

# JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*WHERE STUDENTS ENTER TO LEARN AND LEAVE TO ACHIEVE!*

## Spanish Dual Language Immersion Academy

In 2016, Jefferson Elementary School added the Spanish Dual Language Immersion Academy option for incoming Kindergartens. Each year, we will add a grade. Research shows that the early acquisition of a second language impacts intellectual growth.

### What is Dual Language Immersion?

PUSD's Dual Language Immersion Programs incorporates the five goals of the National Foreign Language Standards (NFLS), promoting sound world language instruction. In meeting the goals of Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities, students will not only know what and how to say it, but why, when and to whom.

#### Maintaining a Spanish Speaking Environment

The DLIP teachers can only speak ESPAÑOL in front of the students. Please work with the teacher to help create and maintain this environment for your child. They can still speak to you in English when your child is not present. If you need to communicate with your child's teacher, emails, texts, and or phone calls before and after school are preferred and encouraged.

#### Dual Language Immersion Model

Pasadena USD follows a 90/10 model. In kindergarten, Spanish will be used 90% of the day; English 10% of the day. The 10% will be taught by a different teacher with a 10% increase in English instruction until 4th grade.

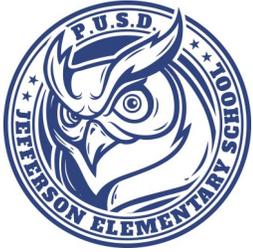
### How does Dual Language Immersion benefit my child?

Everyday learning will fully immerse the students in both the English and Spanish language. This will strengthen cognitive skills, increase their ability to adapt to other types of learning, and enhance creativity and problem-solving skills. Our programs strive for academic language proficiency which encompasses the four modalities: listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish. Students will develop bilingual, bi-literate, and bi-cognitive skills.

#### For more information, please contact:

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## **Spanish Dual Language Immersion Academy**

### **FAQ's**

#### ***How does the program work?***

A: By combining native English and native Spanish speakers, the DLIP classrooms at Jefferson allow students to excel in development of both languages. The program follows the California Association of Bilingual Education (CABE) Two-Way 90:10 Model, with Kindergarten taught 90% in Spanish, 10% in English. At each subsequent grade level, the amount of instruction in English is increased so that by fourth grade, students are taught 50% in each language.

#### ***Does the program cost anything?***

A: No. The program is free. It is administered through the Pasadena Unified School District. Plans to extend learning through middle and high school are currently in development.

#### ***How can students learn in Spanish if they don't speak or understand it?***

A: Critical period theories of language development suggest that before puberty, the brain readily absorbs a second language. The "difficult" tones of spoken Spanish are easy to master for young learners! SDLIP teachers are trained to strategically convey instructional content using songs, visual aids, exaggerated gestures, and many hands-on activities.

#### ***How do dual language immersion students perform on standardized tests?***

A: The curriculum is aligned with California State Standards in all subjects. Immersion students achieve at or better than their mainstream peers on the English Language Arts California Standards Test (ELA CST)-which has been replaced with the SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) in California- and also demonstrate excellent proficiency in other subject areas. The schools offering Spanish immersion programs consistently rank among the best-performing schools statewide, in Math and English as well as in Spanish.

#### ***How do I sign my child up for DLIP at Jefferson?***

You must apply through the PUSD Open Enrollment process. Visit [www.gopUSD.com/enrollment](http://www.gopUSD.com/enrollment) for more information on the Open Enrollment process and important dates. For kindergarten, no knowledge of Spanish is necessary (some level of literacy in Spanish is expected for students entering above kindergarten).