



What is the Dual Language Program?

The Dual Language Program is also known as a Two-Way Immersion Program. It is a long-term bilingual and bicultural program that uses two languages for instruction, learning, and communication. It is comprised of students that speak English at home and others that speak Spanish at home. These students integrate in one group for instruction with the goal of all becoming bilingual, biliterate, and multicultural. The program is also open to students from families who speak a language other than English or Spanish.

What are the Program Goals?

The goal of Dual Language is to provide all students enrolled in the program with a quality education in order to:

- Promote positive interactions among all students
- Provide ample opportunities for students to develop bilingual and biliterate skills
- Promote an appreciation for cultures other than one's own
- Use English and Spanish to communicate in social settings
- Use English and Spanish to achieve academically in all content areas
- Use English and Spanish in socially and culturally appropriate ways

Where will my child attend school?

The District provides Dual Language in five elementary buildings and one Jr. High.

Schools that only receive students that live in the site's area:

- Beebe Elementary School
- Elmwood Elementary School
- Mill Street Elementary School
- Steeple Run Elementary School

Schools that receive students from all Naperville School District 203:

- River Woods Elementary School
- Jefferson Jr. High

Students are enrolled in their respective High School.

Why would I want my child to learn in two languages?

Brain research has shown that bilingual speakers have the opportunity to develop more cognitive flexibility through their bilingualism. Moreover, your child will be able to develop social skills that allow them to function in a multicultural world. In today's global economy, the ability to communicate in another language has become a significant advantage in the workforce.

What percentage of the day will my child learn in English and Spanish?

The following chart explains the language allocation per grade level at the elementary school.

Grade	Spanish	English
Kinder – 1 st	80%	20%
2 nd	70%	30%
3 rd	60%	40%
4 th - 5 th	50%	50%

Admission procedure

Admission into the program is based on the balance between English and Spanish speakers as well as boy-girl ratio. Naperville uses a lottery system in order to admit students.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Do Dual Language classrooms have the same curriculum as monolingual classrooms?

Yes. Dual Language classes implement Naperville 203 recommended curriculum at the same rate as monolingual classes. Dual Language teachers partner with grade level monolingual teachers and other Dual Language teachers to plan collaboratively.

Will my child learn English when 80% of the Kindergarten day is in Spanish?

Yes. It is important to build a strong foundation in Spanish starting in Kindergarten. Teachers provide multiple opportunities for skills and knowledge transfer across languages. We expect your child to meet grade level standards in both languages.

Will my child be isolated from the rest of the school?

No. The schools provide different opportunities for Dual Language students to interact with students in monolingual classrooms.

My child speaks a language other than English or Spanish. Can he/she join the program?

Yes. Your child can be trilingual! There is success for speakers of other language in a Dual Spanish-English program.

We speak Spanish at home. Why would I want my child to be in Dual?

Language at home tends to be social in nature. Your child will acquire academic Spanish and will develop more complex language skills.

My child was not chosen in the lottery system. Can I still hope to be in the program? Your child's name will be placed on a waiting list. You will be called when/if room is available.