



**Belmont-Redwood Shores School District
Office of Educational Services**



PARENT INFORMATION for 2010/2011

Pre-Registration for Dual Language Immersion Alternative Program

Dual Language Immersion (DLI) is being considered as an alternative bilingual program for 2010/2011 in the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District. Please review the information about the proposed DLI program and request a pre-registration form if you would like for your child to be considered for DLI and **IF** you are able to commit to the program for 6 years. There is no guarantee that every child pre-registered will be admitted if the program is approved.

DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR PARENTS

When: Wednesday, February 3rd, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Nesbit Elementary Multi-Use Room

Who Should Attend: Parents of incoming and current Kindergarteners

What is Dual Language Immersion?

- ✓ Dual language immersion is an educational approach that provides content literacy instruction in English and the target language. Research shows that students who participate in well implemented Dual Language Immersion programs perform at or above-grade level on district and state tests as well as achieve advanced levels of proficiency in two languages. In addition, graduates from these programs have a head start on language requirements for college and enhanced employment opportunities. Dual Language Immersion Programs have been proven among the most effective in the United States, graduating students with both grade-level academic ability and proficiency in two languages.

Belmont-Redwood Shores School District PROPOSED DLI Model:

- ✓ A "90/10" simultaneous model in which both languages are developed at the same time is proposed. It will be based on the research-supported 90/10 model. This means that, during Kindergarten, 90% of the student's day is taught in Spanish and 10% of the day is taught in English. Between Kindergarten and 5th grade, the percentage of time spent in Spanish decreases and English increases until time in each language is split equally (50% English, 50% Spanish by 4th/5th grade level).
- ✓ Spanish is the recommended target language to begin the DLI program. Mandarin is recommended as a future program strand option. Spanish instruction would be delivered by a Spanish bilingual teacher who possesses a BCLAD, Bilingual Certificate of Competence, or a Bilingual Cross-Cultural Specialist Credential. English instruction is delivered by a teacher who possesses a CLAD credential or SB395 certificate.

- ✓ DLI will provide students with an additive bilingual program. The primary goals of the program are as follows:
 - Developing fluency and literacy in two languages-Spanish and English;
 - Achieving proficiency in all academic subjects, meeting or exceeding district guidelines;
 - In addition to academic excellence in the standard curriculum material, the goal of dual language immersion is to establish bilingualism and biliteracy for all participants as well as an increased awareness to multiculturalism.

Location of Program

Nesbit Elementary is recommended as the location for the DLI program due to projected classroom space availability; Nesbit Elementary has been recognized by the State of California as a Distinguished School due to the high achievement of students and quality of instruction.

Enrollment

DLI enrollment would be open to 2010/2011 **Kindergarteners** and possibly **1st graders** living in the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District.

- ✓ Students will be enrolled based on our District's policy and administrative regulations for enrollment procedures and priorities;
- ✓ Families who are interested will participate in BOTH DLI pre-registration as well as registration for their neighborhood school. Pre-registration in DLI does not replace registration in the local school. Parents **MUST** pre-register for DLI and complete all regular registration requirements at their neighborhood school to maintain their child's placement until a final decision about DLI is made. **The District expects to make this decision in March.**
- ✓ **To sign up for DLI, please request a Pre-Registration form now and turn it in with your completed registration materials to your neighborhood school by Friday, February 26, 2010. Principals will forward pre-registration forms to District Staff.**

*If approved for implementation, DLI will be new to Belmont- Redwood Shores but this teaching model has been well established for over 20 years and is used in over 50 schools in the bay area.

More information is available through the parent group, Multilingual Kids, and dual language immersion at the following website: www.multilingualkids.info

**SPANISH
ENGLISH**

BELMONT-REDWOOD SHORES SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pre-Registration Parent Commitment Form for Dual Language Immersion Program 2010/2011 FOR RESIDENTS OF THE BELMONT-REDWOOD SHORES SCHOOL DISTRICT ONLY

Please complete and return to your neighborhood school on or before February 26, 2010. Parents MUST complete regular school registration materials on or after March 1, 2010.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Student First and Last Name | Student's Date of Birth (mmddyyyy) |
| Residence Address | Home Telephone |
| Student's Primary Language | Student's Gender (please circle) MALE FEMALE |
| Parent/Guardian Name | Email Address |

I am requesting that my child be pre-registered in the Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Program proposed at Nesbit Elementary School. I understand that the pre-registration of my child does not guarantee placement in the program, and is conditional on my understanding of and commitment to the following, along with the space availability.

1. I understand that regular and punctual student attendance is required to retain placement in the DLI Program.
2. I understand that core class instruction in academics will be taught in Spanish and English per the recommended 90/10 model with Spanish as the target language.
3. I understand that this is a 6 year program.
4. I understand that learning a second language is a process and that the program has cross cultural goals as well as linguistic and academic goals.
5. I understand it is not unusual for children to experience some fatigue and/or frustration during the first months of the program. Knowing this, I will be patient and supportive of my child during this transition time, and will not remove my child from the Dual Language Immersion program because of these reasons.
6. Children enrolled in the Dual Immersion Program will remain together in Kindergarten through the fifth grade.
7. I understand that my child may be placed in a multi-graded class should the need arise.
8. I understand that parent participation and support is key to the success of this program.
9. If my child, once enrolled in the Dual Immersion program, is not making adequate progress in the program, I will agree to have him/her evaluated and consider reassignment to a regular classroom situation.

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|---|------|
| Parent/Guardian Signature | Date |
| Parent/Guardian Signature | Date |
| School of Residence Principal Signature | Date |