

Comal Independent School District

NEWS RELEASE

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Parent meetings planned for elementary language learners

Hoffmann Lane Elementary in New Braunfels and Rahe Bulverde Elementary in Bulverde will offer a Spanish Immersion Language Program for students entering 1st grade next year, who attended kindergarten in Comal ISD.

Mandatory meetings for parents interested in enrolling their child in the Spanish Immersion Language Program are scheduled for Thursday, April 7 at Rahe Bulverde Elementary and Tuesday, April 12 at Hoffmann Lane Elementary School. Both meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.

The Spanish Immersion program is designed for English-speaking students who wish to become fluent in Spanish. Students enter the program in the 1st grade. The curriculum for language arts/ reading, mathematics, science and social studies is delivered in Spanish in 1st grade and until mid-year of 2nd grade. English is introduced in the spring semester of 2nd grade, with incremental percentage decreases in Spanish in subsequent grades.

Students are expected to continue the program through 5th grade.

The district's dual-language program is offered at Morningside, Bill Brown and Clear Spring elementary schools. Parent meetings for students entering kindergarten in August 2011, who are interested in this program are scheduled for the following dates and locations:

- Morningside Elementary, Thursday, April 14

- Bill Brown Elementary, Monday, April 18
- Clear Spring Elementary, Tuesday, April 19.

Meetings for Spanish speaking parents begin at 5:30 p.m. and for English speaking parents begin at 7 p.m.

Both native English speaking and native Spanish speaking students are invited to register to be a part of the two-way, dual-language program.

“A two-way, dual-language education classroom is a self-contained classroom for speakers of Spanish and English,” Jodi Cox, principal of Morningside Elementary School, explained. “Students of two different language groups are purposely mixed in the same educational environment to provide communicative and academic language development through an interactive and cross-cultural setting. Program participation begins in kindergarten and a subsequent grade level is each year as the students progress through the grade levels.”

Instruction is conducted in both Spanish and English.

Parent attendance at one of the informational meetings is part of the mandatory application process for eligibility.

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