

Dual Language Immersion (DLI) Program

*Parent/Guardian Information Session
2025-2026*



First in the Conejo Valley

- 1st Elementary School
- 1st and only leadership focus school
- 1st and only DLI program



Student Demographics

Title 1 School

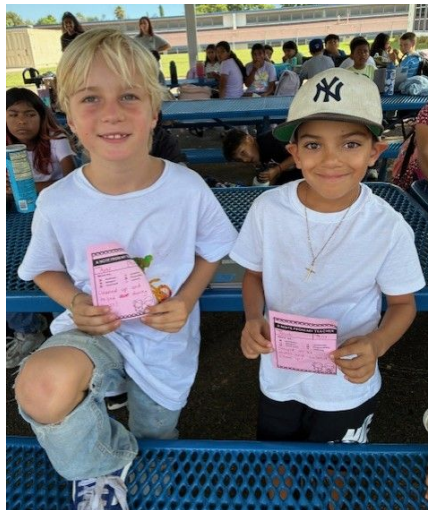
TK-5 Approximately 280 Students

- 80% Hispanic
- 13% White
- 5% Asian/Filipino
- 2% African-American

Free/Reduced Lunch - 70%

Multilingual Learners

- 40% English Learners K-5



What is Dual Language Immersion

Dual Language Immersion (DLI) is a program where students learn in two languages while still meeting all state academic standards.

At Conejo Academy:

- The program follows a 50/50 model, meaning students receive instruction half of the day in **Spanish** and half of the day in **English**.
- All required subjects and standards are taught, just like in any other school program.
- Students learn the subject directly in the language being used.
- Students receive Language Arts instruction in both Spanish and English.
- Other subjects (such as math, science, and social studies) may be taught in Spanish one year and English another year.
- Students do not need to know both languages before enrolling.



Leader In Me

The Leader in Me is a school framework that helps students develop important life skills alongside academics.

It is based on the idea that **every child has leadership potential**, and leadership means learning how to:

- Be responsible
- Work well with others
- Make good choices
- Set and reach goals
- Communicate respectfully

The
LeaderinMe®
great happens here

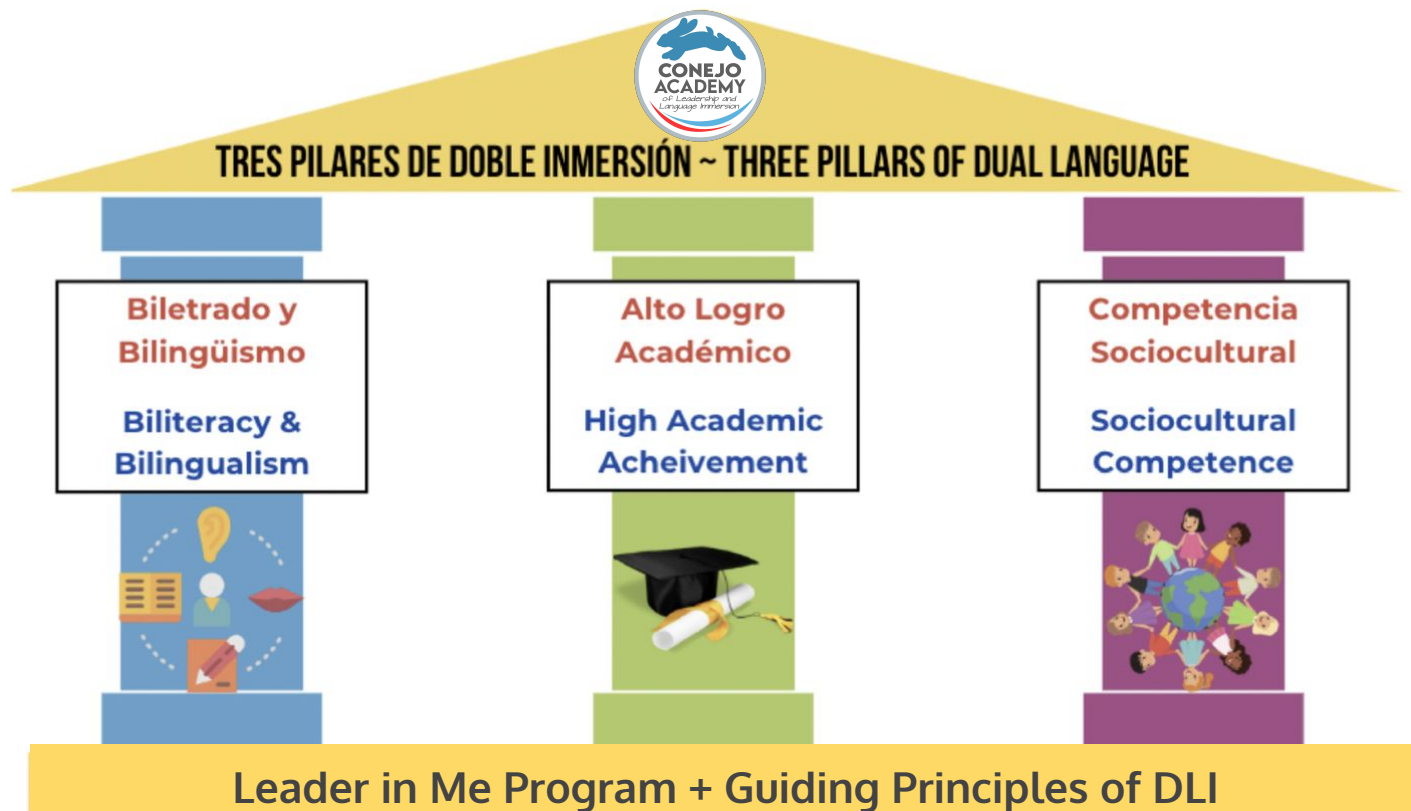
It is built around Stephen Covey's *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, adapted for children and schools.

Lighthouse Certification

- Conejo Academy is a Lighthouse School, which means it has been officially recognized for successfully implementing the *Leader in Me* framework schoolwide.
- A Lighthouse School is considered a model school that demonstrates strong leadership practices, positive school culture, and consistent use of other 7 Habits in classrooms and across the campus.



Structure of Conejo Academy



Bilingual and Biliterate

50 - 50 Model

- Language and Academic Instruction in English and Spanish
- Additive Learning
- Bilingual Staff Across Campus

Enrichment Opportunities in Both Languages

- Science Lab
- Dance
- Library Guest

Library Updates

- Students Take Home Two Books
- Adding Diverse and Inclusive Books in Both Language



Benefits of Dual Language Immersion

Academic Benefits

- Students do as well as or better than those in English-only programs
- Both English Learners and English-speaking students show strong growth in **reading and math**
- Learning two languages strengthens thinking, problem-solving, and attention skills

Social & Cultural Benefits

- Children develop greater empathy and understanding of other cultures
- Students learn to communicate and work well with people from different backgrounds

Future Career Benefits

- Being bilingual opens more job opportunities in many fields
- Bilingual adults earn about **5%–20% more** than those who speak only one language

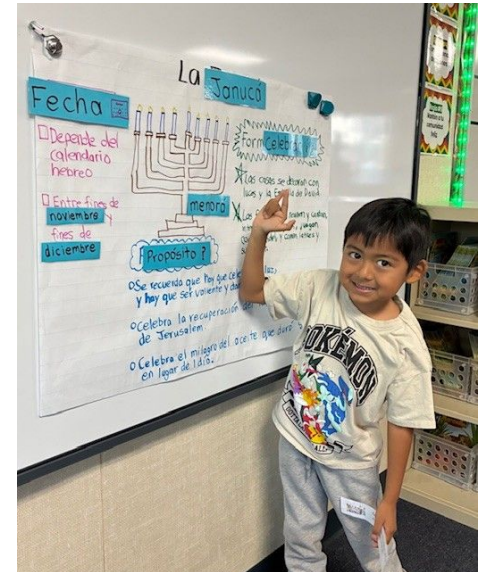


Social Cultural Competence

Dual Language Immersion helps children:

- Learn to understand and respect different cultures and traditions
- Build empathy by seeing the world from more than one perspective
- Feel confident communicating with people from different backgrounds
- Develop strong social skills and positive identity

Students don't just learn another language — they learn how to connect with others and appreciate differences



Common Myths About DLI & Bilingualism

Myth 1: Learning two languages will confuse my child.

Myth 2: My child will fall behind in English.

Myth 3: Dual language is only for English Learners.

Myth 4: My child must already speak two languages to join.

Myth 5: Being bilingual is only useful for travel.

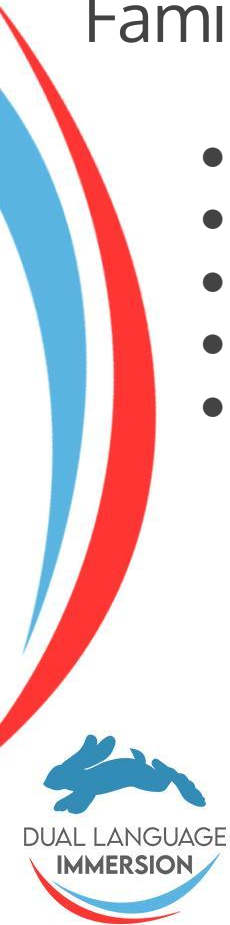
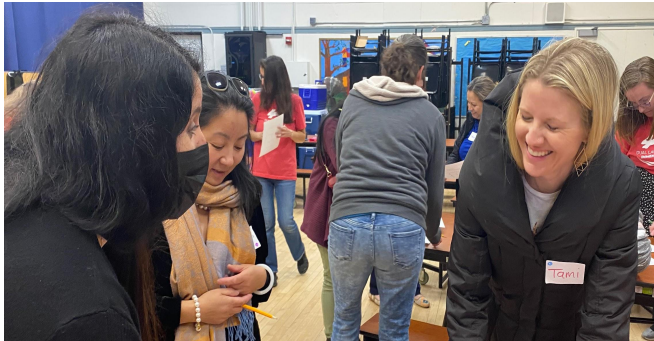


Sample Schedule - Schedule Alternates Weekly

Kinder	Moons	Suns
8:15-9:35	Spanish Language Arts and Social Studies	English Language Arts and Integrated Science
9:55-11:35	English Language Arts and Integrated Science Science Lab Leader in Me Curriculum	Spanish Language Arts and Social Studies Spanish Math Library
12:20-1:30	Spanish Math Library	Science Lab Leader in Me Curriculum

Family Involvement

- Targeted Family Education
- Monthly Family Engagement Opportunities
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Focus on Inclusion and Learning from Each Other
- Bilingual Communication Support for Families



Parent Testimonials

- “We love hearing our student incorporating Spanish into our daily lives. She is always counting or responding in Spanish. She is helping our whole family speak Spanish.”
- “Not only will your child become fluent in Spanish and English, but you will be connected with like-minded parents, who find cultural diversity important.”
- “Learning Spanish has allowed our son build a relationship with his great-grandparents. I don’t speak Spanish but it is amazing how excited my son is to learn and his older brother is willing to learn too.”
- “Conejo Academy promotes a strong family environment by offering frequent family extra curricular activities. The Leader in Me program is also excellent...teaching the kids from day 1 to take responsibility for themselves and to encourage them to speak publicly and lead other students.”



How Families Can Support at Home

Create a Language-Rich Environment

- Read bilingual books; Music, Games

Encourage Regular Practice

- Practice grade level vocabulary

Be Patient and Supportive

- Celebrate their efforts and progress rather than focusing on errors

Provide Cultural Exposure

- Celebrate cultural holiday, traditional dishes, watch movies

Two-way communication with teachers

- Ask questions and request resources

Network

- Play dates, homework support, exposure native speakers



Life Skills



TK	Cross Generation Connections
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K	Riding Bikes, Shoe Tying
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1st	Gardening, Table Etiquette
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2nd	Cooking
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3rd	Bilingual Presentations
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4th	Entrepreneurship
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5th	Public Speaking
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Additional Opportunities at Conejo Academy

- Bilingual Counselors and Mental Health Clinician
- Curriculum Based Field Trips
 - Community Field Trips
 - Channel Island Boat Trip
 - STEAM Focus
- After School Program and Enrichment
 - Volunteers
 - CRPD
 - STAR Program



Free Enrichment Classes During the School Day

TK - K	Leadership Block, Library, Science Lab, PE, Dance
1st-5th	Leadership Block, Library, Science Lab, PE, Dance, Music



DLI Enrollment Procedures and Requirements

- 6-7 year enrollment commitment (TK-5th grade)
- Three (3) ways to enroll:
 - Neighborhood school
 - CVUSD school choice
 - Inter-district transfer
 - Neighborhood families receive priority but not guaranteed admission
- School choice notifications start in early spring

