What is Dual Language Immersion?

• In immersion programs, students are immersed into another language through study of core academic content areas such as language arts, math, science and social studies. The new language or "target language" is the medium of instruction as well as the object of instruction. Language immersion programs are an exciting option for parents who want their children to have the advantages of a rigorous academic program while also learning two languages. Mount Rose immersion teachers achieve rigor by using the Nevada Standards and the adopted WCSD curriculum.

Goals of Dual Language Immersion Bilingualism Biliteracy Reading & writing in Oral proficiency in two languages two languages Global **Cognitive Gains** Awareness Increase in mental flexibility, student Raise global engagement, awareness, empathy, academic performance appreciation

What are the types of immersion programs?

There are several models of immersion programs. Mount Rose uses the 90/10 Model, which means 90% of the instruction is taught in the target language, which is Spanish in Kindergarten and 1st grades, then the percentages decrease as the grades get higher. For example; K and 1st =90/10; 2ndgrade=80/20; 3rd grade=70/30; 4th grade=60/40; 5th grade=50/50...

What do the parents say?

"There is no doubt that our children's accelerated academic success is linked to their enrollment in the dual immersion program at Mount Rose. Our family is part of a community that extends far beyond the walls of the school." Annie Zucker

"My grandmother instilled in me the importance of keeping, not only our traditions alive, but our native language as well. Having now my own children, I have always feared that I would not be able to keep the language and culture in my children due to the necessity of having to work. I feel blessed and honored that my children have been able to keep the language with the amazing staff at Mount Rose." Cindy Chavez

What does research about immersion programs say?

Click <u>Research about Dual Language Immersion.docx</u> to view information and articles about the benefits of Dual Language Immersion.

How do you know if your student who is enrolled in a DLI program is really learning the language?

This <u>short video</u>, produced by Granite School District in Utah, does a wonderful job explaining how student proficiency is developed in an immersion program.

Will my child learn to read and write in English?

"It is important to acknowledge that early studies carried out in one-way total immersion programs, where English may not be introduced until grades 2–5, show evidence of a temporary lag in specific English language skills such as spelling, capitalization, punctuation, word knowledge, and word discrimination. That said, these studies also find that within a year or two after instruction in English language arts begins, the lag disappears. There were no long-term negative repercussions to English language or literacy development." *Tara Fortune*, http://bit.ly/2f00YgV

What should I do to help my child learn the new language?

Be positive and encourage your child. Praise your child for their accomplishments in the new language. Do not compare your child's growth in the new language to other children. Children learn to walk, talk, read and write at different paces. Provide opportunities for your child to interact with people of the other language, watch movies, have access to online or IOS apps and books, and to engage in cultural events from the new culture and language.

What should I do to help my child learn our home language?

Reading to and with children on a daily basis is the best foundation you can give your child for academic success. Ask and answer questions with your child about the story, the

drawings, new information and the story's meaning. Provide books for your child from the library or from the bookstore. Provided drawing and writing paper for your child.

Why Immersion?

Gain:

- Language proficiency in two languages
- o Enhanced cognitive skills
- o Greater self-esteem and self-identity
- o Increased cultural awareness and sensitivity
- o Global competence
- o Career skills for the national and international market

Learn with:

- Academic rigor
- High engagement
- o Cultural experiences

