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SPANISH IMMERSION PRESCHOOL IN HUNTINGTON BEACH IS EXPANDING

HUNTINGTON BEACH, California, March 15, 2013 – LePort School's [Spanish immersion Montessori preschool](#) program in [Huntington Beach](#) is growing. Due to strong parent demand, the program, which opened in September 2012, will add a second preschool classroom for the 2013/14 school year.

"When we launched the Spanish immersion preschool program last fall, we thought there would be a lot of interest", says Heike Larson, Vice President of Outreach. "It was the first Spanish immersion Montessori preschool program in Orange County, at a time when other metropolitan areas offered numerous Spanish immersion choices. The program at our Huntington Beach campus filled up quickly and clearly met a need. With strong reenrollment and continued interest from outside families, we are adding a third classroom this fall, expanding the program to 12 toddlers and up to 48 children ages 3-6 years in two preschool classrooms."

The Spanish immersion program is integrated into a [Montessori preschool environment](#), which is ideally suited [to foster bilingualism](#). "Our goal is to enable children from English-speaking or mixed-language households to become capable speakers of Spanish, and to equip them with literacy skills in both English and Spanish during their preschool years", explains Ray Girn, CEO of LePort Schools. Parents are excited about the program: "The LePort Spanish immersion program has been an amazing experience for our family," says Audrey Kelly, a parent of a preschooler in the Spanish immersion program. "I hesitated because I didn't want to 'confuse' my daughter with a new language. I learned that at age three, she is not learning Spanish instead of another subject; she is soaking it all in with every lesson. Mrs. Del Valle and Mrs. Tryon are such kind and caring teachers who really know and understand my child. I know they care deeply about each student's education, but also, and just as importantly, about their happiness."

[Enrollment](#) for the Spanish immersion Montessori preschool in Huntington Beach is now open for the 2013/14 school year. Children who will be between 18 months and 3 ½ years old by September are eligible to start in the Spanish immersion toddler and preschool programs; older children may be accepted on a case-by-case basis, if they come into the program with sufficient Spanish skills.

For more information on the Spanish preschool program in Huntington Beach, visit www.LePortSchools.com/Spanish, or attend our [Spanish Immersion Information Evening](#) on March 20th, at 6 pm. To see more information about the Huntington Harbor campus, where the Spanish preschool program is located, visit www.LePortSchools.com/Harbor.

LePort Schools has been educating Orange County children for 13 years, and operates six preschools and private schools in Huntington Beach and Irvine, serving children from infants through 8th grade. For more information about the company, visit www.LePortSchools.com/About.



A [Montessori preschool classroom is ideal](#) for language acquisition because it naturally provides many elements needed for a child to *become bilingual*, such as differentiated instruction, an ability to naturally use language, and eloquent language role models (i.e., teachers).



The Spanish immersion preschool program is integrated into LePort's well-established Montessori program at the [Huntington Harbor](#) campus in northern Huntington Beach.



The [focus of the Spanish immersion preschool program](#) is to enable children who don't speak Spanish at home (or who come from mixed-language households) to *learn Spanish naturally and joyfully*. The program creates a Spanish environment where children naturally transition to using Spanish for communicating with teachers and with each other.



The [Montessori toddler](#) and [preschool](#) program offers *individualized attention from highly qualified teachers*. Montessori students develop strong language skill, refine fine and gross motor skills, and master writing, reading and arithmetic into the thousands in preschool.