



July 2, 2020

**Dear Parent/Guardian of Bilingual Student at Cockrell Hill ES:**

Thank you for your vested interest and active engagement in your child's educational experience here in DeSoto Independent School District. We value the opportunity to keep you informed of changes and developments in our strategy to facilitate learning for your child and want to keep you informed.

We are excited to continue to offer the same research-based, high-quality learning program for your child this year, whether virtually or in a campus-supervised setting. However, we have embraced an exciting opportunity for all of our students to learn together under one roof, and create a single-campus experience for all of our bilingual students. This will allow students to have access to smaller class sizes and a more aligned focus on learning, teachers will have access to a larger collection of teaching resources and data, and the campus community can create a learning culture of togetherness.

Cockrell Hill Linguistic Magnet Academy has been proud to offer the *Dual Language Immersion Bilingual Program* for Kindergarten through fifth grade English Learners for several years, and we deeply value the students and families we have had the opportunity to serve.

As part of a district-wide effort to align K12 instructional programming, DeSoto ISD will consolidate its bilingual program on one campus. Starting in the 2020-2021 school year, the bilingual program at Frank D. Moates Elementary will now include the students and staff of Cockrell Hill. **The Dual Language Immersion Bilingual program is now offered at the Frank Moates Blended Learning Academy only.**

While we are excited about this chance for our students to learn together, we understand that this shift in location may cause some concern for the families we serve. It is important to note that we are committed to maintaining and improving the quality of service and instruction to our students and prioritize the growth and development of English Language Learners in DeSoto ISD. As educators, we feel it important to reiterate that this decision was made with careful consideration and in alignment with district priorities.

Should you have questions or concerns related to DeSoto ISD's Dual Language Immersion Bilingual program, or other related areas of education in DeSoto ISD, please contact the Bilingual and ESL Department at 972-223-6666 ext. 8298 or via email at [h.castanonvargas@desotoisd.org](mailto:h.castanonvargas@desotoisd.org).

We apologize for any inconvenience this may present for your family and hope that together we can work to resolve your concerns. We look forward to having a better aligned and streamlined K-5th grade program at Frank D. Moates Blended Learning Academy and starting the 2020-2021 school year with you.

Thank you for your continued support.



## FAQs

**Q-Can I transfer my child to Moates to continue the dual language program next school year?**

A- Yes, identified English Learners will be automatically transferred to Frank Moates.

**Q-I have more than one student in the District. Can my student(s) who is not in the bilingual program transfer to Frank Moates?**

A- Yes, siblings of English Learners will have the opportunity to attend FMES as well to accommodate our families. Please contact Frank Moates to register your students.

**Q-If my child was in the CHE dual language program and we desire to continue the program at Moates, what steps do I need to take to ensure my child's placement at Moates for the upcoming school year?**

A- The transition will include transferring all English Learners in the bilingual program to Frank Moates.

**Q-If my home school is not Frank Moates, will there be bus transportation provided?**

A- Yes, all English Learners transitioning to Frank Moates will be offered transportation. Keep in mind that plans to return to school in August are currently underway.

**Q-How will CoVID-19 impact my child's participation in the bilingual program at Moates next year?**

A- DeSoto ISD is committed to providing rigorous learning opportunities for all students including the bilingual program. Learning in the bilingual program will continue in both English and Spanish.