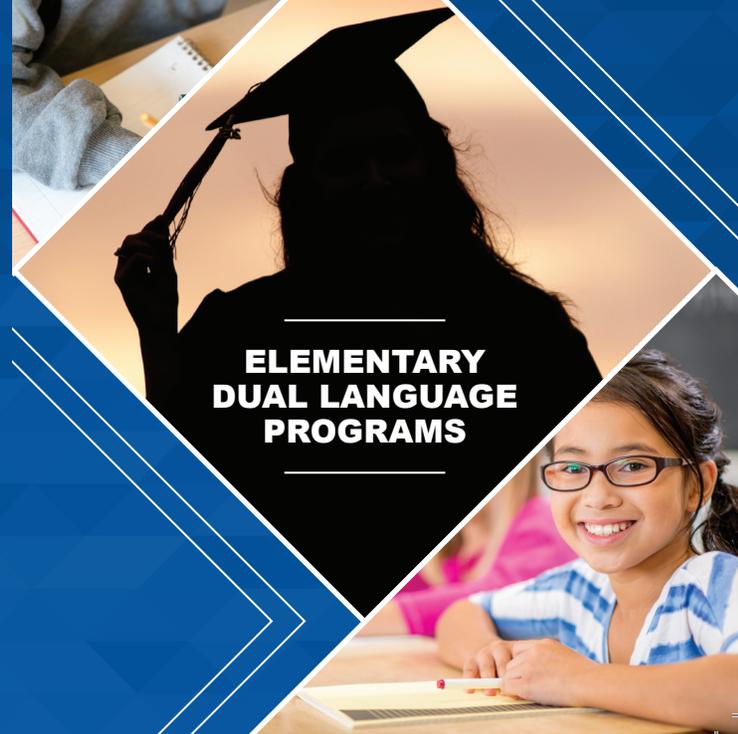




Walla Walla Public Schools

Developing Washington's Most Sought-After Graduates

<< >>



ELEMENTARY DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAMS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS...

As a parent, how can I help my child in a Dual classroom?

- » Continue reading to your child in the language spoken at home.
- » Maintain close communication with your child's teacher to best support your child at home.
- » Be patient and supportive. It takes time for a child to feel comfortable in a classroom setting being taught in a different language.

If Spanish is the home language, how will my child acquire English language?

Between kindergarten to 2nd grade, English language is modeled by the teacher, as well as the native English speaking students. It is also reinforced during English Language Development (ELD) instruction. Starting in 3rd grade, English language is modeled during ELD time and through other academic subjects using language acquisition strategies.

2017-2018 PARTICIPATING ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

- » Edison..... K-5
- » Blue Ridge..... K-5
- » Green Park..... 1-5
- » Sharpstein..... 1-5

MORE INFORMATION:

- » Dr. Victor Vergara, Director- Bilingual Education Department
Walla Walla Public Schools
364 S. Park St., Walla Walla, WA
Office: 509-526-6784
Email: vvergara@wwps.org
website: www.wwps.org
- » Center of Applied Linguistics
website: www.cal.org
- » Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition
website: www.carla.umn.edu
- » National Association for Bilingual Education
website: www.nabe.org

WHAT IS A DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM?

Dual Language is a form of bilingual education in which students are taught in two languages. Dual education programs in Walla Walla integrate native English speaking students with native Spanish speakers, to achieve bilingual/biliterate outcomes for participating students.

WHY DUAL LANGUAGE?

- » The ability to develop the highest level of proficiency in a second language is greater if you start at an early age.
- » Research shows that, Dual students typically outperform English-only students in the classroom, by the end of their elementary years.
- » Students develop proficiency in both languages and have increased cultural awareness. The ability to interpret cross-cultural interactions is crucial in today's world.
- » Students benefit from the ability to communicate with people from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

WHAT ARE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROGRAM?

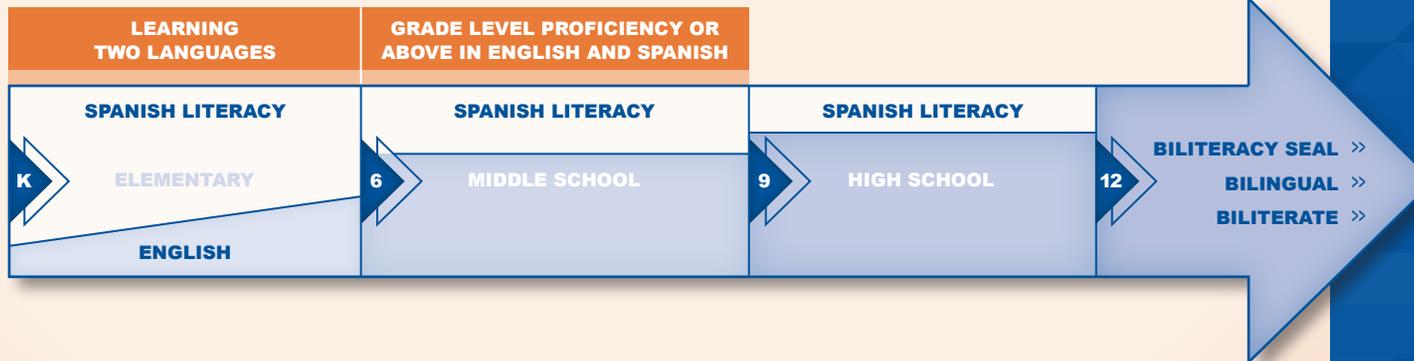
- » Academic instruction is presented in English and Spanish.
- » A minimum 50% to a maximum 80% of daily instruction in the Spanish language.
- » Students learn to read and write in Spanish first.
- » Spanish speakers maintain their first language while learning a second language.
- » Teachers use a predetermined language depending on the subject.
- » All program, curricular, and instructional decisions are based on current research.
- » School-wide bilingual environment with full support of school administrators, teachers, and parents.
- » Rigorous core academic curriculum aligned to Washington State Learning Standards.

Walla Walla Public Schools Dual Language Program begins in kindergarten where students will spend the majority of the day learning through Spanish instruction. The percentage of English instruction increases as students progress through the program.



GOALS OF THE PROGRAM

- » Promote bilingualism and biliteracy.
- » Students achieve grade level academic performance in Spanish and English.
- » Students learn how to read, write, listen and speak in English and Spanish.
- » Integrate native English speakers and English language learners for academic instruction.
- » Foster and promote cultural diversity and respect among all students.



**WASHINGTON'S
MOST SOUGHT-AFTER
GRADUATES**