





# Parent Presentation

## CHERRY PARK ELEMENTARY

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# The Immersion Team

**Mr. Patrick Maness –Principal**

**Mrs. Kendyl Futrelle—Assistant Principal**

**Mr. Alberto Leon – Dean of Students**

**Ms. Monique Kirk – Dean of Students**

**Mrs. Karen Finley— World Language Coach**

**Ms. Flor Morales—District World Language  
Coordinator**

**Dr. Katie Barber—Executive Director of Elementary  
Education**

**Dr. Tommy Schmolze—Superintendent**

# Language in Rock Hill Schools

2003: 3 schools pilot KITE-LL World Language programs in 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades. The program grows into all elementary schools.

2010: Spanish curriculum expands to K-5<sup>th</sup> grade and RDES and EPES become Schools of Choice.

Fall 2012: Spanish Immersion began in Kindergarten. French starts in 2013 at RWES.

2013-2017: Immersion moved up in each grade level to Fifth Grade.

Fall 2018: Immersion begins in sixth grade at Sullivan. Oldest students now in seventh grade.

January 2019: Cherry Park Elementary School of Language Immersion begins.

# Benefits of Language Learning

## The brain and language



# Benefits of Language Learning

Has a positive effect on intellectual growth

Enriches and enhances a child's mental development

Leaves students with more flexibility in thinking, greater sensitivity to language, and a better ear for listening.

Improves a child's understanding of his/her native language.

# Benefits of Language Learning

**Gives a child the ability to communicate with people s/he would otherwise not have the chance to know.**

**Opens the door to other cultures and helps the child understand and appreciate people from other countries.**

**Gives the child a head start in language requirements for college.**

**Increases job opportunities/careers**

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# Immersion Schedule

Two kindergarten classes with  
immersion students  
(Student/Teacher Ratio of 25:1)

Students receive 50% of their  
classroom instruction (Math, Science  
and Second Language Literacy) in  
French or Spanish

Students receive the other 50% of their  
classroom instruction (Language  
Arts, Social Studies and Math  
Reinforcement) in English



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# Immersion Instruction

Teachers switch groups of students at a determined point during the day to provide an equal amount of instruction in English and French/Spanish.

Curriculum is integrated with experiences to support instruction in all areas throughout the day.

The two teachers plan closely together to support the total instructional program incorporating state standards.

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# Parent support

Parents do not need to know French/Spanish in order for their child to be in the program.

Parents do not have to know French/Spanish to help their child with homework, either. Homework will be a reinforcement of skills taught.

Parents should encourage their child to do their best on assignments in French/Spanish and assist as needed in other content area homework.

# Parent Commitment

1. Parents must have long-term commitment to this program in order for the benefits to be realized. (6 Years)
2. Parents should support the total educational process and assist with instructional concepts in the language spoken in the home.
3. As questions and concerns arise, parents should address those to the teachers and administration as needed.
4. Willingness to be flexible and open minded.

# What about standardized testing?

Progress in reading and math is monitored throughout elementary school via MAP and other measures.

Kindergarten and First Grade—No formal statewide standardized tests are given.

Second and Third Grades—Students are on par with other children. There might be a slight delay due to acquiring academic content in both languages.

Fourth and Fifth Grades—Immersion students usually surpass monolingual students their same age.

# Middle/High School Continuation

The district is committed to continue world language program development to meet the needs of immersion students in middle and high school. (Sullivan Middle School and Rock Hill High School receive our immersion students.)

Options include grouping students for advanced Spanish classes and continuing immersion classes in content areas.

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# Registration Process

1. Complete School Enrollment/  
Choice Application online by  
February 23.
2. Once notified of acceptance,  
respond to accept. Your slot is  
not secure until this happens.
3. Families not receiving a spot are  
placed on a waiting list.

# Your Questions?



# We Want to Say