

Individual Project Report

Instructional Material for Miguel E. Martinez Elementary School in Nuevo Laredo, Tamps. Mexico

Project Description

1. Describe the project. What was done, when, and where did the project activities take place?

The purpose of this project was to accomplish the following:

- Purchase instructional supplementary materials for the approximately 200 first- through sixth-grade students, their teachers, and the principal from Miguel F. Martinez Elementary School in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas (Mexico). (Completed during the fall of 2017).
- Establish and implement a professional development training regimen designed to help teachers and principal effectively integrate these materials into the teaching and learning experiences provided to the students. (Begun in the fall 2017 and continued through April 2018).
- Assess the impact of the project through a demonstration and explanation of the learning activities that were designed and implemented. (Complete in May 2018).

Visits and observations by professionally trained Rotarians of the students and teachers utilizing the materials in the classrooms revealed that the students were profiting from the use of the materials. Conversations with teachers revealed that they felt quite comfortable assigning extension activities and homework that involved the supplementary instructional materials because they had previously reviewed the targeted concepts in the classrooms with the students. Interactions and observations with students revealed that they felt confident approaching their assigned tasks following these types of teaching-learning experiences.

2. How many people benefited from this project?

Approximately 207 individuals

3. Who were the beneficiaries, how were they impacted by this project, and what humanitarian need was met?

The beneficiaries were the approximately 200 first through sixth grade students, the 6 first- through sixth-grade teachers, and their campus principal.

These individuals were impacted in a variety of ways. With the use of the supplementary instructional materials, teachers were able to enrich the quality of the teaching-learning experiences they designed and implemented with their students. These materials complemented those provided by the state of Tamaulipas. Students also benefited because they were able to delve deeper and more often into the concepts and skills they were expected to acquire through the additional practice provided by the purchased materials. Additionally, the campus principal profited from the materials because she was able to incorporate these resources into the various one-to-one and group conferences she had with the teachers. Because the principal regularly visits the classrooms to observe the teaching-learning experiences being conducted, her follow-up conversations with the teachers are based on these observations and include the selected use of the supplementary materials, as needed. Also noteworthy is that she is able to help teachers understand how

to gradually release the responsibility for learning to the students, while carefully monitoring their ability to understand and cope with the assigned tasks.

The following tables allow for a comparative analysis of the role that the instructional materials played in helping students to achieve academic success.

Table 1

2016-2017 Average of Scores of Students on Bimester Exams (6.0 minimum passing standard)

Grade	Bimester Exam #1	Bimester Exam #2	Semester Average	Bimester #3	Bimester #4
1	7.30	8.20	7.14	7.00	6.90
2	6.50	6.10	6.70	6.10	7.00
3	4.90	5.00	4.96	4.10	4.90
4	3.70	3.70	3.90	3.60	3.70
5	3.00	3.30	3.52	3.80	3.50
6	5.20	5.60	5.30	5.10	3.60
School	5.10	5.30	5.25	4.95	4.93

Table 1 indicates that in the 2016-2017 academic year, only first- and second-grade students were able to meet the 6.0 passing standard. Thus, overall, the students in 3rd through 6th grade failed to meet the passing standard.

Table 2

2017-2018 Average of Scores of Students on Bimester Exams (6.0 minimum passing standard)

Grade	Bimester Exam #1	Bimester Exam #2	Semester Average	Bimester #3	Bimester #4
1	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.8
2	8.1	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.3
3	7.4	7.4	8.1	7.9	7.7
4	7.3	7.38	7.5	7.4	7.3
5	7.6	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9
6	8.2	7.9	7.9	7.9	7.9
School	7.75	7.80	7.93	7.86	7.78

Data from Table 2 indicate that the overall achievement for the 1st through 6th grade students during the 2017-2018 has exceeded the 6.0 passing standard across all four bimesters tested. The principal has observed that the teachers are more strategic and deliberate in their use of the supplementary instructional materials to help ensure that each student is receiving the type of reinforcement and additional practice appropriate for him/her. It is important to note that the materials seem to have played a role in helping students to achieve success; however, it is the effective and strategic use of these materials by knowledgeable and skilled teachers that makes the key difference.

The humanitarian need met involves the improved quality of education provided to the students of Miguel F. Martinez Elementary School in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas (Mexico) by their teachers and campus principal.

4. How many Rotarians participated in this project?

Nine Rotarians took part in this project.

5. What did they do? Please give at least two examples, not including financial support provided to the project.

Rotarians from The Laredo Rotary Club with relevant professional experience provided staff development training to the campus teachers and principal on ways they could use the supplementary instructional materials to enrich the teaching-learning experiences they provided to their students. These sessions allowed for interaction and demonstrations to help ensure teachers felt comfortable with the use of the materials. These Rotarians also visited classrooms to observe how the teachers and students were using the instructional materials. To help sixth grade students begin to grasp the meaning of Service Above Self, Rotarians from The Laredo Rotary Club approached the sixth-grade teacher and campus principal about the possibility of establishing a service club with these students. Both, as well as the students, were very excited about the prospect of doing so. Subsequently, these Rotarians met with the students and their teacher to discuss basic ideas about Rotary, the meaning of Service Above Self, and ways they could establish a service club to help their school community. Because of the very positive response, these Rotarians guided students in the process of electing officers and then provided examples of different types of service projects they could undertake to help improve their school. Subsequently, Rotarians from Club Rotario Reforma from Nuevo Laredo with extensive experience in working with Rotakids clubs began collaborating with the Rotarians from The Laredo Rotary Club to explore the possibility of converting the existing club into a Rotakids Club. Because of the very positive response from the students, classroom teacher, principal, and students' parents, efforts were undertaken to form this club. We are pleased to report that the Rotakids Club has been formed and is now operational. Rotarians provided the students with Rotakids T-Shirts and helped them plan and conduct two service projects in the spring of 2018. The first was a fund-raiser to help generate funds to purchase a new entrance gate for their school. The other consisted of the Rotakids going to the first-grade classroom of their school to read books of interest to first grade children. The reactions from the students were extremely positive and illustrated that the Rotakids were beginning to grasp the idea of how they can make a positive difference in the lives of others.

6. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was its role?

Members of Club Rotario Nuevo Santander de Nuevo Laredo and Club Rotario Villa de Nuevo Laredo made financial contributions to help support the club. They were also on hand at the campus to demonstrate their full support for this project once the instructional materials had been purchased and were delivered to the teachers. Finally, Club Rotario Reforma from Nuevo Laredo played a vital role in the establishment of the Rotakids Club at Miguel F. Martinez Elementary School in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas (Mexico). All three Rotary clubs are members of District 4130.

Financial Report

Date	Description	Funding Source	Amount	%
Aug 02, 2017	Laredo Rotary	District Grant	\$4,000.00	48.35 %
Jun 23, 2017	Laredo Under 7 Flags Rotary Club	Club/Other	\$250.00	3.02 %
Jun 23, 2017	Laredo Gateway Rotary Club	Club/Other	\$500.00	6.04 %
Jun 23, 2017	Club Rotario Villa de Nuevo Laredo	Club/Other	\$500.00	6.04 %
Total:			\$8,272.31	100.00 %

Date	Description	Funding Source	Amount	%		
Jun 23, 2017	Lared Next Generation Rotary Club	Club/Other	\$500.00	6.04 %		
Jun 23, 2017	Laredo Daybreak Rotary Club	Club/Other	\$500.00	6.04 %		
Jun 23, 2017	Club Rotario Nuevo Santander de Nuevo Laredo	Club/Other	\$1,000.00	12.09 %		
Jun 23, 2017	The Laredo Rotary Club	Club/Other	\$1,022.31	12.36 %		
Total:			\$8,272.31	100.00 %		
Description	Supplier	Local Amount	Currency	Tax	Total	Amount
160 Me Divierto y Aprendo Workbook 2nd - 6th grade	Mi Libro	\$2,259.00	USD	\$0.00	\$2,259.00	\$2,259.00
160 Problemario de Matematicas 2nd - 6th Grade	Mi Libro	\$1,291.00	USD	\$0.00	\$1,291.00	\$1,291.00
190 New Learning Plus English 1st - 6th Grades	Mi Libro	\$1,259.00	USD	\$0.00	\$1,259.00	\$1,259.00
95 Practico Mi Gramatica Workbooks	Mi Libro	\$553.00	USD	\$0.00	\$553.00	\$553.00
35 Circo Maroma y Letras Workbook - 1st Grade	Mi Libro	\$504.00	USD	\$0.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
24 Libros Rincon de Lectura	Mi Libro	\$415.00	USD	\$0.00	\$415.00	\$415.00
6 Bocinas de audio	Mi Libro	\$404.00	USD	\$0.00	\$404.00	\$404.00
2 Libreros	Mi Libro	\$311.00	USD	\$0.00	\$311.00	\$311.00
35 Lecto-escritura Workbook 1st Grade	Mi Libro	\$304.31	USD	\$0.00	\$304.31	\$304.31
Assorted School Supplies paper, pencils, scissors etc.	Office Depot	\$294.31	USD	\$0.00	\$294.31	\$272.00
3 Tableros para Multiplicar	Mi Libro	\$233.00	USD	\$0.00	\$233.00	\$233.00
18 Balones Feportivos	Mi Libro	\$168.00	USD	\$0.00	\$168.00	\$168.00
Total:					\$8,272.31	

Description	Supplier	Local Amount	Currency	Tax	Total	Amount
3 Juego Geometrico Gigante	Mi Libro	\$103.00	USD	\$0.00	\$103.00	\$103.00
12 Rompe Cavezas	Mi Libro	\$90.00	USD	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$90.00
3 Mapas Gigantes para pared	Mi Libro	\$61.00	USD	\$0.00	\$61.00	\$61.00
1 Globo Terraqueo	Mi Libro	\$45.00	USD	\$0.00	\$45.00	\$45.00
					Total:	\$8,272.31