

## What is Spanish Immersion?

The Spanish Immersion Program is an option for students in the Bremerton School District. It gives **English-speaking** students an opportunity to complete the Bremerton School District curriculum in a non-traditional and exciting way -- by immersing them in the Spanish language and culture from Kindergarten through fifth grade.

## What if no one at home speaks Spanish?

The program was designed primarily for children of families who do not speak Spanish. Report cards, notices, and newsletters are issued in English. However, children whose parents obtain at least a basic knowledge of the language may have an advantage. Spanish homework assignments are not translated into English and it is not expected that parents will assist in Spanish homework activities.



Naval Avenue Early Learning Center is a family-centered school. Students and parents are part of the Naval Avenue Early Learning Center Community and the Spanish Immersion Community.

### Parents are encouraged to be involved:

Parent meetings will be held throughout the year to provide strong family-to-family relationships, as well as connections between family and schools.

***Immersion education adds knowledge about a new language and culture while building a child's English language skills and knowledge of U.S. culture.***

## Why should I choose the Spanish Immersion Program for my child?

Studies have found that learning a second language at an early age has many benefits:

- There is a positive effect on brain development and intellectual growth.
- Students gain flexibility in thinking, greater sensitivity to language, and a better ear for listening.
- It opens the door to other cultures and helps children understand and appreciate people from other countries.
- Students acquire Spanish language fluency.
- Spanish Immersion produces successful learners who perform well on tests (e.g., MSP - Measurement of Student Progress)).
- Student have increased job opportunities in many careers where knowledge of another language is an asset.

## How does this program differ from other programs?

Students in the Spanish Immersion Program are taught the standard Bremerton School District curriculum, but receive instruction in Spanish. Students will learn to understand, speak, read, and write Spanish in addition to English. ***It is mandatory that students have a strong foundation in English to be a participant in the Spanish Immersion Program.***



Our Spanish Immersion teachers are bilingual and biliterate; this means they have the ability to speak, read, and write in Spanish and English and are chosen for their skills and their commitments to the goals of the program.

At the elementary level (K-5), students receive the majority of the instruction in Spanish. Teachers speak Spanish to the students, while making sure they understand instructions and receive answers to their questions. English reading and language arts are introduced in mid-second grade.

***Studies show that Spanish Immersion students perform in English language arts, math, and other areas as well as, and often better than, their monolingual peers on standardized achievement tests administered in English.***

**Parents are expected to be involved to support student success.**

## How do I register my child for the Spanish Immersion Program?

Parents can register their child for the Spanish Immersion Program at the Naval Avenue Early Learning Center or at the District Office, 134 Marion Avenue N. There is no cost to parents for this program.

At time of registration, please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate and immunization record. Registration forms are available on our website at [www.bremertonschools.org](http://www.bremertonschools.org).

## Is transportation available?

Yes. Transportation will be available for students participating in the Spanish Immersion Program at Naval Avenue. Students will be picked up at their home school and returned after school.

## Can I visit the Spanish Immersion classroom?

Yes. If you think the Spanish Immersion Program might work for your child, parents are welcome to visit our classroom. Contact Sue Shipley to make arrangements.

## For More Information Contact:

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# Elementary Spanish Immersion Program

**At the Naval Avenue  
Early Learning Center**  
900 Olympic Avenue  
Bremerton, Washington 98312



[www.bremertonschools.org](http://www.bremertonschools.org)

The Bremerton School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, including gender identity, or disability. This holds true for all students who are interested in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer and ADA Coordinator Denise Zaske, at 360.473.1026 or the Section 504 Coordinator, Mike Sellers at 360.473.4100. Their address is 134 N. Marion Avenue, Bremerton, Washington 98312-3542.

Please contact us at 360.473.1014 for this publication in alternative formats.

**Bremerton School District**  
is proud to announce

# Elementary Spanish Immersion Program

**At the Naval Avenue  
Early Learning Center**  
900 Olympic Avenue  
Bremerton, Washington 98312

A World Language Program  
for English-Speaking Students  
in Elementary School

**Now** *Continuing program K-5*  
**accepting  
KINDERGARTEN &  
FIRST GRADE  
students!**

