

“Utah’s Dual Language Immersion programs help to prepare our students for the jobs of tomorrow. Dual Language Immersion gives students a tremendous and early advantage in learning to navigate the national, cultural, and linguistic complexities inherent in our increasingly global marketplace.”

—GOV. GARY HERBERT, UTAH STATE GOVERNOR

“In this increasingly competitive world, it is critical for Utah students to be able to deliver services and information in various languages and appreciate the subtleties of doing business in other cultures, much of which is learned through language study.”

—HOWARD STEPHENSON, UTAH STATE SENATOR

“With dual language immersion, we have a way forward to ensure that Utah students are acquiring the skills, knowledge, and dispositions necessary to be competitive in the world marketplace.”

—DR. LARRY K. SHUMWAY,
UTAH STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

“Utah’s Dual Language Immersion Program effectively provides an excellent strategy for Utah students to realize their potential to become an advanced multilingual workforce, better prepared for the challenges of the world economy”

—LEW CRAMER, PRESIDENT WORLD TRADE CENTER UTAH



The Utah State Office of Education is proud to support Dual Language Immersion programs in Utah public elementary schools in Portuguese, Chinese, French and Spanish.

For more information contact:

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Providing a world of opportunities for students.



Utah Governor's Office of
Economic Development

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Utah's SPANISH Dual Immersion Programs 2018-2019

*Offering children the gift
of a second language.*

Participating School Districts:

ALPINE	NEBO
BOX ELDER	OGDEN
CACHE	PARK CITY
CANYONS	PROVO
DAVIS	SALT LAKE
GRANITE	SUMMIT
IRON	UINTAH
JORDAN	WASATCH
LOGAN	WASHINGTON COUNTY
MURRAY	WEBER

CHARTER SCHOOLS:

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
NORTH DAVIS PREPARATORY

WHY LANGUAGE IMMERSION?

More than forty years of research consistently documents the power of language immersion programs to help students attain high levels of second language proficiency. No other type of instruction, short of living in a second language environment, is as successful.

Young children especially thrive in this type of instructional environment. Happily, language immersion is also the least expensive way to deliver second language instruction.

PROVEN BENEFITS

Second Language Skills

Students achieve high proficiency in the immersion language.

Improved Performance on Standardized Tests

Immersion students perform as well as or better than non-immersion students on standardized tests of English and math administered in English.

Enhanced Cognitive Skills

Language Immersion students typically develop greater cognitive flexibility, demonstrating increased attention control, better memory, and superior problem solving skills as well as enhanced understanding of their primary language.

Increased Cultural Sensitivity

Language Immersion students are more aware of and show more positive attitudes towards other cultures and an appreciation of other people.

Long Term Benefits

Language Immersion students are better prepared for the global community and job markets where a second language is an asset.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Maximize students’ second language proficiency
- Provide a rich academic environment
- Develop students’ abilities to work successfully in multiple cultural settings
- Offer a rich, culturally diverse experience for the entire school community



WHAT TO EXPECT IN A DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM

Dual language immersion offers a rich bilingual experience for young learners when their minds are developmentally best able to acquire a second language.

Instruction is divided between two high quality, creative classrooms: one English, one Spanish.

Students enjoy the advantage of two caring, qualified teachers. The English-speaking teacher uses half of the instruction day to teach English language arts (reading, writing, and spelling) as well as other subjects of the curriculum (science, social studies, math, etc.)

The Spanish-speaking teacher uses the other half of the day to teach Spanish Literacy, Math, and portions of social studies, art, science, music, P.E. and health topics from the grade-appropriate level of the Utah State Core Curriculum.

In class, the Spanish teacher speaks only in Spanish and communicates using a range of engaging strategies including pictures, songs, games, body language, expressions, drama, pantomime, etc. Children at this age are adept at picking up language in meaningful contexts. After a brief period at the beginning of the year, students too will speak only in Spanish during Spanish class.

You’ll be delighted how quickly your child becomes a comfortable and competent Spanish speaker.

WHY SPANISH?

- Spanish opens the doors to many domestic and international career opportunities.
- Sophisticated professions such as those in medicine, international distribution, the oil and gas industry, power generation, luxury goods, aviation and other transportation technologies encompass extensive Spanish-speaking networks.
- Knowledge of the Spanish language is also an asset in the fields of literature, the fine arts, gastronomy, cinema, law, and business. Scores of major international businesses and organizations, as well as American companies, regularly recruit candidates who speak Spanish.
- Students who learn Spanish perform better on standardized tests since more than 50% of modern-day English words trace their origins to Spanish. This means that Spanish has a relatively quick learning curve which boosts a student’s confidence.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

The Dual Language Immersion program seeks to enroll students of varying backgrounds and all abilities. Applications are open to all students entering first grade. However, it may not be a wise choice for children experiencing significant communication delays in their primary language.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- commit to long-term participation in the language immersion program
- develop an understanding of language immersion education
- read with your child (in English) 20-30 minutes daily
- encourage the use of Spanish outside of school
- provide community support and, when possible, volunteer
- enjoy the challenges; celebrate the results

HOW TO ENROLL MY CHILD

For information about enrolling your child in one of Utah’s Spanish/English Dual Language Immersion programs, please contact one of the schools or school districts listed in front of this pamphlet.

