



DISCOVERY LANGUAGE ACADEMY
Portuguese United for Education

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Dear Parents:

It is with great pride and excitement that I write this letter of introduction to you as the newly appointed Executive Director of Portuguese United for Education. Our new name is Discovery Language Academy. I am honored to have the opportunity to lead a school with such a rich tradition that has produced so many outstanding students.

During these past few weeks, we packed up our two campuses, and moved them into our new location at the DeMello International Center. I am looking forward to meeting all of you. Together with our teachers, instructors, and board of directors, we will provide the best possible academic experience for our students. I look forward to fostering these relationships and working with teachers, instructors, and staff to provide a world-class educational experience for each child.

I have been dedicated to the field of education for more than thirteen years with specific concentrations in Portuguese, English as a Second Language, and early enrichment opportunities for children. I am currently attending the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, in pursuit of a doctoral degree. I am elated to bring my skills as an educational leader to Discovery Language Academy and to work with you as a partner in education to ensure your child's success.

Along with teachers, instructors, and staff, I will work hard to continue the legacy of success established at the school by building strong relationships with parents, students, and community partners. We will focus on character education initiatives, Second Language Acquisition skills, use of data to inform instruction, consistent implementation of newly adopted direct instruction strategies to increase students' achievement, and providing exciting and challenging enrichment opportunities for all students.

All of us at Discovery Language Academy are eager and excited to begin what promises to be the best year ever. Drawing on the end year surveys from parents, many positive changes are being implemented. One such example is that parents will receive a monthly newsletter from me keeping you informed of what we are concentrating on in each class. Another positive change involves the way in which students are placed. Our groupings are no longer grade specific so that students are not deriving a negative connotation from being in a grade below their school designation. We will be sending home more information shortly.

This year we continue to provide academic experiences for our students that are rigorous, relevant and build relationships. It is important to me that everyone who steps through our doors—teachers, instructors, students and parents—are excited to be here! This climate enables us to meet the challenges of academic excellence in a positive, fun, and nurturing environment. My door is always open and I welcome your input. Please feel free to stop in, call, or email me to discuss any concerns, suggestions, or ideas to help make this the best year yet! Until then, please log in and look at our new website www.discoverylanguageacademy.org.

I feel truly blessed to be the instructional leader of such a remarkable school community.

Respectfully,

Leslie Ribeiro Vicente, M.Ed.

Executive Director, Discovery Language Academy-PUE

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