

**Dual Language Education Program**— offering children the gift of bi-lingualism and bi-literacy

New Bedford Public Schools is excited to offer a Two-Way English–Spanish Dual Language immersion program at the Alfred J. Gomes Elementary School. This program will provide some of our youngest learners with an exceptional opportunity to become proficient in two languages.

We are currently registering students who will enter Kindergarten in August 2018.



**New Bedford Public School District**  
455 County St.  
New Bedford, MA 02740

*The Alfred J Gomes School is committed to developing a community of learners who are academically & **linguistically** proficient in two languages and who demonstrate strong character, self-confidence, and cultural competency.*



**The Alfred J. Gomes School is:**  
" Focused on Every Class, Every Student, Everyday"

286 So. Second St.  
New Bedford MA 02740



***Two-Way  
Dual  
Language  
Immersion***

**NOW  
Enrolling  
Kindergarten  
students for the  
2018-2019  
school year!**

# Two-Way Dual Language Program

## Why Dual Language?



Dual language immersion programs help students attain high levels of proficiency in two languages. Grade level content will be delivered in Spanish and English.

## Why Spanish?

In addition to being the second most widely spoken language in the United States and right here in New Bedford, Spanish is an important language in the global business community. Fluency in Spanish and English opens the door for many career opportunities in the U.S. and abroad.

## What do parents need to do?

- A long-term commitment to the program. (At least K-5 but ideally K-12)
- Attend parent meetings and information sessions throughout their time in the program.

## What are the Benefits of a Dual Language Program?

- Fluency and understanding in two languages (speaking, writing and reading)
- Improved academic performance on standardized testing in English and in Math once students reach middle school
- Research suggests that students typically develop increased attention, memory, and problem solving skills
- Increased cultural sensitivity enabling students to display positive attitudes toward other cultures and enabling them to interact effectively with people of different backgrounds, ethnicities, beliefs and interests
- Better preparation for the outside world, global community, and job markets where being bi-lingual and bi-literate is an asset



## How does it work?

A two-way dual language program offers a rich bi-lingual experience for learners. The classroom will follow the Massachusetts state standards and teach core content in all areas including Reading, Writing, Math, Science and Social Studies. Two teachers will instruct the students. One teacher will teach solely in Spanish and the other solely in English. Both teachers will use a wide range of strategies to support student learning and language development.

As students progress from grade to grade, their proficiency in both languages will increase significantly.

## How do parents register their children?

Registration for the Dual Language program will take place at:

The Family Welcome Center

Paul Rodrigues Administration Building located at 455 County St  
New Bedford

Room # 105

508-997-4511 Ext. 3424