

# Poteet ISD

## Dual Language Program Policy

### Dual Language Program Overview

The Dual Language program is based on second language acquisition methodologies designed to address the linguistic needs of our English Language Learners (ELL) students in their native language, as well as provide native English speaking students (non-ELLs) an opportunity to build Spanish fluency. The goals of the program are to provide ELLs a strong foundation in their native language in order to transition effectively to the English language. In addition, non-ELLs have the opportunity to gain a strong foundation in Spanish while seamlessly progressing in their English skills. The program is at the elementary level, from kindergarten to 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

### Notification of Enrollment for the Dual Language Program

- The school district will notify parents of enrollment opportunities through our websites. Notifications will be sent home through students who are currently enrolled. Notifications will begin during the spring semester and will be sent out in both languages.

### Criteria to Enter the Dual Language Program

Dual Language Program entry will be offered to students entering Kindergarten and/or students that have transferred to Poteet ISD who have previously received Spanish as their primary language of instruction.

Dual Language will be offered to all ELL students first. Any available spots will be offered to native English speaking students (non-ELLs) on a first come basis that fill out the required application in the time period specified by the district and meet the language assessment criteria.

Students will be given the PreLas Oral Language Assessment to measure language dominance and determine eligibility. Test will be given in both English and Spanish to all interested students. Students should be proficient in either Spanish or English based on an Oral Language Proficiency Exam (OLPT).

Parent(s) or guardian may attend an informational meeting and must sign a commitment form to participate through 5th grade. Parent Commitment forms should be signed by the parent and a school administrator. Teacher and Parent support is vital to the success of the students who are enrolled in the Dual Language program.

Students who leave the Dual Language Program to enter an all English class may not be re-admitted into the program.