

July 2016

iHola LILA 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Families!

I am looking forward to returning to 4<sup>th</sup> grade this year! I have worn many different hats at LILA since we first opened in 2004. Besides 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, I have taught Kinder and Art. I also have worked as LILA's IB PYP Coordinator, helping us become an authorized IB World School. This year, I am excited to begin *our* journey together.

Let me start by telling you about myself. I love to ask questions. Lately I have been wondering about rain gardens. My family participated in a grant that created a rather large rain garden in our yard. We live above a watershed that has high priority for an intervention. In fall 2015, we constructed the garden and last spring we planted at least a hundred plants. I love to watch the garden grow. I am very curious to see how this rain garden will work with the other rain gardens placed in our neighborhood to slow down and filter water before reaching the watershed, and hope that all the plants will thrive. Over the years, I have found that my wonderings are a way that I think about things happening around me.

I love art. I could spend hours working on a collage, or drawing the pond near my home. I am also a writer. I was very excited four years ago when we added poetry to our Performance Unit. It gives me the opportunity to listen, observe and paint images with words while at school! And books! I love to escape into a good story. How about you?

I am originally from the Twin Cities. I have lived in Sevilla, Chicago, and San Francisco. My husband Oscar and I have four daughters, Diana (26 years old), Clara (almost 16 years old), Elena (12 years old), and Alisa (almost 7 years old).

At our before-school conference in August, we will look at our daily class schedule and talk more about our upcoming year together. In the mean time, I hope you are asking good questions, finding the opportunity to dive into a good book, and looking for many ways to enjoy your summer. I can't wait to learn more about you during this 4<sup>th</sup> grade year! Be sure to complete and bring your *All About Me Page* to our conference.

iHasta pronto!

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