



Annual Report

2022-23

**Two Languages, Many Cultures,
and One Amazing Place!**

The mission of BLC is to foster an enhanced learning environment for children that both honors and celebrates their diversity. Through innovative programming and cultural and language enrichment, BLC provides high quality, nurturing after school enrichment programming for all students.



Letter from the Director

Dear Friends,

In these difficult times, when we work together, everything goes well. 13 years ago, BLC started with an idea to change lives, and it has become a beautiful educational project for all families. We celebrate language, culture, diversity, and everyone as individuals equally.

I am very grateful and honored for all the support from our donors, parents, teachers, and staff for their dedication to serving the community.

After 13 years, I want to express deep gratitude to all our partners who have built this beautiful project together. With your help, BLC has grown and been able to serve many schools and communities in unprecedented ways:

- For the first time, we have a permanent space thanks to Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church.
- BLC programs have increased the number of public and private schools offering bilingual cultural programs in Minneapolis.
- We are able to provide scholarships to low-income families that need summer camp and before and after school programs for their children.
- BLC continues to cultivate invaluable partnerships with individuals, families, and community
- We have increased the number of bilingual volunteers from various state universities.
- More and more students benefit from our one-on-one tutoring and academic support in both languages (English and Spanish) with highly qualified bilingual teachers.

There is still much work to be done, but we know that we are not alone. With your support, we will fill many hearts with happiness.

Thank you for inspiring us and for joining us in this work.

Blanca Raniolo, Msc, MAed

Executive Director and Co-Founder of BLC



Who We Are

Bilingual Learning Center is an amazing enrichment program that is uniquely designed to meet the needs of students and parents alike through before and after school programming, serving students in PreK through 5th grade.

Our program works with students from Minneapolis schools and supports language learning outside of the classroom.

BLC is a fully bilingual program (Spanish-English) designed to foster a welcoming, multicultural, nurturing and fun environment, and promotes a love for languages, cultural experiences, successful academics and leadership opportunities for our students.

BLC's core values are a welcoming environment, equity, responsibility and caring.

Our program goals are to decrease the achievement gap within a dual language immersion setting and to encourage the exploration of interests and the development of skills and creativity.

We support the needs of working families bringing awareness and recognition to their many different cultural backgrounds and traditions.

BLC provides bilingual (Spanish-English) and bicultural before and after school care to students in PreK through 5th grade, as well as diverse classes, tutoring, and educational summer day camps.

The enrichment care program includes exposure to Spanish and English from our staff, indoor and outdoor games and activities, snacks, art projects, and more.

BLC offers a wide range of after school classes weekly on a seasonal basis. Our class offerings, which vary over the fall, winter, and spring sessions, have included Mexican dance, arts and crafts, cultural cooking class, beginning guitar, chess club, karate, and science and nature.

During the summer, BLC offers weekly day camps that provide exploration in multiple areas, from reading to Latino culture and art to math and science.

BLC's tutoring program is run in collaboration with the students' classroom teachers to work on specific areas of study in order to promote academic success.

Board of Directors

Kirsten Buckley - Chair

Angela Barrera - Secretary

Terrel Webb

Alicia Juarez

Keidy Lora-Palusky

Rodolfo Gutierrez

Programs and Partners

Windom Community School

Since 2010, BLC has provided after school programs to the students of Windom School. Our presence in the school has adapted to major changes over the years, specifically the change from a dual immersion school to a community school in 2021 and the change in bell time which precipitated the opening of our before school program at this site.

Students served during 2022-23 academic year: 57

Windom Classes:

Beginning Spanish	Theater
Robotics	Cooking
Science	Martial Arts
Creative Art	



Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

BLC opened our Nokomis site in 2021 during the end of the pandemic, and we are thrilled to continue our partnership with Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church. BLC at Nokomis Heights is a satellite location serving students from Emerson, Green Central, and other Minneapolis schools. Students ride the bus to and from our location on MPS buses or are met at nearby schools by our staff.

Students served during 2022-23 academic year: 40



Nokomis Classes:

Chess Club	Theater
Robotics	Cooking
Science	Martial Arts
Creative Art	

One-on-One Tutoring Program

Tutoring is offered from mid-October through the end of the school year at our two main program sites, Windom and Nokomis. Students are recommended by parents and teachers following the fall conferences, and we arrange tutoring sessions with their goals in mind. Tutoring is available in English or Spanish in the subjects of math or reading/writing/speaking. Our tutors include college students and licensed teachers, volunteers and paid staff.

Students served during 2022-23 academic year: 14

Summer Day Camps

BLC summer day camps combine learning and recreation with a relaxed bilingual environment. Students who attend our week-long day camps are from multiple schools around the metro, many of whom we only see during the summer months.



Each week has a different theme and a field trip. The 2023 camps took place at our Nokomis site, where they were also last year.

Students served in 2023: 56

Summer Theme Weeks and Field Trips:

Green World - Westwood Nature Center

Under the Sea - St. Louis Park Aquatic Park

Science Projects - Bell Museum and Planetarium

Latin American Culture - Lake Harriet Bandshell Park

Sports - Target Field

Back to School

Risen Christ Catholic School

Following a successful partnership with Risen Christ from 2016-2019, we were happy to be asked back in 2022 to reopen our before school program at the school. The program is funded in part by RCCS and is attended by 95% Latine students.

Students served during 2022-23 academic year: 64



Minnehaha Academy

This past year, we were part of a pilot program at Minnehaha to offer multi-ethnic after school enrichment classes throughout the year. BLC staff taught Spanish language and cultural classes twice a week during the months of September and February, and we have been asked to return this year to provide year-round Spanish classes.



Students served during 2022-23 academic year: 38

Minnehaha Classes:

Beginning Spanish

Cultural Cooking

Cultural Art

Multicultural Dance

Scholarships

The current and ongoing goal of BLC is to be able to offer our programs to as many low-income and minority students as possible, and to create a welcoming and multicultural environment for students from all backgrounds.

From September 2022 through August 2023, 13 students received full scholarships to BLC.

Our Students at a Glance

During the 2022-23 academic year, BLC students attended 9 different Minneapolis schools:

Windom Community School

Hale Community School

Emerson Dual Language School*

Our Lady of Peace Catholic School

(attended by majority of Nokomis students)

Green Central Dual Language School

Minnehaha Academy

Northrop Community School

Risen Christ Catholic School

Sullivan STEAM School

Student Demographics from Primary Partner Schools

exploremps.org/Schools/AllSchools (*Windom, Emerson*)

usnews.com/education/k12/minnesota (*Risen Christ*)

niche.com/k12 (*Minnehaha*)

Windom Community School

Demographics		
Student Race	School	District
Native American	1%	5%
African American	24%	35%
Asian American	6%	5%
Hispanic American	7%	14%
White American	62%	41%
Students	School	District
Receive ELL Services	10%	17%
Qualify for free or reduced lunch	24%	48%
Receive Special Education Services	7%	15%

Emerson Dual Language School

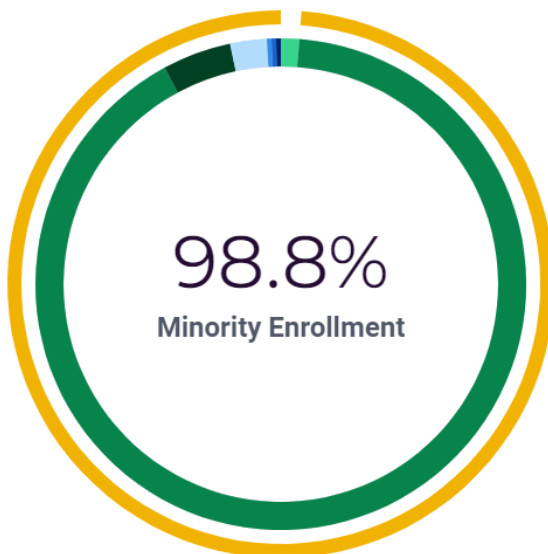
Demographics

Student Race	School	District
Native American	2%	5%
African American	10%	35%
Asian American	2%	5%
Hispanic American	56%	14%
White American	29%	41%

Students	School	District
Receive ELL Services	44%	17%
Qualify for free or reduced lunch	55%	48%
Receive Special Education Services	10%	15%

Risen Christ Catholic School

Student Diversity ⓘ



98.8%	Minority Enrollment
1.2%	White
90.9%	Hispanic/Latino
4.5%	Black or African American
2.4%	Asian or Asian/Pacific Islander
0.3%	Two or more races
0.3%	American Indian or Alaska Native
0.3%	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

Minnehaha Academy

Students

810

Gender

Female	46%
Male	54%

Student Diversity

White	69.5%
African American	10.1%
Multiracial	8.3%
Hispanic	6%
Asian	3.5%
Unknown	2%
Native American	0.6%
Pacific Islander	0%

BLC BUDGET 2022 BILINGUAL LEARNING CENTER

REVENUE	SEP-DEC	JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUNE	JULY-AUG	TOTAL
Fundraisers and events	\$3,000	\$0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$3,500
Grants	\$0	\$0	\$1,150	\$3,450	\$0	\$4,600
Scholarships given	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
Individual donation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Services	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$39,924	\$314,924
Total:	\$54,500	\$75,000	\$76,650	\$78,450	\$39,924	\$324,524
EXPENSES						
Employee Salaries and benefit	\$40,000	\$47,000	\$47,000	\$47,000	\$47,000	\$228,000
Employee Payroll Taxes	\$1,718	\$2,778	\$2,778	\$2,779	\$2,770	\$12,823
Contract services (W-9 form)	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$11,500
Accounting/Audit Services	\$1,230	\$1,230	\$1,230	\$1,230	\$1,230	\$6,150
Lease agreement	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$2,400	\$12,000
Program Supplies (Snack & Materials)	\$1,577	\$1,548	\$1,657	\$1,280	\$750	\$6,812
Field Trip/Activities	\$900	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$450	\$2,250
Telephone/Communications	\$180	\$180	\$180	\$180	\$360	\$1,080
Copying/Printing	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$250
Postage/Shipping	\$38	\$17	\$13	\$17	\$124	\$209
Staff training development	\$352	\$352	\$350	\$300	\$350	\$1,704
Volunteers/Interns (In Kind)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200
Office Supplies	\$247	\$118	\$118	\$118	\$145	\$746
Liability/WC Insurance	\$1,990	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,990
Marketing/Advertising	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$1,500
Bank Charges	\$120	\$120	\$120	\$120	\$120	\$600
Miscellaneous	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$450	\$150	\$1,950
Total:	\$53,852	\$58,843	\$58,946	\$59,624	\$58,499	\$289,764
Net Income	\$648	\$16,157	\$17,704	\$18,826	(\$18,575)	\$34,760

Donations

Fall Festival Fundraiser \$2,735.00

Target Hispanic Latino Business Council

in-kind goods for Fall Festival \$400

Chipotle Fundraiser \$167.41

Nokomis Height Lutheran Church \$ 1,691.00

ESSER Summer Learning Grant (MDE) 2022-24

- \$70,000.00 award for 2023

Morgan Stanley GIFT \$5,000.00

Amazon Smile \$108.48

GiveMN \$50.00

Lindsey Pogemiller \$300.00

Bryan Walters \$5,000.00

Sara Rusnacko \$50.00

Kristopher Huisinga \$300.00

Amber Marten \$250.00

Staff

Adriana Morgado Bringas

Blair Brown

Adriana Leal

Hugo Huitron

Souhail Danami

Linda Torres

Leah Lyons

Shanya Hawari

Alma Sanchez

Juan Gonzalez

Yamilet Campion

Trinidad Ramos

Ashley Delgado

Alex Perere Nieto

Kai Gray

Leo Peralta

Rosalba Sanchez

Volunteers

Jorge Dimaz-Geniz

Sara Bartz

Lexi Petronis

Kirsten Leonardi

Ana Ortiz Valdez

Claudia Chang

Gilbert Neri

Ann Klaas

Marilyn Johnson

Rory Egger

Lily Williamson

Julian Pomemiller

Marilyn Johnson

Community Partners

Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church

HPDL Community Association

Kali Group

CreateMPLS

Windom Community School

Risen Christ Catholic School

Minnehaha Academy

Minneapolis Public Schools

Minneapolis Parks and Recreation

University of Minnesota Center for

Community-Engaged Learning

Macalester College Community

Engagement Center

Latin Global Services

This report is accurate as of September 1, 2022 to August 31, 2023. We apologize for any information that may be missing or inaccurate.

Thank you for supporting BLC!

Bilingual Learning Center (BLC)

Website: <https://www.blcenter.org> Email: info@blcenter.org Phone: 612-249-3633

Mailing Address: PO Box 19034, Minneapolis, MN 55419