What are the Benefits of Bilingualism?

Bilingual Students:

- Show increased mental flexibility and stronger problem solving skills
- Are more willing and able to learn a third language
- Generally score higher on verbal standardized test scores in English
- Maintain a strong sense of their own identity while developing sensitivity towards other cultures
- Get a head start in competition for universities and jobs in a global economy

What is the Purpose of the Two-Way Dual Immersion Program?

MDUSD Two-Way Immersion program will provide students the opportunity to develop biliteracy in English and Spanish, master grade level core standards and develop cultural proficiency. This will enable them to excel in future academic pursuits and successfully enter a global market fully bilingual and biliterate.
What is a Two-Way Dual Immersion Program? (TWDI)

The Two-Way Dual Immersion Program at Holbrook Language Academy is a TK-8 program that includes English-dominant speakers and Spanish-dominant speakers. Students receive instruction in both languages.

Holbrook Language and Culture Academy will offer a Two-Way Dual Immersion Program (English/Spanish) starting in Kindergarten. We will follow a 50/50 model where students will spend 50 percent of their day learning to read and write in English, and the other 50% of the day learning to read and write in Spanish. Students will be exposed to both languages through engaging activities and cultural events.

My child doesn't speak Spanish. How will he/she understand?

Dual Language teachers are trained as both subject area and language teachers. They make lessons understandable for all students by using hands-on learning, visual supports, interactive activities and by teaching subject area thematically.

We don't speak Spanish at home. Is that a problem?

It is not necessary for the new language to be used at home. Dual Immersion teachers work together to make sure that your child is developing both their first and second languages from the early childhood grades and on.

How long will it take my child to learn the second language?

Your child will begin speaking and understanding their new language since the first month of instruction. Research shows that it takes 4-7 years for a student to develop full proficiency in the second language.