u>Teachers</u>
Evers	Juan Borda
Hodge	Narda Harber Zulma Mojica
Ginnings	Margarita Ramos-Rivera
Newton Rayzor	Dina Wuenschel Jannet Vasquez Sandra Zarate
Pecan Creek	Griselda Solano Ivonne Solano
Wilson	Nancy Rana Fernando Reyna Heidi Selene Torres

Cohort 2

<u>Campus</u>	<u>Teachers</u>
Evers	Luis Restrepo
Hodge	Blanca De La Torre Livier Alcalá
Ginnings	Amy Albertson
Rivera	Paul Parkerson

Additional applicants will be added to cohort



Project PIONERAS

Spanish Language Children's Library

- \$40,000 for authentic children's and adolescent literature in Spanish
- Housed in the TWU library
- Available to the entire community
- Focused efforts to bring Denton families to the TWU campus
- Collection will continue beyond the grant
- Undergraduate PIONERAS teachers will lead early literacy initiatives for the community with these resources

Project PIONERAS

Family Engagement Initiatives in Years 4 and 5

- Led by Dr. Rudy Rodriguez
- For all dual language campuses
- Focus on Spanish-speaking families
- Early literacy efforts
- Faculty training



Benefits to Denton ISD from Both Projects



- **54** educators will be funded for 3 graduate classes at TWU and receive stipends
- At least **20** educators will have the opportunity to earn a Master's or Doctorate at TWU
- **80** more ESL certified teachers
- Community outreach through family engagement
- Resources for the classroom such as literature and technology
- Professional development opportunities

Questions?