

Supporting Native Language

A GEF Grant



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Purpose

- * To inform parents of Spanish speaking students about the importance of maintaining their native language
- * To support parents by providing activities and resources that develop native language skills
- * To develop connections among Spanish speaking parents

Results

- * Four meetings were held at Lyon School. (3 meetings featured speakers and the last night was an activity night.)
- * Glenview Public Library gave a presentation and did library card sign-up
- * Attendance:
 - February 22: 15 families
 - April 17: 16 families
 - May 9: 8 families
 - June 5: 7 families



Results

- * Bilingual telephone directory was created for the families that attended
- * Families received Spanish books for each of their children at each meeting they attended



Results

- * Children had time for activities with their parents as well as playtime supervised by volunteer teachers.
- * Children reported that they looked forward to the Spanish nights and enjoyed choosing a Spanish book after each meeting.



Parent Comments

After each meeting the parents completed an anonymous survey about the evening.



Parent Comments

Translated from Spanish

- * “I would like to say that every time I come (to a meeting) you are very nice and I look forward to our next meeting.”
- * “The teachers gave us important information about the Spanish language.”



Parent Comments

- * “Everything was helpful especially how to maintain the language with my children.”
- * “I liked that you spoke in Spanish and gave us suggestions for teaching our children.”



Parent Suggestions for Future Meetings

- * “It would be good if we could exchange books and songs in Spanish”
- * “It would be good to have more time.”
- * “It would be nice if more Latino families would attend so we can have more support and a better future.”

Impact on Teaching

- * This program has helped to develop our relationship with Spanish speaking families. Since the meetings we have continued to discuss the use of Spanish in the home and parents appear more comfortable in the school setting.
- * We continued to make connections with the families through a Summer Fun Club at Sunset Village.

Impact on Students

- * Students felt special because the night celebrated families that speak Spanish.
- * The students benefited from games, books, and special activities for use in their homes.
- * Teacher volunteers and students enjoyed the informal time to play and do special activities.



Budget

- * Speakers (4 speakers at 3 meetings): \$600
- * Books (sent home with students after each meeting): \$785.55
- * Raffle Prizes: \$50 (purchased with gift card)

- * Total: \$1385.55

* Thank you for supporting our grant and the families of Lyon School.

