

Program Descriptions

Developmental Bilingual

The goal of the developmental bilingual program is to help students become literate in their native language as well as English. Students learn biliteracy skills and develop content area competencies in English and Spanish as defined by the language allocation chart (attached). The model of instruction is a one-way immersion model, in which students are taught literacy and language skills through content in both languages. This program currently services primarily Spanish-speaking English learners in grades PreK-4.

TBE

TBE is required in buildings with 20 or more EL (English Learners) students of the same language. The goal of the Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) program is for students to develop English skills while being supported in their native language. TBE is a minimum requirement for bilingual program established by the State, and it is being gradually replaced by Developmental program in the RPS205.

TPI

The Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI) currently provides instruction to non-Spanish speaking bilingual students. At the elementary level, students spend the majority of their day in a monolingual class, and receive small group instruction each day with an ESL certified teacher. This time helps the students develop academic and social English in a sheltered environment as the ESL teacher works closely with the homeroom teacher to provide instructional support for the classroom learning. When possible, instruction in student's home language is provided to order to facilitate learning in English. Secondary students in the TPI program receive ESL and sheltered literacy instruction as well as sheltered instruction in the content area classes.

Dual Language

In the dual language program, students who are native English speakers, or speakers of another language, are placed in a class with native speakers of the target partner language (in this case, Spanish) and learn in English and Spanish. The goal is for students to maintain and develop their first language while acquiring native-like communication and literacy skills in a second language. The Dual Language Program is an educational model that promotes high academic achievement, while supporting second language development, and cross cultural understanding for all students. Academic subjects are taught to all students in English and Spanish, as defined by language allocation chart. The program creates an additive bi-literate environment for all students.

Newcomer Program

Newcomer classes are offered to assist students at the middle school and high school levels who are new to the country and are at an entering or emerging level of English development. The goals of the Newcomer Program is to acclimate students to new school and new culture and to provide intensive language and academic support in order to build a firm foundation for student achievement as they progress along the continuum of the TPI courses. When possible, instruction in student's home language is provided to order to facilitate learning in English.