

# A PARENT'S STORY

*Travis Rodriguez*

Dad to Keaton  
Westview Parent 2021-present

Dear Friend of Westview,

When our son, Keaton, was 2 ½, we took him to his first speech therapy session. He wasn't progressing like he should have been, only ever using a couple dozen single words. When the therapist said he was exhibiting signs of autism, we truly had no idea what to do, but after thorough research considering every avenue, we chose The Westview School. It has turned out to be the most rewarding place imaginable for Keaton.

At the end of his very first week, when he got into the car, he looked straight at the teacher and said "bye" as clear as day. It was such a small thing, but a huge victory in his ability to speak and communicate intentionally. I was filled with hope, joy, and gratitude that day; those feelings haven't changed in the 12 months since.

Keaton is now in his second year, having just started Pre-K, and his development has been nothing short of amazing. He not only has more words than we can count, but he's stringing sentences together, memorizing movie scenes, songs, and scripture, and his pretend play has gone from almost none to a daily occurrence.

Besides his strides in communication, his personal relationships have strengthened. He not only recognizes family members, teachers, and friends by name but we've been told he says hello and goodbye to all the staff at Westview when he arrives and leaves every day!



The Westview staff have been phenomenal to work with...they listen, understand, offer suggestions and empathy on tough days and celebrate our victories with us.

We could have gone a number of different ways when choosing an environment for Keaton to get the attention he needs to thrive, and I can't imagine any place better suited for helping him reach his potential than Westview.

**“We're thankful every day  
for their ability to  
individually understand  
his needs and guide him  
towards attaining his  
goals, big and small.”**

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Each parent we've encountered has expressed the same sentiment, and we know The Westview School is absolutely essential in Houston for children on the autism spectrum.

We hope you will consider giving to The Westview Fund to help continue making parents' and kids' dreams a reality.

*Travis*

