

Goals for your child
in our Dual
Language Spanish
Program

- Proficiency in English & Spanish.
- Ability to speak, read, write and understand English and Spanish.
- Academic performance at or above grade level in English and Spanish.
- Cultural diversity among all students.

**Why Dual Language is
IMPORTANT!**

- Our program fosters intellectual growth.
- A child who speaks more than one language has personal, social and cognitive advantages, which will continue throughout his/her life.
- Students develop positive self-esteem, and cross-cultural attitudes and behaviors that will help them function as Global Citizens.

Attitude
is
a little thing
that makes
a
BIG
difference!

**M.S. 137:
America's
School of
Heroes**

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**Dual Language
Program**



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Benefits of Dual Language

- The brain has extensive capacity to learn multiple languages at a young age.
- A child's native home language is not a barrier to achieving success in a Dual Language environment. Some of our students whose first languages are Bengali, Arabic, Punjabi or Russian leave our school having mastered a third language.
- Students learning two languages acquire many cognitive benefits such as mental flexibility, nonverbal problem solving skills and enhanced critical thinking.
- Students also have the ability to pursue Dual Language opportunities at the High School Level, allowing them preferred admission into H.S. Dual Language Spanish Programs.
- Student outcomes on New York State and local exams are positively impacted by the presence of a second language.

M.S. 137's Dual Language Program

The Dual Language program at M.S. 137 is an educational experience in which children in grade 6 develop the ability to speak, read and write in English and Spanish. We use the two languages for literacy and content area instruction of Math and Science for all students.

Our approach is a “Side-by-Side” model. The side-by-side model means that each class works with two teachers. Students spend one day participating in classes using the English language and one day participating in classes using the Spanish Language. This method is repeated throughout the week in an effort to make meaningful connections between both languages and to assist students with general language acquisition.

Active parental support is important to the long term success of the child. Mastery of the two languages is more likely when families commit to the program for the duration of the child's education.

In addition to the academic aspect of Dual Language, we work with students to enhance their social, emotional and cultural awareness.

