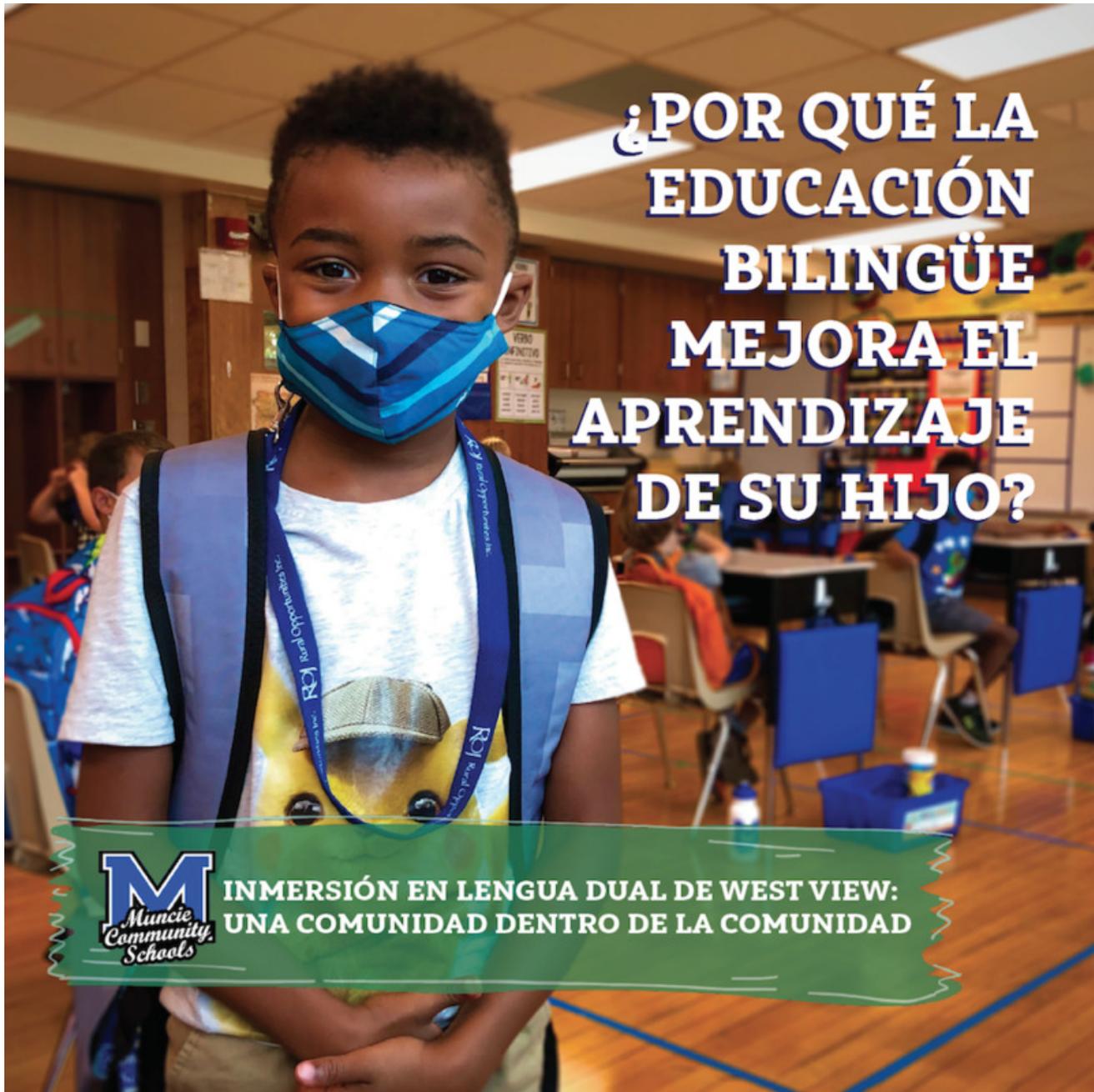


Introduction - The Best Gift for a Child's Education

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Advanced Spanish students at BSU (SP305, SP404, SP340) collaborated with elementary schools at two community school districts to promote their **dual language immersion (DLI)** programs. BSU students explored the **state of bilingualism in the U.S.** and the **benefits of programs such as DLI** that enable students to develop proficiency in both Spanish and English, strengthen academic learning and achievement, and cultivate intercultural sensitivity. The final community products include:

- 1) ten-week virtual **reading/mentoring sessions** in Spanish for 2nd graders in a DLI program;
- 2) design and **production of promotional materials** to inform potential parents about DLI programs and their benefits;
- 3) **translation** into Spanish several procedure and policy **documents for DLI** so that these materials are accessible to Spanish-speaking families.

Some facts to consider:

*According to the U.S. Census Bureau, **only 20 percent of US population** is considered bilingual/multilingual while **over half of the world population is bilingual**.

BSU Student Participants:

SP305 (Advanced Grammar for Heritage Speakers) Fall 2020

Jenni Cruz, Edgar de Santiago, Karina de Santiago, Rosa Gonzalez, Stephanie Gutierrez, Hannah Hyde, Denise Jacquez, Lauren Lara, Diana Martinez, Daisy Mendoza, Alina Murrugarra, Ashley Navarro Rodriguez, Blanca Ortiz, Yatzari Perez-Muñoz, María Sanchez Cisneros & Isabelle Wright

SP404 (Seminar in Language - Bilingualism in the Hispanic World) Fall 2020

Rachel Armstrong, Bethany Elmore, Bailey Fields, Joely Gause, Rebekah Hoffer, Denise Jacquez, Jordan Kasuboski, Cecilia Lambertson, Alexandra Martin, Justin Persinger, Maddie Ramsell, Elizabeth Rieth, Abigail Shaw, Grant Sturgis, Darla Thomas, Peyton Thompson, & Jerome Zirnheld

SP340 (Survey in Hispanic Linguistics) Spring 2021

Dani Allen, Rachel Armstrong, Madeline Backs, Jazmin Castillo-Soto, Bethany Elmore, Rebekah Hoffer, Amanda Huynh, Denise Jacquez, Jacob Newlin, Elizabeth Rieth, María Sanchez Cisneros, Darla Thomas, Peyton Thompson, Carl Torrence, Amy Wyse & Jerome Zirnheld

[Why Dual Language Immersion is Right for Our Children - Muncie Community Schools →](#)
Introduction - The Best Gift for a Child's Education

Why Dual Language Immersion is Right for Our Children - Muncie Community Schools

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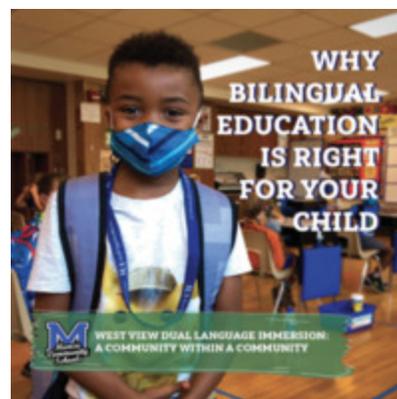
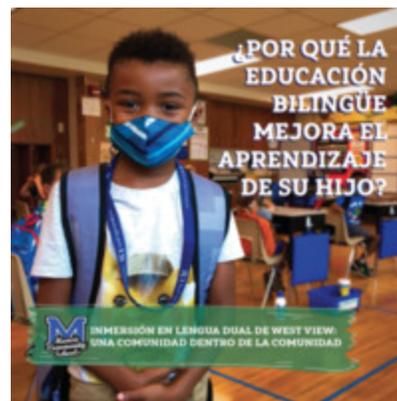
[Click here to view the Spanish Brochure](#)

[Click here to view the English brochure](#)

Students in Dr. Chin-Sook Pak's **SP404 class (Bilingualism in the Hispanic World)** had the opportunity to collaborate with West View Elementary's Dual Language Immersion program in Fall 2020. The class created a **promotional booklet** for the program. The 8-page booklet featured testimonials from parents and students while describing the program and its benefits. By creating graphics, gathering photos, and writing content, the students made a booklet that visually and textually engaged readers. The booklet was then printed and distributed throughout Muncie to reach potential new students (also included in the Muncie Community Schools website: <http://www.muncie.k12.in.us/>)

"Working on this booklet allowed me to grow in my career and as a person. I bettered my Spanish skills while getting to design the booklet. Also, I learned how valuable programs like West View's are. I want my own children to be a part of a dual-language program," **Liz Rieth** said. Liz, a Spanish and Journalism major, acted as an editor/designer for the project.

This booklet promoted a **vital educational program**. Dual-language programs like West Views allow both English and Spanish speakers to become bilingual. Bilingual students are proven to have better academic performance, enhanced cognitive skills, and increased intercultural competence. Additionally, this program is proven to be of the most effective methods of teaching native Spanish speakers English. The program allows them to fully learn English while maintaining their heritage language.



Mentoring/Reading sessions with DLI students

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Virtual Reading/Mentoring Sessions in Spanish

During Fall 2020, **BSU Latinx students** in SP305 (Advanced Spanish Grammar for Heritage Speakers) and **West View Elementary students in 2nd grade DLI program** collaborated on a 10-week virtual reading/mentoring session.

Under the guidance of three faculty mentors (Dr. Chin-Sook Pak, Modern Languages and Classics; Dr. Lynne Stallings, English; and Dr. Patricia Clark, Early Childhood, Youth and Family Studies), seventeen BSU heritage speakers of Spanish provided **language and cultural support** to children in DLI. They also served as **Latinx role models**.

This community collaboration also exposed college heritage students of Spanish to meaningful teaching career possibilities as the community schools face a shortage of bilingual instructors.

BSU student (Isabelle Wright) presents herself to DLI 2nd graders

Sample lesson plan

A. BSU mentors and the 2nd graders in DLI created videos to get to know each other.

B. On Fridays, BSU mentors and the DLI students met via zoom for group greetings.

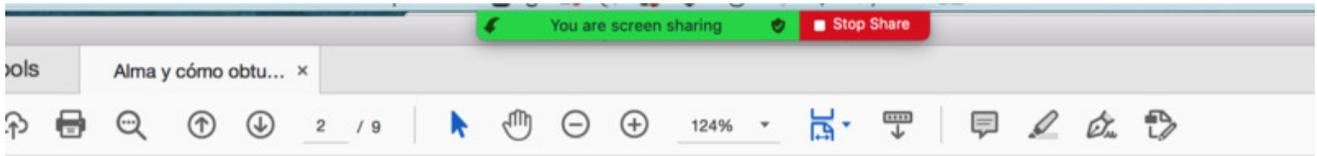
C. Zoom breakout sessions allowed BSU Latinx mentors and DLI students to meet individually and read together. For each session the partners shared:

1. Conversation in Spanish
2. Pre-reading discussion
3. Reading aloud of a fun story book in Spanish (often with a cultural content)
4. Post-reading discussion
5. A fun "tarea" (homework) to follow up on the subject

For example, in this book a Hispanic child discovers the rich cultural heritage of long Hispanic last names.

BSU mentor, María Sanchez Cisnero, introduces herself to children in DLI.





Watch Video At: https://youtu.be/7WHFG6W2_DI

Dual Language Immersion at Warsaw Community Schools

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DLI & Warsaw Community Schools

In Spring 2021, students in Dr. Chin-Sook Pak's SP340 (Survey in Spanish Linguistics) course had the privilege of working with Warsaw Community School's Dual Language Immersion Program. Throughout the semester, students had the opportunity to talk with DLI teachers and administrators, as well as to visit (virtually) a classroom and watch as young students learned various subjects in Spanish. Using this experience, students created a promotional brochure that embodied what the Dual Language Immersion Program is and how impactful biligual education can be on young students.

"Personally, it was brilliant to see how easy the students were able to listen and comprehend in either language (English & Spanish). I knew I wanted to be a part of creating this brochure, because not only is it a phenomenal experience and a great way for young students to get ahead academically, but it also hits close to home.

Growing up, it was hard to maintain my heritage language as I was put into programs that pushed English and diminished the value of my native tongue. **Dual Language Immersion is impressive because it accepts and celebrates culture and the power of bilingualism.**

Seeing biligualism gain importance in primary education is incredibly validating and gives students of all different kinds of backgrounds hope that the **future is bilingüismo/multilingüismo.**"

- **Amanda Huynh**, Spanish & Telecommuncations Major, Student in SP340 Spring 2021

Video

 digitalresearch.bsu.edu/immersive-learning-showcase-2021/exhibits/show/dual-language-immersion/video



Watch Video At: <https://youtu.be/LxdOU8foEuE>

← [Dual Language Immersion at Warsaw Community Schools Project Video](#)

Promoting Dual Language Immersion

- [Introduction - The Best Gift for a Child's Education](#)
- [Why Dual Language Immersion is Right for Our Children - Muncie Community Schools](#)
- [Mentoring/Reading sessions with DLI students](#)
- [Dual Language Immersion at Warsaw Community Schools](#)
- [Project Video](#)