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# Dual Language Immersion Program

— Congress Park School 2017-2018 —

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# Goals for This Session

- Define Dual Language Immersion in District 102
- Share research on outcomes of Language Immersion Programs
- Understand what classroom instruction looks like in Dual Language Immersion
- Understand next steps in the registration process
- Discuss any questions or concerns

## What is Dual Language Immersion?

Students receive academic instruction in both English and Spanish with the long-term goal of literacy and fluency in both languages

Using a language other than English to teach grade-level content (Math, Science, Social Studies)

Integrating language learning into content instruction

English-speaking students develop a second language over time. This does not delay future English development

Native Spanish-speakers maintain or build their first language and also develop English proficiency.

## Dual Language Immersion in District 102

**50:50 Model of Instruction:** Approximately half of the instruction will be in English and half will be in Spanish

**Two-way Immersion:** Both English and Spanish-speaking students enrolled

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**Two teacher model:** Spanish instruction delivered by one teacher and English instruction delivered by a second teacher

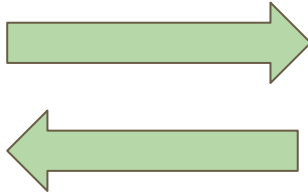
**One teacher model:** All instruction delivered by one teacher, clearly indicated "Spanish or English time"

# Breakdown of the School Day

## Instruction in English

English Language Arts  
Science  
Social Studies  
Specials (Art, Music, PE)

Bridging



## Instruction in Spanish

Spanish Language Arts  
Science  
Social Studies  
Math

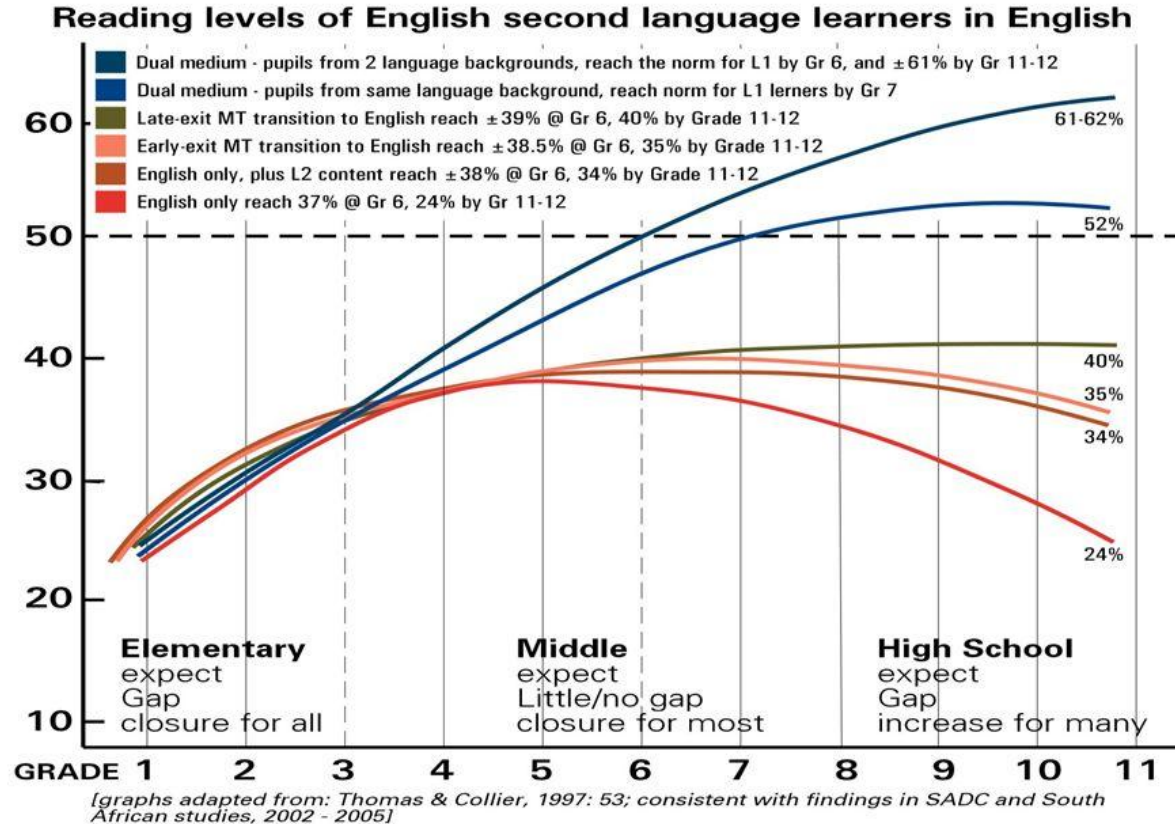
# When do students learn English?

English Language Arts (ELA) in Kindergarten

- Uses a Balanced Literacy Model
  - Phonemics, Phonics, Fluency, Comprehension, Vocabulary
  - Based on the CCSS ELA for Kindergarten

Content Area Literacy (English-based instruction of Science and Social Studies)

# What are the benefits of Dual Language Immersion?



## What are the benefits of Dual Language Immersion?

- Increases academic performance
- Develops native-like comprehension in both languages
- Benefits cognitive development
- Closes the achievement gap
- Builds fluency in two languages
- Opens opportunities for students - college, career, travel, and beyond!



# How does my child learn a second language in the Immersion classroom?

## By “figuring it out” (comprehension)

Students are immersed in a language-rich environment and context

- Visuals (pictures, posters, organizers)
- Auditory (choral response, teacher talk, song)
- Physical (gesture, movement, facial expression)
- Communicatively (teacher-guided, group and partner practice)

# How does my child learn a second language in the Immersion classroom?

## By “speaking out” (production)

Immersion students process language by meaning, not structure

- Teacher-facilitated interactions develop fluency and accuracy
- Oral language is basis for written language
- Research shows a gap between understanding a language and producing language - Understanding comes first, then producing

# How does my child learn a second language in the Immersion classroom?

## By using language “as a tool”

Spanish/English is not the “object” of study (except Language Arts)

- A tool to access and explore content
- A tool to communicate and collaborate with classmates
- Similar process to learning first language (none of us took grammar classes when learning to speak English).

# How does my child learn a second language in the Immersion classroom?

## By interacting with peers

“Two way” immersion provides peer language models

- Facilitates “informal” language development
- Prevents “grammatically awkward” speech from becoming the norm

# How does my child learn a second language in the Immersion classroom?

## By transferring concepts across languages

The knowledge of content learned in one language can be transferred to a second language

Some of the language skills learned in one language can be transferred to a second language

Immersion teachers intertwine learning of target language and English to facilitate transfer of content and skills across the two languages

Parents can support their children in home language

# Home-School Connection

## How can I help my child with homework in a language I don't speak?

-You aren't expected to! Any Spanish-language homework will be assigned at a level where students can work independently.

-Support your child through at-home literacy activities, such as interacting about the school day, reading together, practicing letters, sounds, writing, and reading in your family's home language

# What's a parent's role?

**Cheerleader:** Your child will be immersed in Spanish at school. This can be difficult, at first, but your child CAN do it! Parent attitude is very important!

**Believer:** Believe that your child can learn to listen, read, write, and learn equally well in two languages

**Supporter:** Reading with your child each day (in any language), ensuring your child attends school each day, on time, encouraging your child

# What's a parent's role?

Are you comfortable with other languages and cultures?

Will you be flexible and grow with us as we develop our program?

Will you encourage and support your child's adjustment to this environment?



# Making a Commitment

- Research has shown that success in this program takes time.
- Long-term plan and long-term objectives - The greatest benefits take time
- Family commitment to DLI K-6th grade

# Next Steps in the Process

Submit the Dual Language Immersion Program Interest Form

- Interest Form Due May 1, 2017
- Not a guarantee of enrollment in DLI program
- Must have Kindergarten enrollment paperwork completed, as well

**Any Questions?**