

No matter one's first language, learning a second language is becoming critical as we become global citizens.

HISD's dual language program is offering new opportunities for families to become part of this exciting, proven method that helps students become proficient in two languages by being taught in both.

Through the program, not only do English Language Learners acquire the skills they need to be successful in school, but native English speakers are given the gift of becoming bilingual and biliterate.

Dual language schools also support biculturalism through exposure to customs, traditions, and unique traits of nations and people around the world.

Students maintain the same rigor in their academics and core subjects such as reading, writing, math, science, and social studies. There's no loss of the native language, either — students retain their first language while acquiring a valuable second language. It's a win-win for everyone.



#### **HISD MULTILINGUAL PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT**

[www.HoustonISD.org/DualLanguage](http://www.HoustonISD.org/DualLanguage)

Dr. Altagracia "Gracie" Guerrero  
Assistant Superintendent  
[aguerre5@HoustonISD.org](mailto:aguerre5@HoustonISD.org)  
713-556-6961

#### **HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Hattie Mae White Educational  
Support Center  
4400 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Houston, Texas 77092

## **HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**



**HISD DUAL LANGUAGE**  
BILINGUAL. BILITERATE. BICULTURAL.

# **Two languages Three benefits**

## PARTICIPATING CAMPUSES

### Early Childhood

Laurenzo Early  
Childhood Center\*

### Elementary Schools

Anderson

Ashford

Briscoe

Browning\*

Burnet

Burrus\*

Cage\*

Condit\*

Coop

Daily

Davila\*

DeAnda

DeZavala\*

Dogan

Durham\*

Elrod\*

Emerson

Franklin\*

Garden Villas

Gregg

JR Harris\*

RP Harris

Helms

Herod

Herrera

Highland Heights\*

Hobby\*

### Elementary Schools

Kashmere Gardens

Law

Love\*

Mading\*

McNamara

C. Martinez\*

Memorial

Northline

Osborne

Patterson\*

Robinson\*

Roosevelt\*

Scarborough\*

Shearn

Sherman

Twain

Wainwright\*

Whidby

White

### Elementary K-8

Billy Reagan

Wharton PreK-8

### Middle Schools

Burbank

Johnston

### High School

Reagan

\* New in 2015 – 2016

HISD also offers two magnet language immersion schools — one in Mandarin Chinese, the other in Arabic. For information, visit [www.HoustonISD.org/SchoolChoice](http://www.HoustonISD.org/SchoolChoice)

## WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE PROGRAM?

- Development of fluency and literacy in English and Spanish for all students.
- The integration of native English speakers and English Language Learners for academic instruction. Whenever possible, each campus program should have 50 percent of each.
- The promotion of bilingualism, biliteracy, cross-cultural awareness, and high academic achievement.

## WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROGRAM?

- An enriching bilingual environment that has full support of the school's administrators, teachers, and parents.
- A minimum five-year commitment, but ideally from kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Both English and Spanish speakers are instructed together.
- Separation of the two languages, with teachers using the language of instruction.
- A rigorous core academic curriculum that is aligned to state standards.
- An active parent-school partnership.

## WHAT ARE THE PROGRAM STANDARDS?

- A minimum of 50 percent to a maximum of 80 percent of daily instruction in the non-English language.
- Equitable access to students, screening only language dominance.
- Strategic separation of languages by the teacher — no translation.
- An enrollment commitment from kindergarten through fifth grade (through 12<sup>th</sup> grade is encouraged).
- Decisions on program, curriculum, and instruction based on research and best practices for English Language Learners.



## WHY IS DUAL LANGUAGE BENEFICIAL FOR BOTH SPANISH AND ENGLISH SPEAKERS?

- Spanish speakers maintain their first language while learning a second language.
- English speakers experience no risk to their dominant language. They are taught academics in Spanish with second-language approaches to ensure their success.

## WHY SHOULD MY CHILD BE IN A DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM?

- Being bilingual expands opportunities by enabling students to communicate and interact with more people from around the world, giving them the skills and knowledge to function competently and confidently in a global society.
- Dual Language students display greater academic, cognitive, and social skills than those in all-English classes.