

A PERSONAL ACCOUNT

1967 - My arrival in the
USA

- Picture taken in front
of my new home



MY STORY

- Focuses between 1967 and 1979.
- From age 7 to 19 I lived in the USA (my father got a work contract and my parents and I emigrated to a small town in the USA).
- We went to live near my parents' uncle and aunt in a mainly Italian community.
- I was enrolled into the 5th grade in an elementary school.
- Identified as an **EEL** (*English Language Learner*).

- *English Language Learners (ELL)* are students ages 3 to 21, enrolled in elementary or secondary education, born outside the country and speaking another language other than English in their homes
- Target problem – acquire sufficient mastery of English to meet state standards and excel in an English-language classroom.
- Parent involvement - school notified parents in the languages they speak of the student's academic performance.

INTEGRATION STRATEGIES

- The school ensured that student is placed into an intensive integration program which used interactive communicative methodology and included strategies and practices to develop:
 - conversational skills
 - effective listening
 - pronunciation
 - vocabulary
 - accurate grammar
 - everyday reading and writing skills
- A PAL is assigned from the class to the new student.

- **Classes**

Class had 12 students, all placed according to a regular testing programme.

- Students would change classes as they improve during 4-week cycles - this was based on test results.

- **Timetable**

A flexible system offered separate levels for grammar and general skills so that each student was always at their optimum class level and made progress in learning English as well as in their other skills – math, science ...

Jefferson Elementary School

- Kindergarten
- 1st grade
- 2nd grade
- 3rd grade
- 4th grade
- **Enrolled into a 5th grade class**



DEPARTMENTS:

- Adult Education
- Arts Department
- Athletic Department
- Business Education Department
- Engineering & Architecture
- English Department
- Guidance & Counselling
- Math Department
- Science Department
- Social Studies Department
- Special Education Department
- Foreign Language & ESL Department
- Instructional Technology

New Rochelle Junior High School

- 7th grade
- 8th grade
- 9th grade



FRIENDS

- 1976
- My best friend in front of my home



FAMILY

- 1975
- My Mother and I in a very snowy day



03-12-08

New Rochelle High School

- 10th grade
- 11th grade
- 12th grade
- Number of schools enrolled: 3266



GRADUATION

- 1979 – Celebrating Graduation Day



New Rochelle Public Library

- Part time job program:
 - worked every afternoon after school and Saturday mornings



MORE FRIENDS

- 1977
- Classmates and co-workers in the Public Library



IONA College – New Rochelle

- 1979 Enrolled for a MBA in “**Marketing and International Business**”

** Returned to Portugal in February*

