

HELLO

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## Program Goals

- To develop a high level of proficiency in understanding, speaking, reading and writing in both English and Spanish
- To prepare students to perform at or above grade level in both languages
- To develop positive attitudes toward those who speak the other language and their culture



## What is a Two-Way Immersion Program?

Two-way immersion, also called dual language immersion, is a model of bilingual education in which instruction is provided in the home language as well as another language. English speaking students and students who speak another language learn academic content in both languages with the goal of fostering a bilingual and bicultural learning environment.

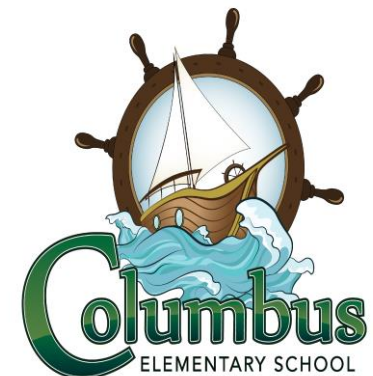


Utica City School District

## Two-Way Immersion Program

Christopher Columbus  
Elementary School  
934 Armory Dr.  
Utica, NY 13501  
315-792-2011

<http://www.uticaschools.org/columbus>





## Our Program Model

We are pleased to be able to offer a bilingual Spanish/English class to Kindergarten and first grade students at Columbus Elementary School. The program follows a 50/50 two-way immersion instruction model, with students receiving 50% of daily instruction in English and 50% in Spanish. Native English speakers and native Spanish speakers learn academic content together through both languages. Reading instruction will be given in both languages so that students develop literacy skills in English and Spanish simultaneously. Each bilingual class also has the support of a full-time bilingual teaching assistant.

**For more information about bilingual education, please visit the following websites:**

[http://www.cal.org/twi/toolkit/PI/Basics\\_Eng.pdf](http://www.cal.org/twi/toolkit/PI/Basics_Eng.pdf)

[http://www.cal.org/twi/toolkit/PI/P\\_QA/parent\\_qs.htm](http://www.cal.org/twi/toolkit/PI/P_QA/parent_qs.htm)

**If you are interested in a bilingual class for your child or would like more information, please contact Hannah Smith**

**Phone: 585-698-4049**

**E-mail: [hsmith@uticaschools.org](mailto:hsmith@uticaschools.org)**

**or Brenda Soto**

**Phone: 315-795-5332.**

## FAQs

**What advantages are there for my child in a dual language program?**

Research shows that students in dual language programs not only perform at or above grade level in reading and math, but also develop full oral and written proficiency in two languages and have positive attitudes about students of other language and culture backgrounds, as well as themselves as learners.

**How will my child learn if they don't speak the language of instruction?**

Research has proven that students are able to transfer skills learned in one language to a second language. Receiving instruction in two languages gives students the ability to access information in either language. In addition, teachers use strategies that keep language demands low while maintaining a high conceptual level. Participation in a dual language program will not prevent students from achieving at or above grade level in all academic subjects.