Spanish Immersion



Bowman Primary School 2023-2024

Lebanon's Mission: Building Community



Why Study a World Language?

- Language learning correlates with higher academic achievement, higher scores on standardized tests, and improved problem solving ability
- Career advantages in a global economy



Global Competence

Students with global competence have the knowledge, skills, and disposition to investigate the world, recognize perspective, communicate ideas, & take action.



Why Spanish?

9

10

Arabic

Russian

Spanish is the most commonly spoken world language in the U.S.

Spanish is the secondmost commonly spoken native language around the world (behind Mandarin) and the third-most used language on the internet.

Primary languages spoken in					
United States homes- 2018					
Rank	Language	Number of speakers			
1	English	231,122,908			
2	Spanish	37,458,470			
3	Cantonese, Mandarin, & other Chinese languages	2,896,766			
4	French and French Creole	2,047,467			
5	Tagalog	1,613,346			
6	Vietnamese	1,399,936			
7	Korean	1,117,343			
8	German	1,063,773			

924,374

879,434

Why First Grade?



When it comes to language, there's no such thing as starting too early.

Family Perspectives

"The Spanish Immersion program has been a great opportunity for our children. Our son excels in math and it has been a different way for him to be challenged learning math in Spanish.

He also was on a speech IEP and we believe it has helped him master more of his articulation learning the second language. Our daughter had learned some words from her brother and was speaking Spanish with her teacher on day one. It is amazing how quickly they pick it up."

-Jenna

What is Language Immersion?



- It's different from traditional language instruction
- Language is acquired mainly through content area instruction, not direct language instruction
- Math and science taught in Spanish

What's Immersion Look Like?

- Students will have two teachers
- Math & science taught in Spanish by a native Spanish-speaker
- English language arts and social studies taught in English by a native English-speaker
- Immersion class sizes will be 28 students.
- Students will proceed through the grades as an immersion cohort:
 - 2018-2019: 1st grade
 - 2019-2020: grades 1-2
 - 2020-2021: grades 1-3
 - 2021-2022: grades 1-4
 - 2022-2023: grades 1-5
 - **2023-2024: grades 1-6**





Family Perspectives

Lindsay Finton lindsayfinton@gmail.com

Family Perspectives

"Initially, we struggled with the decision to enroll our daughter in the immersion lottery. We were afraid that learning in Spanish would cause her education to suffer in general. Eventually we decided not to let our fears prevent her from an amazing experience that would set her on a trajectory for a special opportunity with lifelong benefits. We could always help with her regular subjects, but an education in Spanish wasn't something we were able to provide.

After her first year, we couldn't wait to enroll our youngest son! Both kids have flourished and LOVE their teachers. I think it's also given them a sense of independence because their homework is in Spanish and we're not in class with them to understand (although we do keep a translator handy for emergencies!). Now that we have two kids in the program, we are thrilled when they sing songs and speak to each other in Spanish. Our oldest son is even picking up enough from homework and their exchanges that he's able to converse with them at times!

Lebanon has done a great job listening to and addressing the concerns of the parents. They've made adjustments to the program where needed and have communicated well throughout the process. We would recommend the Spanish Immersion program to any family. The kids have a special bond with their classmates and teachers that they'll remember forever."

Daily Schedule

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDA Y	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Morning Meeting ELA SS AM RECESS				
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
SPECIAL	SPECIAL	SPECIAL	SPECIAL	SPECIAL
Calendar Math Science Spanish LA & Culture PM RECESS				

Key difference: always 50% of day in math/science

Calendar time



Vocabulary



Mathematics



LCS Spanish Immersion Model

- Elementary School
 Grades 1 6 Spanish Immersion In Math & Science
- Middle School
 Grades 7 8 Elective Immersion courses (Spanish)
- High School Grades 9 - 12 Electives (Spanish or another language) College Credit Plus

Academic Achievement (current 5th graders in third grade)

Third Grade Reading OST Spring 2021 Immersion classrooms had the highest average performance in the grade level

Third Grade Mathematics OST Spring 2021 Immersion classrooms had the second-highest average performance in the grade level



Academic Achievement (current 4th graders in third grade)

Third Grade Reading OST Spring 2022 Immersion classrooms had the second-highest average performance in the grade level

Third Grade Mathematics OST Spring 2022 Immersion classrooms had the highest average performance in the grade level



Spanish language growth



Superior/Distinguished: Expert Can support opinion, hypothesize, discuss topics concretely and abstractly, and handle a linguistically unfamiliar situation.

Advanced: Reporter / Worker Can narrate and describe in all major time frames and handle a situation with a complication.

Intermediate: Survivor

Can create with language, ask and answer simple questions on familiar topics and handle a simple situation or transaction.

Novice: Parrot

Can communicate minimally with memorized words, formulaic and rote utterances, lists and phrases.

Spanish Language Growth

- Checklists used in grades 1-2
- Formal assessment begins at the end of third grade
- Reading, Writing, Speaking, & Listening
- Benchmarked to ACTFL levels

Family Perspectives

"The Spanish immersion program and teachers have been wonderful for our daughters. Now, having both a first and third grader in the program, it's amazing to remember where they started versus where they will be in a few years!

To watch our third grader read, write, and understand Spanish like it's no big deal, still blows my mind. Besides the language, they have also learned so many important lessons about other cultures."

-Kayla

Program Evolution



Improvements/Enhancements:

- Self-contained classroom to teaching team at grades 1-2
- Four-teacher teams at grades 4-6
- Additional integration of SLA instruction
- One-way to two-way program

Attributes of a successful immersion student

- 1. Desire to participate
- 2. OK with increased transitions
- 3. Knows letters and sounds in English
- 4. Attendance
- 5. Doesn't resist work at home
- 6. Able to persevere
- 7. Immersion not the last straw...



Attributes of a successful immersion family

- 1. Patience
- 2. OK with academic dips
- 3. Takes a long view of growth and achievement
- 4. Doesn't worry about one test score
- 5. Can support and encourage at home



Enrollment Process

- Deadline to indicate interest:
 0 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 24, 2023
- Complete Online Interest Form www.tinyurl.com/LCSSpanishImmersion or call Kim Gregg at 513-934-5772
- Lottery
- Notification of Enrollment
 - By email starting Monday, April 11 around noon
 - You have 48 hours to reply



Mark Graler, Director of Curriculum and Instruction graler.mark@lebanonschools.org

Sheri McHenry, Principal <u>mchenry.sheri@lebanonschools.org</u>

