



**JENISON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**2023-2024 SPANISH IMMERSION KINDERGARTEN**

Child's Legal Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*(as shown on birth certificate)*                      Last                                      First

Gender \_\_\_\_\_                      Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_                      Grade Requested \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_                      City \_\_\_\_\_                      Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Resident of JPS District?    Yes / No    If not, which district? \_\_\_\_\_

Is your child currently attending Jenison Public Schools?

Yes – What grade/program? \_\_\_\_\_

No – Did you schedule your child for a Kindergarten Screening appointment at JPS?    Yes / No

    Date of screening appointment \_\_\_\_\_

Does your child have a sibling currently enrolled in the Spanish Immersion program at JPS?    Yes / No

Parent / Guardian Names \_\_\_\_\_

Main Phone # \_\_\_\_\_                      Alternate Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_                      Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Applications must be submitted to the Administration Office,  
located in the Center for the Arts, 8375 20<sup>th</sup> Ave., Jenison  
fax: 616-457-8898    email: [Lgierman@JPSONline.org](mailto:Lgierman@JPSONline.org)  
no later than Monday, February 13, 2023 at 4:00 pm.**

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Office Use Only

\_\_\_\_ Screened for Kindergarten

\_\_\_\_ Jenison Resident

\_\_\_\_ Administrative Approval

\_\_\_\_ School of Choice



## JENISON PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2023-2024 SPANISH IMMERSION KINDERGARTEN ADMISSION PROCEDURES

- Jenison Public Schools will provide a fair and open process for enrolling students into the Spanish Immersion Kindergarten Program.
- The number of kindergarten students admitted each year is determined by the Superintendent.
- To qualify as an applicant, parents/guardians must complete an official application for their child.
  - Applications must be received no later than Monday, February 13, 2023 at 4:00 pm.
  - Applications must be submitted to the Administration Office located in the JPS Center for the Arts, 8375 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Jenison, fax 616-457-8898, or email [Lgierman@JPSONline.org](mailto:Lgierman@JPSONline.org)
- Student applicants must participate in the school district's Kindergarten Screening Program with recommendation by the screener that Spanish Immersion Kindergarten is an appropriate placement. Current JPS Transitional Kindergarten students will be accessed in their classroom.
- All qualifying applications will be placed in a lottery based on residency – JPS resident or School of Choice. Lottery drawing will take place on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 4:00 pm at the Jenison Center for the Arts, 8375 20<sup>th</sup> Ave., Jenison 49428. Applications will be drawn from each group – 2 resident applications will be drawn for each School of Choice application drawn.
- Families of students admitted into the Spanish Immersion Kindergarten Program will be notified by e-mail (or mail, if necessary) by Thursday, February 23, 2023. Families must accept the placement by Friday, March 3, 2023.
- Applicants with siblings currently enrolled in the Spanish Immersion Program will be given priority placement in the program provided the student qualifies through the JPS screening process and the online Sibling Intent Form is submitted no later than Friday, January 27, 2023. Sibling applications received after January 27 will not receive priority placement and will be included in the lottery drawing.
- Should there be more applicants than available slots for the program, the remaining applications will be drawn and put on a waiting list in the order drawn. This waiting list along with contact information will be maintained by the Student Registrar. Program applicants will be notified of their waiting list status and will be assigned to a regular kindergarten classroom in the district. If a space becomes available during the summer or school year, the next family on the waiting list will be contacted and will be given the opportunity to enroll in the program.



## JENISON PUBLIC SCHOOLS Spanish Immersion FAQ's

### **What are my chances of getting my child into the program?**

There are 56 spots available in Spanish immersion kindergarten for the two classes. Younger siblings of current SI students have the first opportunity to fill those spots if their parents want them to. In a typical year, younger siblings take up roughly half of those spots. The rest are awarded through our lottery system.

### **How does the lottery system work?**

There are two lottery lists. Two students are picked from the Jenison resident lottery list for every one student picked from the Schools of Choice list.

### **If my child gets into the program, will my other children get in too?**

Yes, your younger children will get in as long as you submit the Sibling Intent Form by the deadline and are deemed ready for Kindergarten by the screening test used by JPS.

### **Will my child fall behind in English if they attend Spanish Immersion?**

In most cases your child will not fall behind in English. There may be a period of time when your child's reading in English won't be as strong as similar students in JPS schools. However, by 4th and 5th grade, the vast majority of Spanish immersion students perform as well as or better than non-immersion students on standardized tests in English. Much of this depends on the level of support at home.

### **Do we need to know Spanish for our child to be successful in Spanish immersion?**

No, most of our parents do not speak Spanish. You may need to find additional resources for your child if he/she struggles with Spanish. In most cases that is not necessary.

### **What happens after elementary school Spanish immersion?**

Spanish immersion continues in junior high school with Spanish language arts, social studies taught in Spanish and a semester class called Comparative Languages. In 9th and 10th grades students continue with Spanish language arts and social studies in Spanish. Beyond 10th grade students may take Advanced Placement Spanish classes, dual enrollment classes and Spanish internships.