



Benito Juárez Elementary School

Anaheim Elementary School District

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Benito Juárez Elementary School is located on the east side of Anaheim and serves nearly 865 transitional kindergarten through sixth grade students. Of those students, 43% are classified as English Learners, with 95% of them speaking Spanish as their home language. Approximately 52% of the students at Juárez are in the Dual Language Immersion Academy (DLI). In looking to preserve their students' heritage language, Juárez opened the door to its first Spanish Two-Way Dual Language Immersion program nine years ago. Since that time, more and more students have found greater academic achievement in Dual Language classrooms. Juárez follows a 90/10 model of instruction, with 90% of Spanish instruction and 10% English instruction beginning in transitional kindergarten.

Juárez's Dual Language Immersion Academy goals are the following: to develop language proficiency in English and Spanish for native English speakers and native Spanish speakers, to ensure academic excellence as outlined in the school district's core curriculum by increasing scholastic achievement in two languages, to cultivate an understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures through the curriculum, and to empower parents to become active participants in their children's education.

Juárez offers a menu of 21st century learning and enrichment opportunities to its students. Students participate in an award-winning music program which includes general music in dual languages for all grades, instrumental instruction for students in 5th and 6th grade, and an amazing Mariachi music class for students in 4th-6th grade. Furthermore, enrichment opportunities are provided as an extension of the school day through programs such as Academic Academies, a Robotics Club, Scholar Star News, Anaheim Achieves and the Peer Assistance League Program.

Juárez fortifies its community partnerships with other organizations that support professional development such as CABE's Binational Project GLAD® Program and the Bilingual Teacher Professional Development Program (BTPDP), a BECOME Project grant through the state of California where teachers receive professional development in Spanish and enrich their linguistic repertoire. Juárez Elementary also partners with the Anaheim Union High School District's Bilingual Ambassador Grant program. Through this program, students are able to promote culturally rich community events, participate in civic engagement activities, and promote bilingualism within our Anaheim community.

Regardless of whether students are in the English mainstream or in the DLI program, students' cultures and home languages are viewed as assets to be built upon. Juárez understands that the key to English Learner success involves the creation of a strong partnership with the parent community. A multitude of opportunities are provided throughout the school year to connect, empower, and build community. One of these opportunities includes the Parent Leadership Institute (PLI). Parents participating in the PLI program are taught how to be leaders at the school site and are trained to be able to present various parent workshops. In addition, Family World Days are offered every month. This is an opportunity for parents to learn alongside their child as they cultivate a global perspective. Many parents embrace the opportunity to volunteer in their child's classroom. Every year at the volunteer appreciation breakfast, more than 250 volunteers are recognized. More than 60 of those volunteers are awarded for volunteering over 20 hours of their time to support Juárez School.

Juárez Elementary School's primary goal is to prepare its students to succeed in a 21st century society. In order to support our students' success, our instructional team and staff pledge to provide each student with an engaging and equitable curriculum focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math, and Dual Language Immersion. We use this focus, referred to as an e2STEAM-D educational experience, to develop students' 21st century skills. Over the course of the year, our students will learn how to code and develop their digital literacy skills. For this reason, Juárez School embeds the ideals of the Four Cs into every lesson. Teachers plan lessons that embed Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, and Critical Thinking. Using the 21st Century Framework, students are taught what it means to be an effective communicator, work collaboratively with others, to look at problems from different perspectives, and welcome various solutions to a problem; thus, developing their creativity as well as their critical thinking skills.

Currently, the Anaheim Elementary School District offers the Dual Language Immersion Program at all 23 of their elementary schools. More than 1,950 students participate, with Juárez continuing to lead the way as the model DLI school not only for its own school district, but for schools across the nation.

CABE is proud to recognize Benito Juárez Elementary as a CABE 2020 Seal of Excellence School!