

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN: SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021

**Campus Name:** Pilgrim Academy      **Campus #:** 218      **Principal:** Diana Castillo

**Area Office:** West

#### **Executive Summary:**

Thomas J. Pilgrim Academy is a neighborhood Pre-K to 8 school located near the Galleria and situated between Hillcroft and Fountain View. Our campus was re-built in 2007 and the middle school addition was completed in 2019. We are a schoolwide Title I campus and serve approximately 1,086 students. Our student population is approximately 93% Hispanic, with many of our students being newcomers to the country, 5% African American, 2% percent Caucasian and less than 1% in other race demography. Our mission at Pilgrim Academy is to provide a safe, creative, and empowering learning environment.

Our 2019 Domain results were a positive reflection of our hard work, while reminding us of the work left to do. In Student Achievement, we received a 78 score (C). In School Progress we earned an 88 (B) and in Closing the Gaps, we received a 78 (C).

We have a population of mostly second language, “at-risk” learners with diverse educational backgrounds who often struggle more with English reading acquisition than with math. As such, we will increase the percentage of students who “Approach and Meet” the Reading STAAR and increase the percentage of students who “Meet” or “Master” the Math STAAR. Helping our students see and maintain the long view in their education requires family support, therefore we are committed to educating parents and families through campus programming and events. Some of these range from family-curriculum nights that invite students to bring their families to fun and education themed events that focus on Math, Reading and Science.

To ensure all our students are progressing and showing growth, we have put special emphasis on select goals for our campus.

- ELAR - The percentage of students achieving Meet Grade Level will increase for the entire school from 39% to 45% on their STAAR reading exam for school year 2020/2021.
- Math - The percentage of students achieving Meet Grade Level and Master Grade Level will increase for the entire school by 5% (60% to 65% and 30% to 35% respectively) in each category on their STAAR math exam for school year 2020/2021.
- Writing- The percentage of students achieving Meet Grade Level and Master Grade Level will increase for the entire school by 5% (35% to 40% and 12% to 17% respectively) in each category on their STAAR writing exam for school year 2020/2021.
- Attendance - The attendance percentage of the entire school will increase from our 97% to 98% over the 2020-2021 school year as shown in PowerSchool.
- Special Ed- SMART Goal: There will be a 5% increase in the number of special education students that reach the Approaches Grade Level during the 2020-2021 school year.
- Special Populations- By the end of the 2020-2021 school year, increase economically disadvantaged scores for all tests by 5% at the approaches level from 78% to 83% and increase ELs scores by 5% from 74% to 79%

Data-driven instruction is paramount. To gain better insight into the real-time progress and content mastery of our students, we have opted to have more frequent, shorter formative assessments throughout the year, at 3-week intervals. We have also focused attention to assisting our dyslexia students by having two reading interventionists to target students with dyslexia. For our EL students, we continue to utilize our sheltered instruction along with our strong bilingual and ESL programs.

For our upper elementary and middle students, we are also pleased to continue to offer them our exuberant mentoring programs: “Ascending to Men” for our young men; and “Pearls” for our young ladies. Project Explore will also continue to provide our students with information about college and career pathways. We also have our partnership with the Jones-Day Foundation that has brought Pathways to Law to our campus. This program brings various business professionals to mentor and guide our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students through interviews, mock trials, and debates. It is through events and partnerships such as these that we at Pilgrim Academy hope to build an inclusive culture where all children can safely learn, feel empowered, and realize their true potential.