

## Welcome to The Monarch E-blast



The Monarch School and Institute



### *A word from Dr. Hall:*

Welcome to what promises to be another fantastic year at The Monarch School! It will be filled with more opportunities for all our learners as we strive to find ways that we can be better than we have ever been before!

The Faculty, (12% with doctoral degrees, 25% with advanced degrees and on average 14 years' experience), participated in over 140 hours of Professional Development hours as we prepared to open school.

*"Sharing our Monarch stories, shaping lives and transforming futures daily."*

## *Shaping lives and transforming futures*



### Chrysalis Program led by: *Christopher Perri, LCSW*

- Multidisciplinary Integrated Learning Practice (ILP) Team includes LCSW, BCBA, Masters in Educational Psychologist, PhD Clinical Psychologist, ABD NeuroScience, 15 year Monarch veteran teacher
- Low student faculty ratio and individualized treatment plans meeting the child where they are and developing practices to help them reach their potential
- Measures of Academic Progress or (MAP®) which is a personalized assessment experience that adapts to the student's learning level precisely measuring student progress and growth.
- Growth and expansion of extensive collaborations: DaCamera Young Artists, Houston Ballet and TUTS/The River, Discover Fitness Foundation and Stars Gymnastics
- Currently serving 62 students and families



**Butterfly Program led by: *Christina Navarro, Ed.D.***

- Intervention Hour – groups led by licensed therapists targeting specific challenges
- Mentorships three time a day with a multi-disciplinary team member
- Goal setting and action plans developed with a licensed mental health professional
- Measures of Academic Progress or (MAP®) which is a personalized assessment experience that adapts to the student's learning level precisely measuring student progress and growth.
- All content teachers certified
- Increased commitment to academic excellence coupled with therapeutic support
- Therapists available to support in real time in the classrooms as needed
- Individualized treatment plans to assure each child has the practices and supports they need to progress.
- Our graduates go to four year colleges, internships and/or jobs



**Life Academy and Employability led by: *Robin Rettie, M.Ed.***

Life Academy is purposefully coordinated to provide hands-on learning that addresses all aspects of life; academic, life skills, employment. Learners are placed according to need and interest, as well as group according to ability to allow for the needed pace in which learning occurs for each individual. The approach has been successful for 15 years as many who graduate from Monarch move onto becoming employed and utilize skills for living.

- Computer & Internet Basics
- Consumer Math, Housing and Budgets courses
- Enterprise offerings of Production, Culinary, Shipping & Receiving, and Retail. All Life Academy enterprises are student led and are a means for teaching the necessary skills for future employment.
- Serving 93 students a day
- Six of 23 Transition Services students going to HCC or Lone Star Community. Three in Leisure Learning Courses
- 10 of 23 gainfully employed
- Six off campus and nine on campus internships



**Transition Services Program led by: *Bryant Shaw, Ph.D.***

Curriculum and scope of services are evolving through our Transition Services program, in keeping with an innovative service model.

- Faculty are adapting portions of research-based, existing curricula for measuring, teaching, and tracking all aspects of community living and belonging.
- Increased attention to teaching structures that support growth in key areas is being emphasized in training.
- Integrated Learning Practice (ILP) faculty use updated, more comprehensive assessment tools in determining approaches and targets to better facilitate learner growth.
- Increased emphasis is being placed on communication about learner progress and well-being.
- Mechanisms for reporting learner progress are being revamped to sharpen focus and maximize communication in key areas of strength and challenge.
- A schedule of regular communication with learner service providers (e.g., psychiatrists) is being integrated into key faculty schedules.



**Therapy Services led by: *Sharon Duval, CCC/SLP, DIR® Certified***

- Speech Language
- DIR®
- Occupational Therapy
- Music Therapy

Increased capacity to offer statements for insurance reimbursements in all programs.

The Monarch School and Institute is proud to operate within the Special Education Professional Ethical Principles and Practice Standards as adopted by the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

<https://www.cec.sped.org/Standards/Ethical-Principles-and-Practice-Standards>

**Meet our new team...**

The Monarch School and Institute is delighted to introduce our new

Finance, Advancement and Communications Directors

Amir Yunus, M.B.A. – Finance and Business Director

Tracy Burnett, LCSW, CFRE – Advancement Director

Karen LaFleur – Communications Director



<http://www.monarchschool.org/about-us/faculty/Director%27s%20Team>

We encourage you to visit the school website and the institute website to see the entire faculty, it is an impressive group. Click on our link: [http://www.monarchschool.org/about-us/faculty/Professional%20Educators%20And%20Integrated%20Learning%20Plan%20\(ILP\)%20Faculty](http://www.monarchschool.org/about-us/faculty/Professional%20Educators%20And%20Integrated%20Learning%20Plan%20(ILP)%20Faculty)

Please check our Facebook page!

Click on our link: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Monarch-School/102998999766814>



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Shaping Lives and Transforming Futures daily*

*When visiting the programs of the Monarch Institute please be aware that we maintain a fragrance free environment*