



lectura lounge



Lectura Lounge Lectures

November 14, 2024

Benefits of Multilingualism:

Our children's path to biliteracy in PCSD



Agenda

- Welcome/Introduction
- Benefits of Multilingualism – Carla Llewelyn-Vasquez
- DLI Pathway – Annie Wallace
- Graduate story – Charlie Maulding
- Support programs – Maritza Roño Refuerzo
- Panel Q&A and group discussion



lectura lounge



UTAHHUMANITIES

Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS

"You can't make your child speak a language. However, you can set the stage so that they will want to speak it."

— from *The Bilingual Edge*, by Kendall King & Alison Mackey



lectura lounge



UTAHHUMANITIES

Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS



Benefits of Multilingualism

Benefits of Multilingualism

Carla Llewelyn-Vasquez

Language and Literacy Coordinator

San Mateo County Office of Education

[Benefits of Multilingualism](#)



lectura lounge



UTAHHUMANITIES

Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS

A word cloud featuring the word "Hello" in various languages, arranged in a circular pattern. The word "Hello" is the central and largest element, rendered in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font. Surrounding it are numerous other languages, each with the word "Hello" in its native script, in various sizes and orientations. The background is a dark blue with a subtle geometric pattern of triangles and polygons. The overall shape of the word cloud is roughly circular, with the words filling the space around the central "Hello".

Languages included (clockwise from top):

- Lao-Sabai dii
- Hebrew-Shalom
- Italian-Buongiorno
- Irish-Dia is muiro dhuit
- Latvian-Es m lu tovi
- Indonesian-Hai
- Danish-Hallo
- Slovene-Zdravo
- Samoan-Talofa
- Albanian-Tungjatjeta
- Serbian-cen
- Portuguese-Ola
- Polish-Witajcie
- Chinese-Nin hao
- French-Bonjour
- Arabic-Ahlan bik
- Spanish-Hola
- German-Guten Tag
- Mongolian-sain baina uu
- Malay-Selamat petang
- Vietnamese-Chao
- Greek-Geia!
- Latin-Ave
- Romanian-Salut
- Ukrainian-Pryvit
- Norwegian-Hallo
- Persian-Salam
- Korean-Annyeonghaseyo
- Finnish-Hei
- Russian-Privet
- Swahili-Jambo
- Thai-Sawatdee krap
- Czech-Nazdar
- Slovak-Nazdar
- Bosnian-Selam
- Burmese-Mingala ba
- Nepali-Namaste
- Bengali-Nomoskar
- Tagalog-Halo
- Urdu-Mash allai
- Swedish-Hej
- Indi-Namaste
- Hungarian-Szia
- Afrikaans-Goeie dag
- Filipino-Helo

Multilingualism Benefits Everyone



Carla A. Llewelyn-Vasquez, clvasquez@smcoe.org
Coordinator, Language & Literacy
San Mateo County Office of Education



About Me



- Immigrant
- Bilingual
- SFUSD and SMCOE
- Educator-Parent, Teacher, Coach, Principal, Advocate for Multilingualism and Racial Equity



Which resonates?

If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart.

Nelson Mandela

Language is not a genetic gift, it is a social gift. Learning a new language is becoming a member of the club – the community of speakers of that language.”

Frank Smith

To have another language is to possess a second soul.

Charlemagne

Learning another language is not only learning different words for the same things, but learning another way to think about things.”

Flora Lewis

Many Americans have long been of the opinion that bilingualism is ‘a good thing’ if it was acquired via travel (preferably to Paris) or via formal education (preferably at Harvard) but that it is a ‘bad thing’ if it was acquired from one’s immigrant parents or grandparents.

Fishman

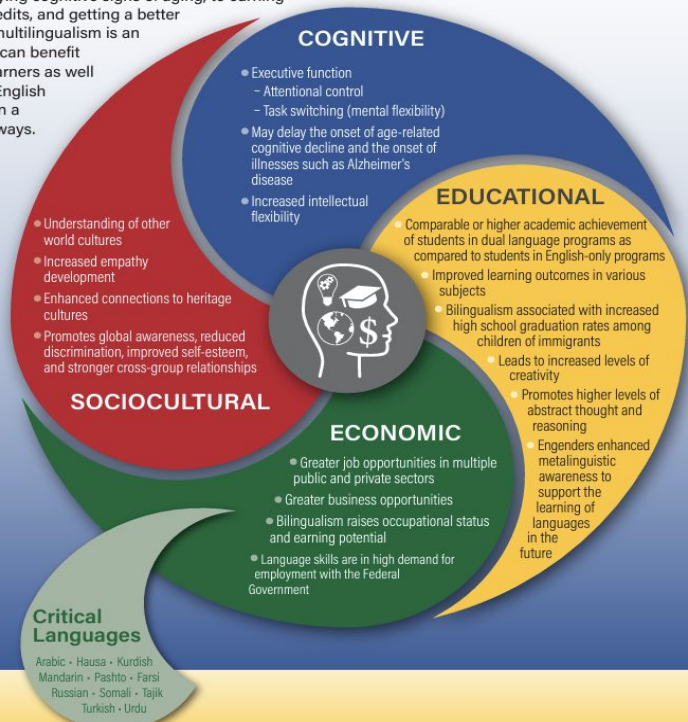
Did you know?

- 20% of the US population speak 2 or more languages
- 15.4% of Utah residents speak 2 or more languages with Spanish being the the most spoken language . That's 1 in 7 Utahans
- In 2022, 23.8% of Utahns identified as a race or ethnicity other than non-Hispanic white. In 2023, that share increased slightly to 24.3%.Jul 22, 2024
- Utah has emerged as a leader in dual language education, with nearly 40,000 students in 192 elementary and secondary schools to be enrolled across the state in 2017-2018.

There is a value and intentionality on the state's part to support Multilingualism.

Benefits of Multilingualism

There are multiple benefits to being multilingual, multiliterate, and multicultural in today's global society. Knowing more than one language from birth, acquiring a new language through school, or learning languages later in life, can provide tangible advantages in many areas. From delaying cognitive signs of aging, to earning college credits, and getting a better job offer, multilingualism is an asset that can benefit English learners as well as native English speakers in a variety of ways.



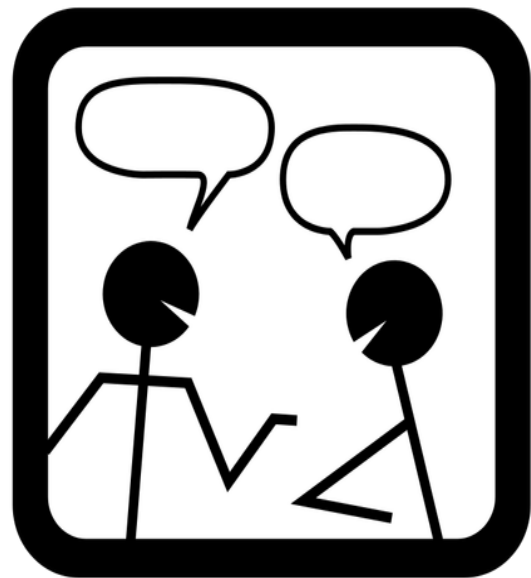
Benefits of Multilingualism

- Deepens your understanding of language itself
- Enhances Cognitive abilities like problem-solving and Memory.
- Broadens your Cultural understanding
- Improves your ability to learn new skills
- Opportunity to develop Multiculturally

Turn and Talk

Which of the benefits
resonate with you?

What do you notice with your
students?



Myths about Language Learning


- Multilinguals will confuse languages-

Students are actually using the flexibility with language and it is expected as part of the language learning process. With time it is easier for students to distinguish rules and vocabulary

- Multilinguals can struggle academically-

Bilinguals have an advantage to improved attention, executive function and multi-tasking abilities. In DLI programs both languages and content learning are supported

What to Expect As A Parent

- Be patient.
 - You won't hear the new language right away
 - Grammar will come! In the early years the emphasis is on language comprehension...at first. Language/grammar instruction is embedded.
 - My child won't learn English..... It takes at least 7 years to develop academic proficiency in a language. So, continue to develop a strong foundation in the home language.
 - Your student will use their knowledge of both languages to learn language and academic content
 - English Learners/MLL succeed while maintaining their native language
- 

Closing

Have a fantastic
weekend!



Carla Llewelyn-Vasquez, Coordinator, Language & Literacy
clvasquez@smcoe.org



PCSD Dual Language Immersion Pathway

Annie Wallace

DLI Coordinator & Specialist

Park City School District

[Utah DLI Pathways](#)



lectura lounge



UTAHHUMANITIES

Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS



Graduate Story

Graduate Story

Charlie Maulding

Class of 2022

Park City High School



lectura lounge



UTAHHUMANITIES

Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS



Parent Story

Parent Story

Jessica Wiltsee

Eva and Ethan

Parley's Park Elementary School



lectura lounge



UTAHHUMANITIES

Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS



Support Programs

Support Programs

Maritza Roño Refuerzo

Program Director

Lectura Lounge



lectura lounge



UTAHHUMANITIES

Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS



Panel Q&A and Group Discussion

- Carla Llewelyn-Vasquez
- Annie Wallace
- Charlie Maulding
- Jessica Wiltsee



lectura lounge





Additional Q&A (page 1)

If you have additional questions, feel free to contact Carla at clvasquez@smcoe.org, Annie at awallace@pcschoools.us, or Maritza at maritza@caseyandcharleys.org.

Q: How we can help the students who still having struggling learning or talking the second language in middle or secondary school? How can we help students better prepare for the AP exam.

Carla

Immersive experiences are most supportive to those still struggling to learn or practice speaking a second language. Any practice outside of the school setting that is not high stakes or stressful present opportunities for language learning. I would encourage buddy reading, classes or activities where students can practice the language and vocabulary with the heavy load of learning content. In the classroom setting, I would encourage small group activities that provide oral language practice and discussions. The use of technology and AI can also provide opportunities for struggling or reluctant students to practice.

In regards to the preparation for the AP exam.... Encourage wide reading in Spanish! This will support development of vocabulary, syntax and structure, grammar (esp. the subjunctive and conditional) in Spanish. Students should be familiar with the main themes of the AP exam. I believe Annie said the preparation for the AP exam begins in 7th grade.

Q: How are multilingual learners recognized in curriculum planning? Education students in ESOL is always a concern for teachers. How do we adjust set curriculum to accommodate our new students and still stay in compliance.

Carla

Teachers planning and instruction is driven by grade level standards, student performance data and a consideration of the levels of support and/or intervention. For students learning English, teachers use English language development standards (I believe Utah uses WIDA) to design lessons and monitor students' language development in English. With newly arrived students as with all students, we start with where the student is and plan for academic gaps and acceleration.

Annie

Last year the ELA, Math and Science specialist, and myself, worked at the elementary level to support teachers in working with their grade level standards. Teachers have a coherence map that they follow and within their PLCs work to collaborate to make sure they are on track with each other. Our standards drive our instruction and using MTSS (multi tiered systems of support) we support all our students, regardless of language. Our curriculum is the resource, which, using scaffolding and intervention support, will (hopefully) be accessible by all students.



lectura lounge



UTAH HUMANITIES

Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS



Additional Q&A (page 2)

Q: I would love to see more communication in general from the PCSD DLI program about how to best support our kids throughout their experience, community events that support and celebrate bilingualism, etc.

Annie

This is a great question! Right now we have a DLI website (Google Park City School district DLI and it should come up). I have added to this the DLI pathways slideshow plus several other resources provided by the state. I've also shared the slideshow with secretaries at the school, who, hopefully, have either added it to social media or presented it in a newsletter. My goal is to continue providing resource ideas on the webpage.

Supporting students - this is a great question and in my role, I support teachers directly at each school. As I work through this position, I hope to be able to provide more resources for teachers as they support their students. I would say for community events, these will take place at each school, sometimes by grade, sometimes at a whole school level.

Maritza

Lectura Lounge is here to support PCSD's Spanish DLI model and secondary pathway via two of our programs, ¡Divertimos!, a two-hour session led by native Spanish speakers twice weekly—filled with games, cultural presentations (e.g., Día de Los Muertos), conversation, and activities—as well as Reading Buddies/Compadres de Lectura, where volunteers or older students read aloud in their dominant language to younger children whose primary language is opposite theirs, and where people of diverse backgrounds can share stories, practice their Spanish, and build community.

Q: Just interested in why some schools are Spanish and some decided in French. Thanks!

Annie

The state provides access to multiple languages in multiple districts. French and Spanish have been the two languages taught in the traditional setting in Park City for years. Chinese was also taught off and on over the last 25 years, however finding a Chinese teacher became problematic.

It was a district decision to include both Spanish and French when DLI was adopted. While unofficial, much of the reasoning came with knowing that we have a small French speaking community due to several companies that either are located in Park City, or in the Salt Lake area, many of which are connected to the ski and winter industry. The Olympic bid and ultimate hosting of the games in 2004 also may have had some influence on the decision (French is the official language of the Olympics).



lectura lounge



UTAH HUMANITIES

Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS



Thank you!



lectura lounge



UTAHHUMANITIES
Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS