

Curriculum Vita – Lizdelia Piñón

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Dr. Piñón is IDRA's emergent bilingual education specialist with more than 20 years of experience in bilingual and ESL education in both K-12 as well as higher education. She has worked as a bilingual/ESL teacher, university instructor and graduate research assistant in education. Her areas of expertise include bilingual education, ESL (both K-12 and adult learning) programs and educational implementations. Growing up in Chicago, she attended as a student one of the first dual language programs from prekindergarten through eighth grade.

In 2022, Dr. Piñón was appointed to the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) Bilingual Special Education Educator Standards Advisory Committee. She co-led community and expert input into the process and provided invited expert testimony before the Texas House Public Education and Higher Education Committees on an interim charge regarding the teacher shortages in public schools.

Dr. Piñón provides professional development and technical assistance to schools across the nation on effective bilingual education for all students. She designs and delivers interactive training that provides teachers with tools for increasing student achievement in bilingual education areas. She leads campus implementation for program sites in the Youth Leadership Now, IDRA's field-initiated, research-based program funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The project is examining how this asset-based program can transform not just participating students but also whole school communities.

Educational Background

Ed.D. Educational Leadership, Superintendent Program, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas, 2021. **Dissertation:** Implementation of Translanguaging: An Ethnography.

Certificate of Administrative Leadership, DePaul University, Chicago, 2012

M.S. Education literacy with advanced certificate of graduate studies in teaching English as a second language and bilingual education, Northern Illinois University, Dekalb, Ill., 2007

B.A. Political science and minor in Spanish, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, Ill., 2004.

Certifications

Principal EC-12, Texas
Core Subject EC-6, Texas
Core Subject 4-8, Texas
Bilingual Supplemental – Spanish EC-12, Texas
Special Education, Texas
T-TESS
Bilingual education EC-8, Illinois

Professional Experience

2021-present: **Education Associate**. Intercultural Development Research Association: San Antonio.

Provides professional development and technical assistance to schools across the nation on effective bilingual education for all students. Designs and delivers interactive training that provides teachers tools for increasing student achievement in bilingual education areas. Coordinates service delivery to schools across the U.S. South to ensure all students receive an excellent and equitable education, regardless of their national origin, native language or immigration status.

2021: **Interim Academic Program Specialist – KinderFrogs Lab School**. Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas.

Supported projects by assisting staff and parents with policies and procedures, identifying and resolving issues. Ensured operation of facilities by scheduling repairs and maintenance, coordinating facilities usage, maintaining inventory records, evaluating new equipment, and making recommendations for changes. Provided scheduling functions. Assisted with NAYEC accreditation.

2018-2020: **Adjunct Instructor, COE-K-12 & Intensive English Programs, Student**

Access & Success. Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas.

Planned, developed, and used a variety of teaching methods (lecture, online, etc.) and materials to assist students in meeting course objectives. Developed and utilized course syllabi, following established guidelines. Evaluated students to measure progress in achieving course objectives and promptly informed them of their progress. Interacted with cooperating teachers, and other administration in partnering schools. Managed the intensive English program day-to-day operational needs.

2017-2018: **Interim ELL Specialist (Middle School and High School).** Everman Independent School District, Everman, Texas.

Coached administrators and teachers on best practices for emergent bilingual students. Migrated website information. Created curriculum and materials to use for ESL courses.

2015-2016: **Superintendent Internship.** Everman Independent School District, Everman, Texas.

Completed case study on fourth grade writing scores. Shadowed key district personnel and documented experiences.

2004-2012: **ESL/Bilingual Teacher (Fluent in English and Spanish).** TIOGA School, Bensenville, Ill.

Elected team leader of the bilingual professional learning community (2011). Integrated Common Core Standard and Illinois Assessment Framework (2011). Elected IEA Delegate for District #2 (2010). Elected to comprehensive school committee as teacher representative (school level and district level). Developed oral and written English language for non-native English speakers. Use best-practice methods geared for English language learners such as modeling, TPR, LEA, etc. Monitored and evaluated the individual progress of students. Worked with parents on helping them in learning English as a second language.

2003-2004: **Bilingual Teaching Assistant.** TIOGA School, Bensenville, Ill.

Worked with ESL students on improving their reading and writing. Consulted with teachers

to develop individualized student skills. Recorded student progress as needed. Translated school and district material into Spanish. Interpreted special education meetings, parent conferences, etc., for Spanish-speaking parents.

2004-2008: **Spanish Third Grade Teacher.** Language Quest. Bensenville, Ill.

Taught students to speak in Spanish during after-school programs.

Publications & Articles

Mendoza, M. E., Piñón, L., & Przymus, S.D. (2026). Information is Power: Expanding Learning Opportunities for Families of Bi- and Multilingual Children with Disabilities. *Journal of Latinos and Education*, 25(2), 515-527.

Piñón, L. (February 2026). Méndez Ruling Declaring School Segregation Unconstitutional Led the Way to Brown v. Board of Education. *IDRA Newsletter*.

Piñón, L. (August 2025). AI as a Tool for Inclusive Bilingual Education. *Language Magazine*.

Piñón, L. (September 2024). Breakthrough for Students – Texas State Board Approves Standards for New Bilingual Special Education Teacher Certificate. *IDRA Newsletter*.

Piñón, L. (August 2024). AI as a Tool for Inclusive Bilingual Education. *Language Magazine*.

Mendoza, M.E., Piñón, L., & Przymus, S.D. (July 26, 2025). Information is Power: Expanding Learning Opportunities for Families of Bilingual Multilingual Children with Disabilities. *Journal of Latinos and Education*.

Piñón, L. (June-July 2024). Texas Gets Closer to Adopting a Bilingual Special Education Teacher Certificate. *IDRA Newsletter*.

Piñón, L., & Craven, M. (April 2024). Navigating Policy Landscapes for Linguistic and Cultural Equity. *IDRA Newsletter*.

Piñón, L. (April 2024). AI as a Tool for Inclusive Bilingual Education. *IDRA Newsletter*.

Piñón, L. (February 2023). Bilingual Special Education Certification is One Step Closer in Texas. *IDRA Newsletter*.

Piñón, L. (November 2022). Strategies for Recruiting Bilingual Educators. *IDRA Newsletter*.

Piñón, L. (April 2022). Challenges to Implementing Texas HB 4545 Tutoring Requirements for Accelerated Learning. *Learning Goes On*.

Piñón, L. (April 2022). Why Emergent Bilingual Education Needs Equity-Centered Pedagogies. *IDRA Newsletter*.

Piñón, L. (March 2022). Using Textured Teaching in the Culturally Sustaining Classroom. *Knowledge is Power*.

Piñón, L. (March 2022). Women's History is U.S. History. *Learning Goes On*.

Piñón, L. (March 2022). The Innovation of Translanguaging Pedagogy Enables Students to Use All of Their Tools. *IDRA Newsletter*.

Piñón, L. (February 2022). Today's Attacks on Students' Civil Rights Echo Earlier Attacks on Bilingual Education. *Knowledge is Power*.

Cook Children's Hospital: Gastroenterology Family Advisory Committee, August 2015 to Present.

Cook Children's Hospital: Hispanic Family Advisory Committee, July 2019 to Present.

Cook Children's Hospital: Educational Literacy Committee, July 2019 to Present.

Crowley ISD: Health Committee, July 2019 to Present.

Podcasts

Garcia, S., & Piñón, L. (April 29, 2026). What Shapes STEM Pathways for Girls – IDRA Classnotes Podcast Episode 254. *IDRA Classnotes Podcast*.

Latham Sikes, C., Piñón, L., & Wright, K. (February 21, 2025). The Truth About Private School Vouchers – Classnotes Podcast 248. *IDRA Classnotes Podcast*.

Piñón, L. (April 4, 2024). Ambassador Educators on Promoting STEM Equity – Podcast Episode 241. *IDRA Classnotes Podcast*.

Piñón, L. (January 29, 2023). Conversaciones Críticas entre Padres y Niños – Dra. Lizdela Pinon. Por Nuestros Niños podcast.

Piñón, L. (March 23, 2022). Nurturing Courageous Critical Conversations in the Classroom – Podcast Episode 221. *IDRA Classnotes Podcast*.

Committee Experience

MHMR: ECI Advisory Committee, Fort Worth, July 2016 to Present.

MHMR: ECI – Race Equity Committee, August 2015 to Present.