WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO CONTINUE DEVELOPING YOUR HOME LANGUAGE?

You ...

- Improve your ability to multitask and switch between tasks
- Hold attention longer
- Have a better working memory
- Work out your brain and fine-tune your thinking
- Outperform and score higher on college entrance exams
- Delay brain diseases like Alzheimers
- Enhance creativity in thinking “outside the box” and problem-solving skills
- Have greater mental flexibility and higher metalinguistic awareness in Spanish and in English
- Have denser grey matter compared with monolingual brains; grey matters density is related to increased intellect
- Are more empathetic to people from other cultures & are better at working in diverse teams

Research indicates clearly that your performance in English increases if you develop all four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking in your home language. Home language development is directly tied to second language acquisition:

Better Spanish means Better English!

Less Spanish is not equal to More English!

Do you speak Spanish at home?

Would you like to get credit for Spanish without taking lower levels of Spanish courses?

Would you like to continue learning Spanish in high school with Spanish speakers at your level?

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LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TEST FOR SPANISH NATIVE SPEAKERS

WHERE?
FORSYTH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
1120 DAHLONEGA HWY, CUMMING, GA 30040

SEE TESTING DATES ON SIGN-UP AT:
https://tinyurl.com/y7kvk4yk
7th Grade Native Speakers

7th Grade Native Speakers of Spanish will have the option of taking a Proficiency Test and be placed the following year in 8th grade into a virtual upper level Spanish course. Students will be awarded credit for lower levels of Spanish after successfully completing the upper level course. The same grade for the upper level course will be awarded to the lower level courses. These grades will not factor into the high school GPA calculation. Up to two credits can be awarded in lieu of enrollment. These courses will count towards the World Language Pathway, the International Skills Diploma Seal and the Seal of Biliteracy. If 7th Grade Native Speakers of Spanish score placement into a level 2 Spanish class or above on the proficiency test they will not take the Spanish I course in 8th grade as they will be awarded that credit retroactively in high school.

8th Grade Native Speakers

8th Grade Native Speakers of Spanish will have the option of taking a Proficiency Test and be placed the following year in high school into an upper level Spanish course. Students will be awarded high school credit for lower levels of Spanish after successfully completing the upper level course in high school. The same grade for the upper level course will be awarded to the lower level courses. These grades will not factor into the high school GPA calculation. Up to two credits can be awarded in lieu of enrollment. These courses will count towards the World Language Pathway, the International Skills Diploma Seal and the Seal of Biliteracy.

The Spanish Language Proficiency Test

Forsyth County Schools is using a nationally recognized test to assess language proficiency. The test engages students with real-world content that is leveled according to the topics commonly taught at each level of instruction. The adaptive test design adjusts to a student’s level so s/he is challenged, but not overwhelmed and enables students to show what they can do with the language!

- The test has four sections – Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking
- Reading and Listening items are computer-scored and computer-adaptive (meaning that questions are selected based on previous responses, becoming easier or more difficult as needed to determine proficiency level)
- Writing and Speaking items are scored by trained raters who use a Scoring Rubric
- Tests are taken in a proctored environment with no outside resources allowed
- Takes about 2.5 hours
- Proficiency scores are available 3-7 business days after the test
- Scores will be communicated to you, your parents and your school counselor with a recommended placement for high school Spanish