

Multilingual Night, "Lectura en Mi Familia"

Alamosa School District

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For over 24 years, Lectura en Mi Familia has been an integral program within the Alamosa School District, serving K-2 and 3-5 grade students. In the 2024-2025 school year, district staff launched the first District Lectura en Mi Familia Multilingual Night. This event was a tremendous success, attracting over 663 participants, including 22 agencies and 14 dedicated students who assisted and joined in the activities.

The planning of Multilingual Night, known as "Lectura Mi Familia," involved the Family Engagement team, five English Language Learner (ELL) coordinators from each building, and principals. The initiative was guided by the Assistant Superintendent and coordinated by the Family Engagement Coordinator and 3-5 ELL Coordinator.

Lectura Mi Familia centered around the theme of Career Development. The evening began with welcoming remarks from the Alamosa Mayor, followed by the Superintendent. The event recognized students for their achievements and improvements, with coordinators presenting certificates to those who showed the most progress. Each school's principal awarded an outstanding plaque to a top student, and there was a special recognition for an outstanding district student.

Following the awards ceremony, attendees participated in various workshops led by students from Adams State University, as well as former multilingual students from the Alamosa School District, who are now thriving in various career fields. The event was supported by 23 different agencies, along with CHAF and Migrant Education. Local restaurant Lindo Jalisco generously provided delicious food, while a performance by the group Semillas de la Tierra added a cultural touch to the celebration. Overall, Lectura Mi Familia was a wonderful opportunity to promote career development and celebrate student achievements within the community.

This practice was evaluated by having families complete surveys on their takeaways from that night. One significant challenge was the registration process, which proved to be overwhelming. Many families reported difficulties, which impacted their overall experience. To address this, the registration system will be revamped for next year to make it more user-friendly.

The best advice for those wanting to replicate this work is to build on existing successful practices rather than starting from scratch. Collaborate closely with coordinators, principals, and teachers, as their insights are invaluable. Additionally, leverage community resources that support students to ensure a comprehensive approach to engagement.

