

WHY A DUAL LANGUAGE EDUCATION?

COGNITIVE

Bilingualism is like gym for your brain and shapes it for a lifetime. Studies show increased mental flexibility, decision making, problem solving and attention among bilinguals.

ACHIEVEMENT

Students in dual language programs outperform their peers in English reading by about 7 months in 5th grade and about 9 months in 8th grade— that's an entire school year ahead!

COLLEGE

Being fluent in another language strengthens college applications and is increasingly a requirement in the pursuit of higher education.

JOBS

In the United States, bilinguals are paid on average 5-20% more than if they were monolingual. Demand for bilingual employees is growing. For example in the DC metro area over 4,000 jobs requiring bilingual skills are advertised every month.

SOCIAL SKILLS

Children who are bilingual are more likely to consider the perspective of others and understand social context.

PRIDE

For heritage speakers, being literate in the language of their ancestors makes children wiser and more powerful. For all children, multilingualism is a sign of intellectual achievement and a source of pride.

OUR FAMILY ONLY SPEAKS ENGLISH

There are no differences in dual language immersion effects by native language - effects on achievement of dual language programs are the same for English Language Learners and for English native speakers.

MY CHILD HAS SPECIAL NEEDS

Special education students in dual language programs outscore their special education monolingual peers.

I WANT MY CHILD TO LEARN IN A DIVERSE ENVIRONMENT

Bilingual schools are some of the most racially and socio-economically diverse schools in the district.

I VALUE STEM AND ARTS EDUCATION

Dual language programs use the partner language as the medium of instruction. Students learn STEM, Art or anything else IN the partner language and are just as successful in subjects like math and science.

I WANT A STRONG SCHOOL CULTURE

Research shows dual language schools have better attendance, fewer behavioral problems, and higher parent involvement.

MY CHILD NEEDS CHALLENGE, NOT STRESS

Bilingualism is normal. More than half of the world's population is at least bilingual. Children's brains are wired to naturally and effortlessly acquire languages in early childhood.

IS DUAL LANGUAGE FOR MY CHILD?



DC Language
Immersion Project

Learn more at www.dcmersion.org



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