Dear families,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year at Challenger Middle School. My name is Ms. Ramirez Paz and I will be your child’s English Language Development (ELD) teacher. I am looking forward to a great year of learning and growth.

ELD classes are necessary because they will prepare your children for the Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA), which they will be taking in February. My goal is to have all the students pass the AZELLA so they will be able to move out of ELD classes and into regular courses. The AZELLA is not an easy test for a student who is still learning English and that is why parental support is strongly encouraged. Here at Challenger, the other staff and I will be giving your children all the support we can, but it is up to you parents or guardians to continue that support at home. Supporting your children includes:

* Making sure they are well-rested every day.
* Providing a quiet work space for the children to do their homework.
* Making sure they bring their materials to class each day, mainly a pencil, a notebook, their laptop (fully charged), the laptop charger, and ear buds.
* Dropping the students off on time so they are not late to school and making sure they are only absent when they are sick or for emergency reasons.
* Keeping track of their homework assignments and weekly progress on PowerStudent.

We have a very challenging goal ahead of us, but it will be easy to reach if parents, students and staff work together. I look forward to your cooperation and to meeting you throughout the year. Feel free to contact me at any time in case of questions and concerns.

Thank you,

Ms. Ramirez Paz

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