

Educating Right: Idea for Consideration by the School Board of Trustees

Section I: Overview of the Idea

Title/name of idea	Dual Language Immersion
Brief description of idea	<p>A school/Schools will be dedicated to dual language immersion at particular grade levels. Dual language immersion means a school is conducted at least 50% of the time in the target language other than English. Language learning is best achieved at younger ages in an experience where students are surrounded by the language and taught in context, thus the power of dual immersion.</p>
Anticipated impact (i.e., money savings, student learning, community impact)	<p>Monetary Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unique program that could bring individuals into the district • Long-term costs would equal to other elementary buildings • Start up costs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Curricular Materials ○ Professional Development ○ Recruitment of staff ○ Transportation ○ Research (school visits) • DOE grants available to help with start up costs. \$50,000/year <p>Student Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to educate students to be career and life ready • Research shows that both native Spanish speaking and English speaking students show increased growth and higher student outcomes • Complete high school with a certificate of multilingual proficiency <p>Community Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to insure that the dual immersion school represents a broad

	<p>cross-section of socioeconomic status, Spanish speaking students, and English speaking students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the district's commitment to diversity and inclusion
Information needed yet for idea/Unknowns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this an elementary school only or is there a middle school and high school component? • Long term commitment from students, parents and district to this program is required to realize positive outcomes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IDOE Resource: https://www.doe.in.gov/standards/dual-language-immersion 2. IDOE Reference Page 3. Dual Immersion program in Highland Park IL 4. High School Certificate of Multilingual Proficiency 5. American Councils for International Education 6. NEA Today 7. https://addalingua.com/
<u>Pros of this idea</u>	<u>Cons of this idea</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research suggests there are economic as well as socio-cultural advantages to a cadre of bilingual citizens. Increasingly, proficiency in a second language and intercultural competency skills open up employment possibilities. Many sectors require increasing involvement in the global economy, from international business and tourism to communications and the diplomatic corps. High-level, high-paying employment will demand competence in more than one language. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Potential challenge of finding and training a highly effective multilingual staff
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Attract additional students outside of the district. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Transportation costs.

3. Retain and support students inside of the district.	3. Staffing a bilingual staff and the inadequate training for bilingual programs could prove to be challenging in the implementation of a dual immersion program..
4. Research supports equal and even stronger student growth and high achievement for students as measured on standardized assessments. Bilingualism should help close the learning gap.	4. It may be difficult to find developmentally appropriate curriculum, materials, and resources that meet state standards.
5. Bilingualism celebrates the diversity of our community. This is supported by research that has found numerous advantages to bilingualism, including: communicating with a much wider range of people from different cultural backgrounds; enriching travel experiences more meaningfully; accessing foreign media, literature, and the arts; connecting and conversing more freely; and expanding one's world view in order to not only know more, but to know differently.	5. Program articulation may be challenging in that elementary-level issues are met with additional secondary-level issues such as scheduling and balancing students' educational priorities as the program moves up and through the middle and high school years.
6. There's a well-established positive relationship between basic thinking skills and being a fully proficient bilingual who maintains regular use of both languages. Fully proficient bilinguals outperform monolinguals in the areas of divergent thinking, pattern recognition, and problem solving.	
7. In the United States, world language abilities are increasingly important to national security, economic competitiveness, delivery of health care, and law enforcement.	

Follow-Up by Board

Date considered by the Board	
Decision by Board to consider	
Rationale for consideration or not considering	