

Dual Immersion is here at Jurupa and it continues to grow!

What is Dual Immersion?

The Dual Immersion program is designed to develop bilingualism and biliteracy in English and Spanish for students who are English speakers and students who are learning English. It is a rigorous program in which students not only will work on standards, but in addition they will become fluent in two languages; linguistically and academically.

What are the program goals?

The program has three goals:

1. Bilingualism—Development of high levels of proficiency in English and Spanish
2. Biliteracy—Perform at or above grade level in academic areas in both languages
3. Multiculturalism—Understanding of different cultures and development of high self esteem.

How many classes will the district offer?

Our former second graders are continuing in the program as 3rd graders next year, our 1st graders are moving up to 2nd grade and the kindergarteners are moving to 1st grade. The district's plan is to open two new kindergarten classes each year at Sunnyslope Elementary School.

Who will teach these classes?

Instruction will be provided by highly trained and specialized teachers.

Who will participate in the program?

This is a voluntary program. No one will be forced into participating. As mentioned above we only have space for a total of 40 students in Kindergarten. Classes will be filled on a first come, first served basis; once classes are filled we will create a waiting list.

What is the duration of the program?

Jurupa's goal is to have students participate from Kindergarten through high school. Parents who enroll students in this program will need to understand the commitment is for a minimum of five years.

Is this an experimental program?

Absolutely not! This program has been in effect since the 1960s in Florida. California's programs began in the 1980s and programs are in existence throughout the country. Extensive research has listed the benefits of such a program:

- ❖ Develop high levels of bilingual proficiency
- ❖ Enhanced academic and linguistic competence in two languages
- ❖ Higher levels of bilingual proficiency are associated with higher levels of reading achievement
- ❖ High scores on state tests, by the third/fourth grade students are scoring as high or higher than students who are being taught in English only
- ❖ Appreciation of other cultures and languages
- ❖ Cognitive advantages
- ❖ Increased job opportunities
- ❖ Lower high school drop out rates
- ❖ Higher interest in attending colleges and universities

Who do you contact if you have any questions?

Please join us for an informational parent meeting on March 8, 2011 at Sunnyslope Elementary located at 7050 38th Street, Riverside, CA 92509. You can either attend the 9:00 a.m. session or the 5:00 p.m. session.

If you have any questions, please call Language Services and Student Programs at (951) 360-4179. We will be happy to answer your questions.