

## Dual Language High School FAQs for U-46 Parents

### GENERAL IMPLEMENTATION

**Q: Why is School District U-46 implementing the Dual Language Program at the high school level?**

As a dual language district, School District U-46 is committed to building upon our current elementary and middle school dual language programs. With the implementation of the Dual Language Program at the middle school level during the 2016-17 school year, the planning for the high school implementation was a natural progression. This trajectory provides our students with the opportunity to continue their development as bilingual, biliterate and multicultural citizens in our global society as was established in the 80:20 Dual Language Project Charter. This strategically developed plan/charter was initiated during the 2009-2010 school year in collaboration with different members of our educational community. In addition to this charter, School District U-46's Board of Education adopted the 80:20 Dual Language Policy in July 2014, which includes dual language programming from preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Consequently, the implementation timeline established for the 80:20 Dual Language Program as we roll up to the high school level will begin with the 2018-19 school year for 9<sup>th</sup> grade students and the 2019-2020 school year for 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. Full implementation will be achieved during the 2021-22 school year.

**Q: What are the school sites for the Dual Language Program at the High School Level?**

In an effort to provide our incoming freshmen with the opportunity to have access to their home schools as they enter high school, all five high school sites have been selected: Bartlett HS, Elgin HS, Larkin HS, South Elgin HS and Streamwood HS

### CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

**Q: What is the instructional program model for the Dual Language Program at the High School level?**

Please information regarding the instructional model by clicking [HERE](#).

**Q: Why offer language arts, math, science, and social studies in Spanish?** The U-46 DL program strives to provide students with a balance of exposure in Spanish and English across the content areas in order to develop bilingualism and biliteracy. The PreK-12 language allocation was strategically and intentionally developed collaboratively in order to serve this purpose and to ensure academic language development across the content areas in both languages. The DL HS matrix shows this across the four years. In the case of full-time ELs, some Spanish classes (e.g., social studies and health) are in compliance with ISBE regulations.

**U-46 PreK-8<sup>th</sup> DL Language Allocation**

GRADE	BLP BLOCK 1 LANGUAGE	BLP BLOCK 2 READING	BLP BLOCK 3 WRITING	MATH
DL PreK 80:20				
DL Kindergarten 80:20				
DL First Grade 70:30	LITERACY-BASED ESL (ELDS)			
DL Second Grade 60:40	LITERACY-BASED ESL (ELDS)			
DL Third Grade 50:50	LITERACY-BASED ESL (ELDS)			CONTENT-BASED ESL (ELDS)
DL Fourth Grade 50:50	LITERACY-BASED ESL (ELDS)			CONTENT-BASED ESL (ELDS)
DL Fifth Grade 50:50	LITERACY-BASED ESL (ELDS)			
DL Sixth Grade 50:50	LITERACY-BASED ESL (ELDS)			
<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>				
DL Seventh & Eighth Grade	LANGUAGE BLOCK			MATH
	SPANISH LANGUAGE ARTS	SOCIAL STUDIES	ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS/ESL	

Blue: English-sheltered instruction

Green: Spanish-sheltered instruction

Pink: Alternate English/Spanish – Follow U-46 grade-level DL calendar

**Q: What is the curriculum for the DL content area classes?**

All content area classes follow the adopted U-46 curriculum for each specific subject area.

**Q: Are the dual language classes in Spanish going to be available at the Honors level?**

Yes, they will be available at the honors level. For more specific information, please click [HERE](#).

**Q: Will DL students take English Language Arts and Spanish Language Arts at the same time?**

Yes, all DL students in the program will be required to take Spanish Language Arts and English Language Arts every year in their grade level.

**ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

**Q: What assessments will DL students need to take?**

DL students will take the same assessments as other U-46 high school students in the general education program, in addition to any ELL/Dual Language required assessments.

**DISTRICT ACADEMIES AND/OR HIGH SCHOOL CAREER PATHWAYS**

**Q: Will a student who is enrolled in an existing high school academy be allowed to enroll in dual language courses, such as Honors Spanish Language Arts I?**

Yes, dual languages students who choose to enroll in an academy can take elective courses such as Honors Spanish Languages Arts I.

**Q: Do the DL students have to choose between an Academy and the DL high school program?**

For some academies, there is compatibility between the Dual Language Program and the coursework in the academies. For more information please call us at 847-888-5000 ext. 5331 or 5332.

**STUDENT PLACEMENT**

**Q: Once the dual language program is implemented, what will happen with the Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) program for eligible Spanish speaking students?**

Similar to the process at the elementary and middle school level, beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, the English Language Learners Program in School District U-46 will begin the transition from the current Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) program model in Spanish to the 80:20 Dual Language Program model for students at the 9<sup>th</sup> grade level. The following year, 2019-2020, will include 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. During the subsequent years, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders will be phased into the program. The dual language program is not only a bilingual education model where both languages are developed academically, but it is also the only program model that closes the achievement gap for ELL students, according to the research by Dr. Thomas and Dr. Collier. The Dual Language program is a different model of serving ELL students although it is a form of bilingual education; it falls under the umbrella of TBE.

**Q: What is the recommended placement for an incoming freshman from another district who qualifies for the TBE program (Spanish background)?**

Any new TBE qualifying freshman for the 2018-19 school year will be served within the high school dual language program. The dual language program is the TBE model for which all TBE high school freshmen will be served next year. Each year, the program will be phased in with the subsequent grade level until the 2021-22 school year when all grade levels will be phased into dual language programming.

**Q: Will non-EL students who have not been part of the 80:20 Dual Language Program in elementary/middle school be allowed to enroll in the DL high school program?**

No. This program is designed for students who are moving up from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade DL middle school program. The Dual Language Middle School Program in School District U-46 develops academic and linguistic skills of high rigor in both languages. It should not be confused with the study of Spanish as a foreign language. The dual language students have already been developing bilingual and biliteracy skills for several years since enrollment at the elementary level. However, a student whose home/native language is Spanish and who is eligible to receive ELL services will be allowed to enroll at any time in the program according to ISBE regulations.

**Q: What will happen to Spanish-speaking EL students who are newcomers after 8<sup>th</sup> grade?**

Students will be placed in the Dual Language program if that grade level has been phased in. In this case, 9<sup>th</sup> graders who are newcomers would be enrolled in the HS DL program starting in the 2018-19 school year. The Dual Language program is strategically designed to address and develop the academic and linguistic skills of ALL students based on their needs and strengths; this includes differentiated instruction for our newcomer students with a Spanish background. The teaching and learning process in a dual language classroom is facilitated by bilingual/ESL licensed teachers with specific training in academic and language development for ELs and in compliance with the licensing regulations for the state of Illinois. A bilingual and ESL licensed teacher (or an ESL only teacher) will also support the student’s learning through scaffolding and differentiating standard-based instruction in English according to the language performance definitions.

**WITHDRAWALS**

**Q: What is the withdrawal procedure for Dual Language students?**

If parents wish to withdraw their child from the High School DL Program, they need to communicate their decision to the ELL Department Chair at their child’s high school to ensure that there is understanding about the process and implications for such decision. If after meeting with the ELL Department chair the decision is made to move forward with the withdrawal, parents will have to submit a handwritten letter, signed and dated, to the school communicating their decision. This letter needs to be turned into the main office, more specifically the Home School Liaison.

**Q: Will students who withdrew from the program previously, for instance in middle school, be allowed enrollment into the high school dual language program?**

Students who were not enrolled in the middle school dual language program will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the ELL Department in collaboration with the school.

**STUDENTS FROM LOW-INCIDENCE LANGUAGES**

**Q: Will there be programmatic changes for students from low-incidence languages, in other words, students whose native language is not Spanish?**

No. ELL eligible students who speak a language other than Spanish, such as Polish, Urdu, Tagalog, etc. will continue to receive language educational services for which they are eligible, in accordance to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) regulations. However, starting in 2018-2019, incoming freshmen students from low-incidence languages who accept ELL services will be serviced at South Elgin HS or Bartlett HS. Click [HERE](#) for the comprehensive presentation.

SCHOOL	Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI)ESL Implementation SY 2018-2019		Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI)ESL Implementation SY 2019-2020		Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI)ESL Implementation SY 2020-2021	
	TPI 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	TPI 10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	TPI 9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	TPI 11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	TPI 9 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	TPI 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Bartlett HS	✓		✓		✓	
South Elgin HS	✓		✓		✓	
Elgin HS		✓		✓		✓
Larkin HS		✓		✓		✓
Streamwood HS		✓		✓		✓

**SPECIALIZED STUDENT SERVICES**

**Q: What classes will DL special education students take in dual language?**

Students who have IEPs and are currently enrolled in the dual language program at the middle school level would be expected to continue in the dual language program in high school unless otherwise noted in their IEP, in which case placement in content area classes would be determined based on identified IEP goals. Additionally, depending on the specific recommendation from the multidisciplinary/IEP team on specific student goals, students may be placed in a co-taught model, which consist of a DL general education teacher along with a special education classroom

teacher. Given that all students present with different strengths and needs, differentiation of instruction will be expected of dual language teachers as well for academic and language development. Teachers are also encouraged to consult with the students' case managers.

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/OTHER**

***Q: How can I learn more about dual language education and the implementation of the Dual Language Program in U-46?***

Current and updated dual language information can be found on the district's website (click [HERE](#)), which includes the following: research, updated events, and information, links to dual language websites, resources, and communication to educators and parents.

***Q: Whom can I contact for additional information at the district level?***

For additional information, please contact the ELL Department, at 847-888-5000 ext. 5331 or 5332.