Dear Incoming Parents of Potential Kindergarten Spanish Magnet Students,

In preparation for the school year, I feel it important to make parents who are considering enrolling their son or daughter in the Spanish Magnet program aware of a few important items. The Spanish Magnet program (also known as FLES), is a language-rich, academically rigorous class. In addition to being accountable for all California academic standards in English, students will be expected to learn Spanish vocabulary in Kindergarten, later followed in grades 1-5 with Spanish letters, sounds, spelling, phonemic patterns, grammar structures and writing conventions. If your child demonstrates any of the characteristics bulleted below, the Spanish Magnet program may not best fit your child’s academic needs at Folsom Hills Elementary.

- Language delays/Speech needs
- Learning concerns or disabilities
- Behavioral concerns
- Lack of interest

Parents often ask about what exactly their student will learn in a Kindergarten classroom using the FLES model, as well as what that model looks like. Below you will find the most commonly asked questions and, hopefully, answers.

**What Spanish vocabulary will my child learn in Kindergarten?**

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**How much time is dedicated to Spanish each day?**

An average day will see students work on approximately 25 minutes of integrated Spanish in Kindergarten. The amount of time spent on integrated Spanish increases in grades 1-5.

**How will Spanish be integrated into the regular curriculum?**

Spanish is integrated into the curriculum in Kindergarten primary through vocabulary. This integration takes place in the four main content areas:

- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Social Studies
- Science
What aspects of Hispanic culture will my child learn?

The Spanish Magnet program at Folsom Hills attempts to provide students with a broad education in multiple cultures and countries found within the Spanish speaking countries of the world. In general, the following cultural topics are covered:

- Fine Arts
- Country Studies
- Food
- Holidays

Folsom Hills is very proud of its Spanish Magnet program. As a school, however, we encourage parents to carefully consider the pros and cons of placing their student in FLES. Each and every child is special and unique, and to ensure your son or daughter’s maximum success, we feel obligated to provide parents with as much information as possible so they can make an informed decision. Please remember as well that by enrolling your student in the FLES program, they will have a predetermined set of teachers through grade 5.

Please feel free to contact Jessica Hardy (jhardy@fcusd.org), the Folsom Hills FLES Kindergarten teacher, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Shawn Michael Lundberg
Principal, Folsom Hills Elementary School