



## **SHILOH 'S DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM**

Language immersion is an educational approach in which students are taught the curriculum content through the medium of a second language. In this way, immersion students not only learn the content, but also gain knowledge of the language in which it is taught.

The goals of dual language are for students to develop high levels of language proficiency and literacy in both languages, to demonstrate high levels of academic achievement, and to develop an appreciation for and an understanding of diverse cultures. *{Center for Applied Linguistics CAL}*

## **PROGRAM GOALS**

- Students will develop high levels of listening, speaking, reading, and writing ability in their native language and the target language.

- The students will maintain the same academic standards that are in place for other students in the traditional class.
- Students will value cultural diversity by being exposed to Hispanic cultures and studies of various Spanish speaking countries.

## **HISTORY**

The Splash program began in July 2012 and it has now progressed to the Fourth Grade. It started with a vision of creating a full Spanish immersion program in Union County. Our first class started with 24 committed families that took a leap of faith for their children to experience a new culture and a brand-new language. Thanks to the commitment of those families and the hard work of the students and teachers, we now have 100 students enrolled in the Splash program.

We have created a strong, successful Spanish Immersion Program here at Shiloh Elementary!!



## **ENGLISH INSTRUCTION**

English Language Development begins in Second Grade and continues until Fifth Grade. Students are assessed in both languages from Kindergarten to Fifth grade.

ELA teachers focus on grammar conventions, vocabulary, and reading comprehension skills.

All students develop literacy in both languages.

- In kindergarten and first grade, instruction is delivered 90% in Spanish and 10% in English.
- Students begin to receive 1 hour of English instruction in 2nd grade.
- Students receive 75 minutes of English instruction in grades 3-5.
- Students gain true, marketable fluency in two languages while mastering a challenging curriculum.

Children who develop strong academic proficiency in 2 languages are likely to experience cognitive advantages over monolinguals.

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## **PARENT ENGAGEMENT**

Parent involvement is highly correlated with success at school. Parents can support their child academically, even if they don't speak or understand Spanish, by showing interest in school, assuring that homework is completed, reading together, and communicating with the teacher.

Also, by supporting their children's language and literacy development in two languages, as well as their emerging cross-cultural appreciation. They can do this by exposing their children to books and movies in both languages; attending cultural festivals, and providing opportunities for authentic

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## **BENEFITS**

- **Mental Flexibility**  
Students in this program are original in verbal expression demonstrate non-verbal intelligence and can answer open-ended questions more freely than monolinguals
- This program enhances children's ability to learn additional languages.
- Increased sensitivity to others; heightened awareness, receptivity and appreciation of language.
- **Increases Job Opportunities**  
Bilinguals have access to a wider range of national and international jobs.