

**SPANISH LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM
PARENTAL COMMITMENT FORM
2023-2024**

Manheim Township School District

By signing this form, I am making a commitment as a parent to the Spanish Immersion (SI) Program:

1. I have attended an orientation and understand that this is a Spanish Immersion Program from first to fourth grade. The program shifts in the upper grades (5-6), with more instruction in English in preparation for Middle School. In Middle School and High School, students have the option of continuing to learn Spanish. SI students who continue to the highest Spanish level offered (AP/IB) will receive a red cord to wear at graduation.
2. I understand that the success of this program is dependent upon continuous enrollment through sixth grade, and that children enrolled in the Spanish Language Immersion Program will remain together in first through sixth grade.
3. I understand that if I have other K-4th grade students in my family, they must attend their home school (i.e. they cannot attend the same school as the immersion student unless that school is the home school).
4. I understand that if I have a child already enrolled in the Spanish Immersion Program, registered siblings will participate in the standard enrollment process; however, if I am registering twins, triplets, etc., they will be registered together on one form and will be collectively entered into the program if eligible and selected through the enrollment process.
5. I understand the Spanish Language Immersion Model used at Manheim Township:
 - 90-95% of instruction is provided in Spanish in first and second grade; 85-90% of instruction is provided in Spanish in third and fourth grade
 - English literacy (reading & writing) with daily English instruction begins formally in third grade and continues in fourth grade. The Spanish Immersion teacher, as needed, provides this instruction.
 - All specials (gym, art, music, library) are in English
6. I understand that strong native language skills are an excellent predictor of success in an immersion program. My child has not had difficulties with language development, and I believe that my child has strong language skills in English.
7. I understand that parental involvement is highly correlated with success at school. I will support my child academically, even if I don't speak or understand Spanish, by showing interest in school, assuring that homework is complete, reading and writing together in English, and communicating with the teacher. (I understand that parents need to read to

their child and practice writing skills in English at home 20-45 minutes daily, depending on the grade of the child.) Parents play a large part in a child's acquisition of English reading and writing skills.

8. I understand that I will need to foster bi-literacy, bilingualism, and biculturalism by providing additional cross-cultural opportunities for my child, through books, movies, theatre performances, concerts, restaurants etc.
9. I understand that the students in the Spanish Language Immersion Program are held to the same academic standards and will participate in the same district curriculum-based testing and state testing as any other student in our district.
10. I understand that if my child has any academic/behavior concerns I will address my concerns directly to the classroom teacher. Appropriate interventions/strategies will be implemented. If documented interventions are unsuccessful, a formal conference with the Spanish Immersion Supervisor or a building principal, parents, student, and teacher will take place, perhaps resulting in an English classroom reassignment. I understand that if my child is reassigned to an English classroom, my child will return to his/her home school, pending enrollment numbers.
11. I understand that the teachers and staff of the MTSD Spanish Language Immersion Program are committed to supporting my child in:
 - Mastery of grade level academic content.
 - The ability to communicate (speaking, comprehending, reading, and writing) in both English and Spanish on grade level by the end of fourth grade.
 - The development of positive cross-cultural attitudes, encouraging bi-literacy and bilingualism.

Thank you for registering for the MTSD Spanish Language Immersion Program! Please sign and scan the bottom portion of this form to Cynthia Lux (luxcy@mtwp.net) by **May 30, 2023**. Eligible students will be entered into the program lottery to be held on **May 31, 2023 at 2:00**. The lottery will be held at the District Office (parents only).

I have read/acknowledged the Spanish Language Immersion Parental Commitment Form:

Child's Name

Parent/Guardian (printed name)

Parent/Guardian Signature -Date

District Staff Signature- Date

March, 2023