

Dual Language Opportunity 2024 – 2025 (Middle School): *Guidance for new Grade 6 & 7 enrollees who speak Spanish*



Heritage Spanish speaking students and multilingual learners identified on the Washington State Home Language Survey and determined eligible for English language development services may be candidates to enter the Dual Language Program (DL). The Dual Language Program at Ford Middle School will help them build their literacy skills in both languages.

A student may enter and benefit by the DL Program who is:

- a newcomer from a Spanish-speaking country,
- a Spanish-speaking (Spanish dominant) MLL receiving ELD services,
- a student transferring from a DL program in another district, or
- a bilingual Spanish-English speaker who may or may not have had DL experience and demonstrates proficiency via STAMP testing.

It is preferred for newcomers enter the Dual Language Program.

When a new student enrolls:

- If the *Home Language Survey* indicates the student qualifies for screening for ELD services (#2, #3) as a Spanish-speaker, please share DL information. Alert the school ELD Specialist of the student's eligibility for screening and the DL program consideration.
- If the *Home Language Survey* indicates the student speaks English and the primary language spoken at home is Spanish (#4), follow up to ensure the survey was completed correctly and to explore whether the DL program might be an interest/fit.

The following sources provide more information for families:

- [Program Flier](#)
- Dual Language Website: <https://www.fpschools.org/dl>
- Email or call Ford Administrative Assistance & Atten. Erica Bravo at 253-298-3606.

Currently there is space in the middle school program. DL serves grade 6 & 7 students in the 24-25, school year, then will expand each year grade by grade through the following years.

For more information, contact:

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Ford MS Principal Heather Renner, hrenner@fpschools.org 253-298-3601
Ford MS Administrative Assistance & Atten. Erica Bravo, ebravo@fpschools.org, 253-298-3606
MLL/ELD Program Specialist Mary Lord Copeland, mlordcopeland@fpschools.org, 253-298-3039