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Ideas in Action



CASEY & CHARLEY'S
FOUNDATION FOR DOGS AND KIDS

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



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"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



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Benefits of Multilingualism

Benefits of Multilingualism

Carla Llewelyn-Vasquez

Language and Literacy Coordinator

San Mateo County Office of Education

[Benefits of Multilingualism](#)



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PCSD Dual Language Immersion Pathway

Annie Wallace

DLI Coordinator & Specialist

Park City School District

[Utah DLI Pathways](#)



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Graduate Story

Graduate Story

Charlie Maulding

Class of 2022

Park City High School



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Parent Story

Parent Story

Jessica Wiltsee

Eva and Ethan

Parley's Park Elementary School



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Support Programs

Support Programs

Maritza Roño Refuerzo

Program Director

Lectura Lounge



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Panel Q&A and Group Discussion

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





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.



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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., Dia 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).



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Thank you!



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