



Dear ELA Family!

My name is Lauren F. Payne, I am originally from San Jose, Costa Rica, I graduated with a bachelor's degree in public accounting, Cost Accounting and Systems Auditing. I had my own Accounting Firm and was also working as a professor at two universities. My family and I moved to the United States in November of 1998 to help my elderly father-in-law who was a winter-Texan at the RGV and needed help with his Orange Farms. We ended up becoming Orange Growers. After three years of helping the family business, I decided it was time for me to continue with my passion for teaching.

I obtained my Teaching Certificate in the State of Texas, since then I taught Business, Technology, Education, Transitions and Spanish classes at different schools in the RGV. During my first years of teaching, I decided to pursue a master's degree in business administration in technology management which lead me to become an Instructional Technology Specialist at a local high school, during that time I also decided to become a School Counselor, I have worked as a counselor for over 5 years.

As part of my aspirations, I also obtained my Principalship, and last year I worked as an Assistant Principal of an elementary charter school. I have more than 28 years of experience in the educational field, and as always, I am pleased to serve my community.

This school year, I am honored to be serving as the School Counselor at Excellence in Leadership Academy, a family-oriented charter school in which staff, teachers, and administrators work together to offer academic excellency to all the students to help them become the leaders of tomorrow.

The Counseling Program at Excellence in Leadership Academy includes a variety of services for all students and is designed to assist with issues related to the stages of student growth in the areas such as: academic performance, career, personal, emotional, and social development.

I look forward to getting to know each ELA family member.

GO EAGLES!!!

Sincerely,

Lauren F. Payne

ELA School Counselor