



# Dual Language Magnet Program

## Classical Center at Vial Elementary

*“The new magnet program where students learn to read, write, listen, and speak fluently in two languages!”*

# What is Dual Language?

Dual language programs allow students to develop proficiency in two languages by receiving academic instruction in English and Spanish. Classrooms are usually comprised of half all-English speakers and half all- Spanish speakers. Through both social and academic interaction, all students in the dual language program learn to read, write, listen, and speak in both languages equally well. Furthermore, students not only progress academically in two languages, but they also gain a rich appreciation of other cultures.

# Program Characteristics

The Classical Center at Vial Elementary will begin the dual language program in Kindergarten then progress to the next grade level each year through grade 5. The first Kindergarten class will begin in the 2010-2011 school year. Parents who wish for their students to participate should commit to the program for the primary grades (K-5).

# Curriculum & Instruction

- Students will receive 50% of their instruction in English and 50% of their instruction in Spanish. This 50:50 ratio split will be employed for all core content subject areas.
- An enhanced and rigorous curriculum will be used to ensure students are adequately challenged for their ability level
- Assessment of student academic progress in both languages will be monitored to ensure proficiency.



# Dual Language Teachers

Highly qualified and highly trained teachers who are proficient in both English and Spanish will provide students with research-based instruction.

# Goals & Benefits

- Develop high level of bilingualism, biliteracy, and biculturalism
- Receive academic instruction on an advanced level using an enhanced curriculum in all subject areas
- Maintain above grade level academic performance in English and Spanish
- Take advantage of the optimal window of learning a second language during the primary years
- Give students an upper edge in high school, college and the workplace

# Goals & Benefits Continued...

- Read, write, listen, and speak fluently in English and Spanish
- Enhance student self-esteem and cross-cultural understanding and appreciation
- Develop children who will be more competitive in the global economy
- Perform at advanced levels of achievement on standardized tests.

# Frequently Asked Questions...

**Q:** Will my child have a strong academic foundation in their home language?

**A:** **Yes**, in fact research has shown learning a second language enhances child's home language ability and cognitive development.

**Q:** My child has already been accepted into an academy/magnet program, will I lose my place if I apply for the dual language magnet program?

**A:** **No**, you will not lose your position if you apply for this program. If accepted, you will be able to choose the program you most desire.

**Q:** Is this program only for Kindergarten students?

**A:** **For the 2010-2011 school year** the program will begin with Kindergarten; however, each year it will progress to the next grade level through grade 5.

# Frequently Asked Questions...

**Q:** My child is academically gifted or bright, will there be a different curriculum used?

**A:** Students in the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile and higher will qualify for the program. These students will benefit from an enriched curriculum that is a full year above their current grade level.

**Q:** Will my child be fluent after 5<sup>th</sup> grade in the second language?

**A:** The expectation is that students who stay in the program will be fluent in both languages after the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, if not before.

# Does My Child Qualify for Dual Language?

The Dual Language Magnet Program at the Classical Center at Vial will begin the 2010-2011 school year with Kindergarten. To qualify for the program...

- Students must first receive testing through the Garland Gifted and Talented Magnet office.
- Students who rank in the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile or higher are eligible for this magnet program and may proceed with the application process.

**It is not too late, but classes are filling rapidly!!!**

# Research Suggests...

## **CHILDREN WHO STUDY A SECOND LANGUAGE DURING THE PRIMARY GRADE LEVELS...**

- learn and excel in a second language at a faster pace (Krashen, 1982).
- show greater cognitive development (Kauts, 1990).
- have increased listening skills, memory, and a greater understanding of their native language (Lapkin, 1990).
- have an improved self concept and sense of achievement in school (Caine & Caine, 1997).

# **Additional Magnet Benefits Offered at the Classical Center at Vial Elementary**

- Unique features of the school such as the Piano Lab, Theatre Center, Art Lab, and Science Lab set this program apart from traditional schools.
- Enriched art, drama, music, piano, and leadership classes weekly.
- Participation in musical and theatrical productions during the school year.
- Book publication opportunities.
- Additional enrichment courses that nurture the students' outside interests, such as Guitar, Chess, Ballet, Sewing, Movie Making, Clay Sculpting, and much more!
- Through the Arts children develop a greater understanding of history, culture and the rich traditions found in our community and society.

# For more information...

Classical Center at Vial Elementary

126 Creekview

Garland, TX

Phone (972) 240-3710

Fax (972) 240-3711

Sara E. McCoy, Principal

Donna Burleson, CCV Magnet Coordinator

[dburleso@garlandisd.net](mailto:dburleso@garlandisd.net)