Latino Programs

Create a Culture • Close the Gap • Ensure Safety • Engage the Community

La Cima (The Summit) and ¡La Chispa! (The Spark) leadership camps, workshops and retreats are a direct outreach effort of the Association of Washington School Principals to positively impact the growing Latino student population and support graduation attainment. Our programs utilize a dual language delivery model – we call it Bilingual Leadership. As a result, students affirm their self-worth and their bilingual assets. Students participating in these programs gain skills that support the AWSP principal leadership criteria: Creating a Culture, Ensuring School Safety, Engaging the Community and Closing the Gap.

Middle Level Programs

¡La Chispa! One-day Regional Workshops:
November
Multiple dates and locations
This program helps students build their self-confidence, strengthen their cultural identity and increase their academic success. Students learn leadership skills including bicultural navigation, decision making, idea generation strategies, communication techniques and project planning. Latino high school students serve as role models and discussion leaders for this highly engaging workshop.

¡La Chispa! Retreat: late February
Cispus Learning Center
Retreat learning is what we do best. Building on the long history of the Association of Washington Student Leaders’ retreats and camps, the ¡La Chispa! retreat gathers students for a three-day, in depth experience. We focus on three areas to improve the school experience of our student delegates and their peers: creating an inclusive school climate (kids want to come to school instead of have to come to school), ensuring school safety (anti-bullying) and closing the opportunity gap (helping all students graduate). In a reflective retreat environment, we equip young people with a how-to guide for school and community service, motivation to seek mentors and clear pathways to higher learning, and success. Delegates of ¡La Chispa! will return to their schools and communities better prepared to lead, to face the challenges that lie ahead and to achieve their goals.

High School Programs

La Cima Summer Leadership Camp: Late June
Cispus Learning Center
The goal of La Cima leadership camp is to impart leadership and life skills to Latino youth in Washington. Attendees can be elected, appointed or recruited based on their leadership potential. Participants gain skills in communication, group process, human relations, organization, self-awareness and identity development. The camp welcomes all students regardless of their fluency in English or Spanish. La Cima is staffed with adult leaders from both ends of the linguistic spectrum.

La Cima Retreat: Mid-October
Cispus Learning Center
We understand the top three contributing factors to student success are positive adult role models, student involvement in school and youth programs, and service learning. These are the most consistent predictors for thriving youth. By participating in student leadership activities on retreat and at school, students can become an integral part of principal efforts to meet the high standards for effective schools thereby reinforcing their own growth and school connection. La Cima retreats focus on personal and familial educational awareness, personal motivation and service to others.

Custom Programs

At your site or the Cispus or Chewelah Peak Learning Centers
Custom workshops and retreats are available upon request. Program ideas include:

- Keynote: The Next Great American Story
  Audiences from 50-500

- Leadership Development Workshop
  Student groups from 20-150

- Parent Engagement
  Full-day and evening workshops

- Transition Support and Mentor Training
  Flexible scheduling