

Spanish Immersion



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[HTTP://WWW.LINCOLNSPANHIMMERSION.COM/](http://www.lincolnspanishimmersion.com/)

Spanish Immersion General Information

Housed in Bishop Elementary-Lincoln Consolidated Schools

- Parent driven commencement of Spanish Immersion program at Lincoln on May 21, 2012
- Children learn their grade level curriculum in Spanish
- First day of school September 4, 2012
- Currently have 4 classrooms
 - 100 students
- Adding 1 grade per year through grade 5 with intentions to grow through middle and high school
- Partners with EMU & UofM language departments
- Adding 1 grade per year through grade 5
- Board of Education is very supportive
 - Recent LCS The Communicator
 - ✦ https://www.lincolnk12.org/downloads/communicators/sp16_communicator.pdf



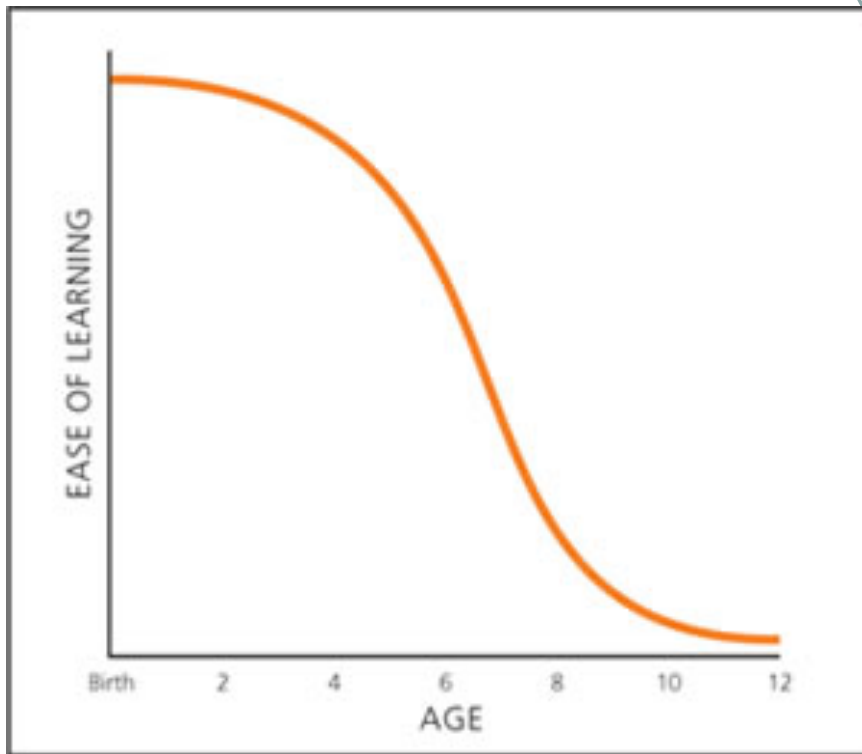
Performing at a Board of Education meeting in October!

Language at an early age



- Why so young?
 - Language education that starts early and involves children in daily communication and content learning provides children the opportunity to develop a second language as naturally as they learned their first language
- Why immersion:
 - Students in programs that devote more time to instruction in the target language and that use the target language for content-area instruction achieve higher levels of proficiency than students in other world language programs.

Critical Learning Period



Early immersion in a second language takes advantage of children's special metalinguistic, psycholinguistic, and cognitive capacities to learn language. (Genesee, 1984; Lambert, 1984)
Long term research on language acquisition has shown that individuals who begin second language learning early are more likely than those who begin later to achieve native like levels of proficiency. (Genesee, 1987)

Goals

The overall goals of our immersion program are for students to:

- meet or exceed academic achievement levels in all areas of the district curriculum;
- acquire a high level of communicative and academic proficiency in English and Spanish;
- gain an appreciation of other cultures and a deeper understanding of their own culture;
- and increase capacity for creative thinking and problem-solving skills.



BENEFITS OF BILINGUALISM



- Research shows that when compared to their monolingual peers, children who learn a second language often:
 - Demonstrate an improved overall school performance;
 - Demonstrate greater cognitive development in such areas as problem-solving skills, mental flexibility, creativity, divergent thinking, and higher order thinking skills;
 - Demonstrate improved memory and listening skills;
 - Demonstrate a greater understanding of their native language;
 - Achieve statistically higher scores on standardized reading, language arts, and mathematics tests administered in English.

What does SI look like in Bishop Elementary:

- Same curricular standards as every other classroom of the same learning level
 - Part of multi-age school
 - ✦ different age/grade students are combined into the same classroom. Students participate in the same units over a two year cycle.
- Active Learning
 - Students have direct, hands-on experiences with people, objects, events, and ideas.
- PDR
 - Daily time for children to initiate their own path of exploration and learning.
- Begin with a 90/10 model, 90% of the day is spoken in Spanish and 10% in English
- Specials (Physical Education, Music, Art, Technology, Media) taught in English
- English starts at about 30 minutes a day and increases progressively through fifth grade
- Only difference from a general education classroom is the language spoken
 - Classroom language is the Target Language, Spanish in this case

Fotos...



Any questions?



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[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LINCOLNSPANISHIMMERSION/](https://www.facebook.com/LINCOLNSPANISHIMMERSION/)

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP FACEBOOK PAGE:

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/LSIPARENTS/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/LSIPARENTS/)