

What is a Spanish Bilingual Program?

Currently, there are three public Spanish Bilingual Programs in Edmonton and 10 in Calgary.

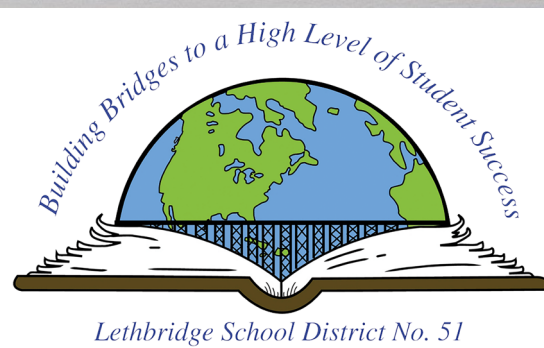
The interest and registration in such programs has grown over the last 10 years.

A Spanish Bilingual program provides students with the opportunity to develop the basic skills for speaking, writing and listening in both Spanish and English.



English and Spanish are used as the languages of instruction, beginning in Kindergarten and Grade 1.

Spanish Bilingual Programs provide opportunities for students to learn cultural elements of a second language as well.



Where in Lethbridge School District No. 51 will the program be located, and how will it work?

We will be offering this program as a program of choice at our new campus on the westside of Lethbridge, Coalbanks Elementary School, at the beginning of the school year in September, 2017.

The program will begin with classes for students in Kindergarten and Grade 1, and is open to students from across the city.

We are asking parents who are interested in registering their child to inform the District before Nov. 1, 2016. There will be an information session on Oct. 6, 2016, at the Education Centre from 5-6 p.m.

Beginning Sept. 15, parents can email spanishbilingualprogram@lethsd.ab.ca and submit their child's date of birth, provide their home address and submit a contact number and email. The District will follow up with parents after Nov. 1 with information regarding the next step in terms of implementation for the Spanish Bilingual Program.

Questions and answers

Q: Would the program be available to students outside of the attendance area of the new westside elementary school?

A: Yes. It is a District program of choice, available to all students. However, only students who live within the Coalbanks Elementary School boundary that are 2.4 kilometres or beyond, will qualify for bussing. Those living outside the boundary, who wish to have their students attend Coalbanks Elementary School for the Spanish Bilingual Program, will need to provide their own transportation to and from the school.

Q: What grades are included?

A: This program will begin with Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes, with one grade level added yearly.

Q: How does a bilingual program differ from an immersion program?

A: In immersion, all subjects are taught in a different language, with the exception of English Language Arts, starting at Grade 3. In a bilingual program, students study in the second language 50 per cent of the time.

Q: When would registration begin?

A: As it is important to assess the level of interest in the program, parents interested in enrolling their child for the 2017/2018 school year will be asked to email the District, and provide information about their child. Once it has been determined there is enough interest, students would be able to register in spring, 2017.



**More information
on bilingual programs
can be found here:**

(cut and paste these links into your browser)
http://www.ascd.org/publications/curriculum_handbook/413/chapters/Bilingual_Education@_Effective_Programming_for_Language-Minority_Students.aspx

<http://cbe.ab.ca/programs/program-options/language-programs/Pages/spanish-bilingual-program.aspx>



Why not learn SPANISH?

GENERAL INQUIRIES

Lethbridge School District No. 51
433-15 St. S.
Lethbridge, Alberta
T1J 2Z4
Phone: 403-380-5300

SPANISH BILINGUAL PROGRAM

Fall 2017
Coalbanks Elementary School