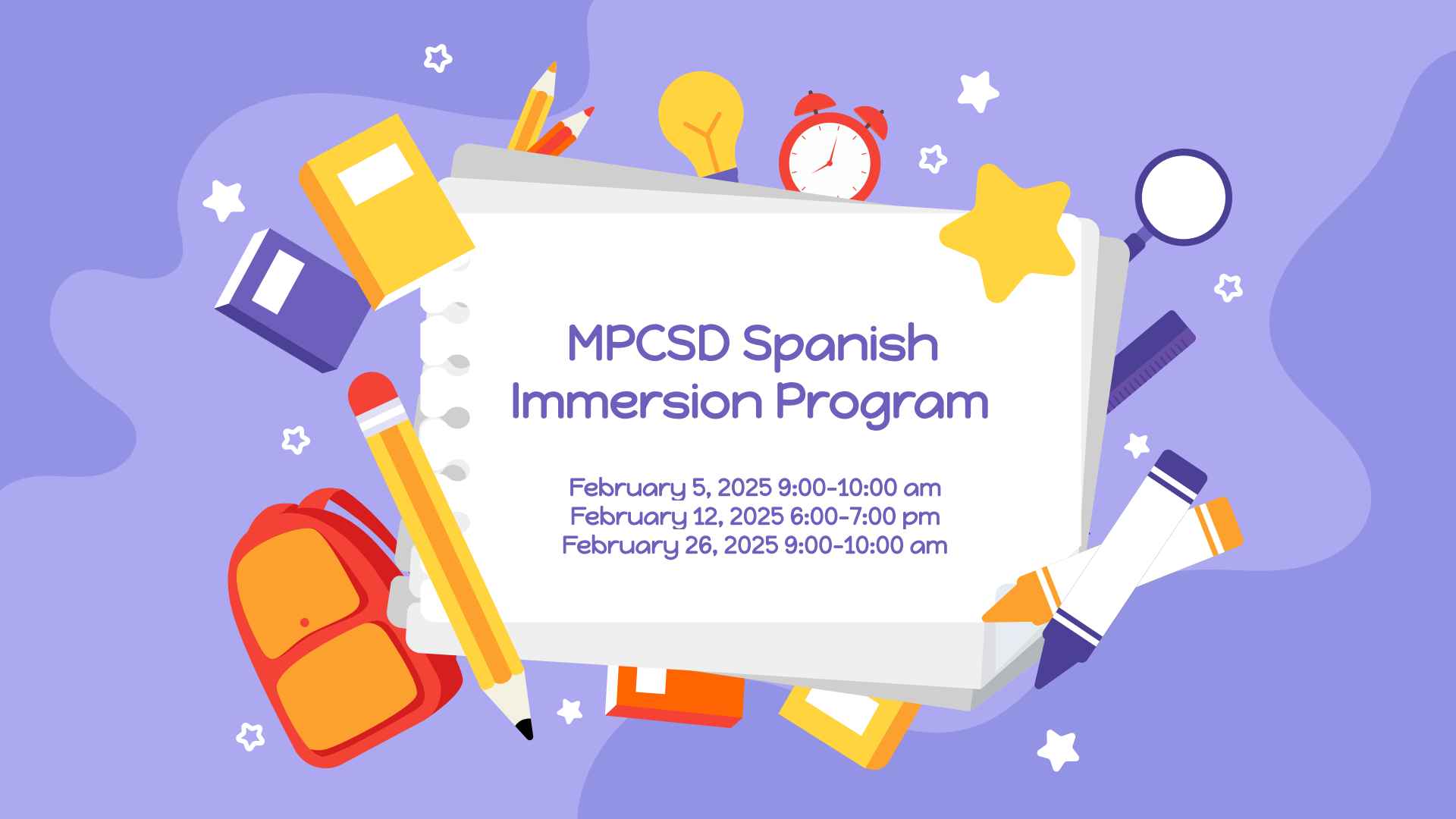




MPCSD Spanish Immersion Program

February 5, 2025 9:00-10:00 am
February 12, 2025 6:00-7:00 pm
February 26, 2025 9:00-10:00 am

PROGRAM LOCATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Encinal School

- Principal Sharon Burns



- 1-2 SI Classes at each grade level
- TK-5 School
- Located on Middlefield and Encinal Ave, Menlo Park
- Student Body - about 613 students



Laurel School's Lower Campus

- Principal Linda Creighton
(Upper Principal: Alicia Heneghan)

- 2 SI Classes at each grade level
- TK-5 School Across Two Campuses
- TK-2 on Edge Road in Atherton
- 3-5 on Elliott Drive in Menlo Park
- Student Body - about 662



AGENDA

✧ Welcome and Introductions

What is Spanish Immersion?

Program Features

World Language

Considerations

Is Immersion Best for my Child?

✧ Procedures and Next Steps

Questions

SPANISH IMMERSION

- An Educational Program
- Students are mainly taught in Spanish
- English is added incrementally as students progress through grades



POLL # 1- PRIMARY LANGUAGE

What language do you speak at home?

PROGRAM GOALS

In addition to the MPCSD Strategic Directions:

- Grow Student Belonging
- Strengthen Academic Excellence
- Create Inspiring Environments

SI program goals:

Bilingualism/Biliteracy
Multicultural Competence



HISTORY

2008-2009

- Two kindergarten classes open at Encinal
- 2 Immersion teachers
- 48 students

2024-25

- K-5 program at Encinal and Laurel
- 6-8 Spanish Language and Culture elective
- 23 Immersion teachers
- 529 Immersion students



From the First Kindergarten Class 2009

POLL # 2- SIBLINGS

Do you have any other children in the Spanish Immersion program?

BEING BILINGUAL

is my

SUPERPOWER!

I see issues
through different
perspectives



I use
BOTH
of my
languages to
think + learn

I have a
UNIQUE WAY
of LOOKING at +
understanding
the WORLD

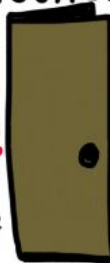
I'll have
more **job**
opportunities



@educatorBMLs

"TO HAVE ANOTHER LANGUAGE
IS TO POSSESS ANOTHER SOUL."
~Charlemagne

MY LANGUAGES
open the
DOOR to
CENTURIES
of **IDEAS,**
HISTORY,
CULTURE
and
knowledge



I CAN
COMMUNICATE
WITH
437
million
SPANISH
SPEAKERS
& **1.5**
BILLION
English
SPEAKERS
AROUND
the WORLD

RESEARCH
SAYS MY
BILINGUAL
BRAIN
is...



great
at
focus

better at
differentiating
sounds

less
likely
to get
DEMENTIA

better
able to
solve
problems



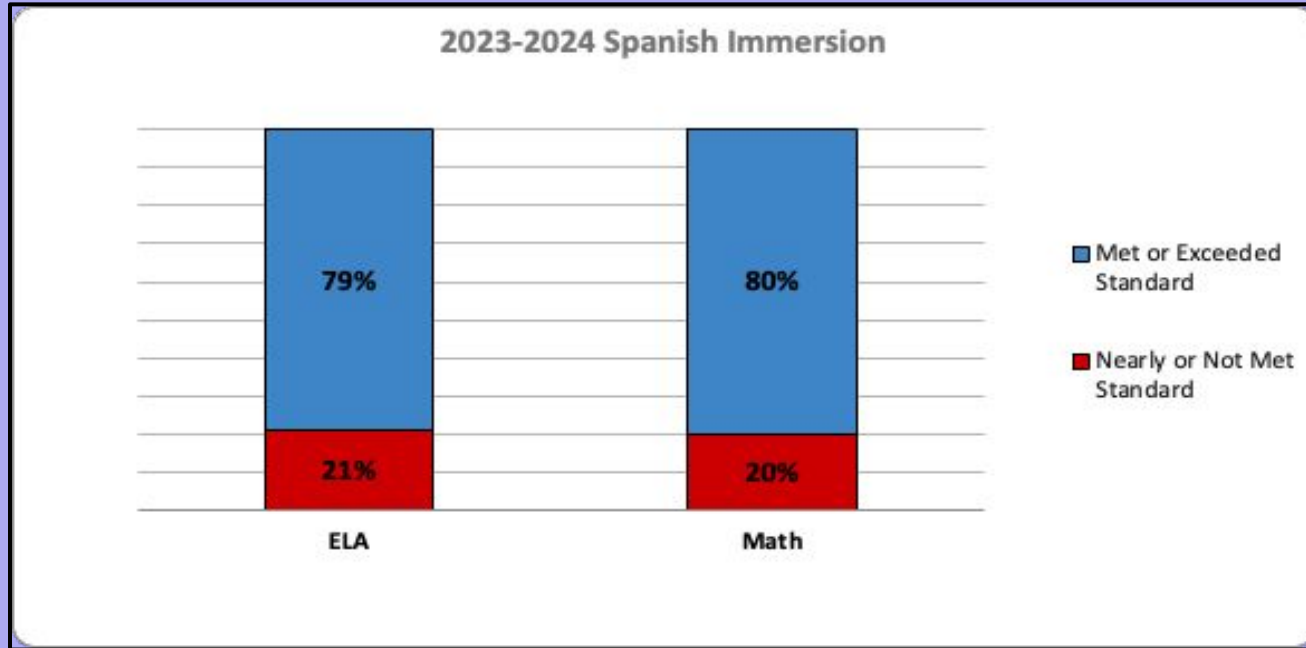
MOVIE



MEETING THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS

- Bilingual Reading Interventionist
 - Considered only if child is reading below grade level in BOTH languages. Otherwise, it's more of a vocabulary development need, not a reading need.
- EL Teachers
- Amity Interns and Bilingual Instructional Aides as additional layer of support

CAASPP (STATE TEST) DATA



INTERNS



ALTERNATIVE K-8 LANGUAGE OPPORTUNITIES

- K-5 Spanish Specialist at all schools (in English Classes)
- 6-8 Spanish, Spanish, Language and Culture, and French



POLL # 3- FIRST TIME IN KINDERGARTEN

Is this your first child to enter Kindergarten?

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



CONSIDERATIONS

Families who choose to enroll their children in the immersion program should know the following:

- Twins
- No sibling, language, or ELC priority
- Cohort, class sizes and configuration may vary
- Program is K-5 with a middle school elective class
- Ongoing challenges to recruit and retain highly qualified bilingual teachers, substitutes, long term subs, and support staff

CONSIDERATIONS

Families who choose to enroll their children in the immersion program should know the following:

- Social-Emotional considerations of a class(es) together for 6 years
 - students develop sibling-like relationships
 - limited opportunities for mixing with EO strands
 - students learn acceptance and peer resolution skills at a deep level

PROCEDURES AND NEXT STEPS

- Attend ONE Mandatory Spanish Immersion Parent meeting
- Must register for Kindergarten and Spanish Immersion program during priority registration period
- Registration Procedures

LOTTERY

- Lottery (if needed) - **March 18** 9:00 am
- Acceptance/Waitlist number sent via email - complete the Google form ASAP
- Accept or decline within deadline
- Failure to accept by deadline forfeits your child's waitlist spot
- Failure to remain enrolled in the school and the MPCSD forfeits your child's waitlist spot



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