

**Excellence in Leadership Academy** 

915 West Interstate Highway 2 Mission. TX 78572 PH: 956-424-9504

Dear ELA Families,

My name is Cecilia Caballero Septimo. I was originally born and raised in Monterrey, N.L., Mexico until moving to the United States in 1995, under a full athletic scholarship to play volleyball. I first graduated as a business administrator from "Universidad Regiomontana" in 1992, then obtained a Masters Degree also in business administration from "Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM)".

It was in 1995 that I decided to pursue my passion as an educator obtaining an Educator Certificate, and later attending an Educational Leadership Program at Harvard University. I worked as a teacher for 15 years before becoming an Assistant Principal of Instruction, for 2 years, and then as a Principal for 9 years.

I'm extremely proud to serve as the principal of this great learning community for the first time and to be able to support the Excellence in Learning Academy School District. It is my honor and a pleasure to welcome new and returning students, families, faculty, and staff to the 2023 – 2024 school year!

As a school, we will strive for academic excellence and social emotional well-being for our students while looking though the lens of equity and inclusion. Our teachers and staff are eager to work with our students and continue their learning journey. The dedicated staff at ELA worked tirelessly to prepare their classes and schedules. They engaged in professional learning opportunities and updated our instructional models, class routines, and expectations, all with the goal of fostering academic success and a true sense of connectedness and belonging for our students. We are excited to share with you everything that Excellence in Leadership Academy (ELA) has to offer.

We will work together to create a solid academic foundation for our students, so that they have the opportunity to become self-directed learners, collaborative teammates, critical thinkers, and responsible citizens.

As always, we look to our families to be positive partners in students' educational journeys. Working together is a priority with professionalism, teamwork, action, and expertise. Please join us to ensure the success of all ELA students.

We thank you for entrusting us with your children's education.

Respectfully,

Cecilia C. Septimo Excellence in Leadership Academy Principal