



## International Spanish Academies

The SVUSD Dual Language Immersion program is a member of the International Spanish Academies (ISA), which has developed a quality English-Spanish educational program through a network of selected schools in order to promote the study of the Spanish language and culture. ISA programs have signed a cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training of Spain.

### Benefits of the International Spanish Academies

- Support from the Spanish Consulate
- Materials/Resources
- Seminars
- Student Recognition
- DELE – Spanish Assessment

**We are proud of our partnership with the Consulate of Spain.**



**Recipient of the Seal of Excellence Award from CABE**



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What are the benefits of my child participating in the program through twelfth grade?

Your child will be bilingual/bi-literate, have taken two AP Spanish courses that can be applied for college credit, have an opportunity to earn an additional diploma from ISA, receive special recognition from SVUSD, and indicate on the UC/CSU college application of their participation in the Dual Language Immersion Program.

### Can my child start in the Dual Language Immersion Program at any time?

Students in kindergarten and first grade are admitted into the program through a priority system. English speakers may enter into first grade up to the end of the first trimester depending on space availability. Spanish-speaking students and bilingual students may be admitted at any grade level based on Spanish assessment results.

### Does having my child in a Dual Language Immersion program slow down their academic progress?

Research in this area indicates that learning in two or more languages enhances academic growth. Students receive the maximum benefit the longer they are enrolled in the program.

### Can I still read to my child even though I do not speak Spanish?

Yes, we encourage you to read to your child in the language you speak at home.



Saddleback Valley  
Unified School District

## Saddleback Valley Unified School District



## Dual Language Immersion Program



**Gates Elementary School**  
Lake Forest, CA 92630  
949-837-2260

**Los Alisos Intermediate School**  
Mission Viejo, CA 92691  
949-830-9700

**Laguna Hills High School**  
Laguna Hills, CA 92653  
949-770-5447

**Saddleback Valley Unified School District**  
www.svUSD.org

## Overview

The multi-award winning SVUSD Dual Language Immersion program is designed to provide English speaking and Spanish speaking students an exciting, enriching, and challenging educational opportunity for 21<sup>st</sup>-century learning. Students will learn to collaborate, communicate and think critically in all academic content areas in both Spanish and English. By the end of twelfth grade, students will have obtained the bilingual skills and multi-cultural competencies needed to succeed in our global society and economy.



## Goals and Benefits

- Develop high levels of proficiency in English and Spanish.
- Ensure academic excellence in the two languages as outlined in the Common Core State Standards.
- Cultivate an understanding and appreciation of other cultures, and strengthen positive connections among students, families, and the greater global community.
- Develop flexibility in thinking through problem solving, conceptualizing, and reasoning in two languages.
- Empower parents to actively participate in their child's education.

## Program Model

The Dual Language Immersion Program is a challenging and rigorous academic program in which Spanish is used as the primary language of instruction in the younger grades.

The optimal classroom population is half native English-speaking students and half native Spanish-speaking students. SVUSD implements a 90/10 immersion model in which kindergarten and first grade students receive 90% of daily instruction in Spanish and 10% in English.

The percentage of English instruction increases as seen below.

### Gates Elementary School

Grade	Spanish	English
Kinder & First	90%	10%
Second	80%	20%
Third	70%	30%
Fourth	60%	40%
Fifth & Sixth	50%	50%

### Los Alisos and Laguna Hills H.S.

Grade	Subjects taught in Spanish
Seventh	Spanish Language Arts Science
Eighth	Spanish Language Arts Social Studies
Ninth	DLI Spanish 3 International Relations & Globalization
Tenth	AP Spanish 4 World History
Eleventh	Spanish Literature
Twelfth	AP Spanish Literature



Parent participation is an integral part of the Dual Language Immersion program. Parents are encouraged to volunteer in the classroom and work with their children at home. Advocates for Language Learning (A.L.L.) is a non-profit organization of parents who support this SVUSD program. A.L.L. plans and sponsors cultural events, homework help at the elementary level, recognition events, and other services designed to help students succeed and enhance the educational experience for our children.

For more information email us at:  
[www.allsvusd.org](http://www.allsvusd.org)

**Please call the Services for English Learners Department if you have any questions.  
949-580-3347**

In addition, we offer **Co-Op fee-based DLI Pre-school** for ages 3.0 and above. For more information contact Services for English Learners at 949-580-3347.

