

# Mount View Biliteracy Vision and Philosophy

## District and School Dual Language Program Vision

### Dual Language Program Vision

At Mount View Elementary, families, staff, students, and stakeholders value living in a multicultural and multilingual community. We agree that it is important to not only teach our children to think critically but to prepare them for global citizenship. With this in mind, we view each student as a developing Spanish/English bilingual and believe that our dual language program is for all students regardless of race, culture, language, and learning style. As language learners, students use their linguistic resources across numerous languages including but not limited to English, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Somali.

Mount View is part of the larger Highline Public Schools Dual Language program in which students receive instruction in English and Spanish from kindergarten through 12th grade. We view the dual language program as a critical strategy in our pursuit of social justice as it counters negative societal messages about non-English-speaking communities, as well as fosters the development of bicultural adaptation-the ability to feel comfortable and thrive in two cultures. Furthermore, research shows that while Dual Language programs increase the academic achievement and graduation rates of all students, they are particularly impactful in increasing academic performance and graduation rates for English Learners, a historically underserved population in education.

Families who join the Dual Language program after Kindergarten will be fully informed about the program at the time of enrollment and be advised about ways they can support their children at home. Students will also receive extra support in language acquisition at school.

### Language and Content Allocation Plan

Min	Spanish	Min	English
70	<b>Integrated Science &amp; Engineering/ Literacy</b> Daily components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Word study &amp; fluency</li> <li>● Reading</li> <li>● Writing</li> </ul>	70	<b>Integrated Social Studies/Literacy</b> Daily components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Word study &amp; fluency</li> <li>● Reading</li> <li>● Writing</li> </ul>
60	<b>Math (20-30 minutes)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Instructional routines</li> <li>● Review &amp; practice/Games</li> </ul> <b>Science (30-40 minutes)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Experiments/Investigations</li> <li>● Content Instruction</li> </ul>	60	<b>Math</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Core math</li> </ul>
15	Recess		
40	Lunch and Lunch Recess		
45	Specialist		

## **Mount View's Literacy pedagogy/philosophy**

At Mount View, we use the term literacy as a comprehensive term that includes listening, speaking, reading, writing, and viewing. That stated, we know our students learn language and literacy best through a content-based balanced-literacy workshop model. This integrated model has been shown to increase student engagement by explicitly building background knowledge and oracy through inquiry and investigation. Student learning is supported through a gradual release of responsibility from the teacher to the student.

At Mount View, teachers utilize standards-based planning, differentiated instruction, and careful assessment analysis to provide **each** student with the individual scaffolds they need to achieve their academic goals. Students here receive instruction on discrete literacy and language skills and strategies (i.e. talk moves, comprehension, vocabulary, word study, grammar, phonics, and phonemic awareness) in a variety of individual and group settings.

Our Mount View community believes that learning should be experiential and purposeful, and that students learn best by doing. As a result, we seek to engage students in authentic learning experiences that connect their background knowledge, what they are learning in the classroom, and real-life application. We strive to create culturally responsive learning environments where students see themselves reflected in the books they read and topics they study, and know that they are a valued member of not only the school, but the global community. Starting in kindergarten and continuing through 5th grade, students receive literacy instruction integrated with Science and Engineering (in Spanish) and Social Studies (in English) every day. This work fosters biliteracy and supports the development of positive cross-cultural attitudes.