

Davis at a glance

- 71,000+ students
- 61 elementary schools
- 16 junior high schools
- 8 high schools
- 3 alternative schools
- Highest graduation rate of the 100 largest school districts in the nation
- Second-largest employer in Davis County with more than 6,000 employees
- Consistently named on the AP Honor Roll.
- Language immersion education offered in 15% of our elementary schools

Established in 1911, Davis School District is located just east of the Great Salt Lake, just west of the Wasatch Mountain range, north of Salt Lake City, and south of Ogden. Davis County comprises an area of 268 square miles and has over 325,000 residents. This reflects a population growth of 28.2% in the past ten years. Accompanying this growth has been a diversification of population. Davis County now enjoys a wide mix of people representing many ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds.

Even though Davis County is Utah's smallest county in land area, our enrollment is the second largest in the state. Enrollment growth (and its effects) continues to be the number one issue confronted by the Board of Education. In Davis School District we try to live by our mission statement: *Learning First!*



Davis School District



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Welcome to Davis School District



Welcome!

Davis School District World Languages Department is happy to welcome you to our schools.

Because Davis District has fantastic educators, supportive parents and visionary administrators, we have been able to begin the creation of a vibrant K-12 language program that will give our graduates a strong foundation for the future, in whatever field they choose.

Our secondary schools offer world language instruction in Spanish, French, German and Mandarin Chinese. The courses offered include all ranges from level 1 to AP and even IB courses.

Currently, our oldest immersion students are in the 10th grade at Viewmont High School and Layton High School.



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Immersion

Under the direction of the Utah State Office of Education, Davis School District is home to 11 immersion schools, bringing a world-class educational experience to over 1300 students.

Elementary	
Spanish	Sand Springs Elem. - Layton Eagle Bay Elem. - Farmington Buffalo Point Elem. - Syracuse Lincoln Elem. - Layton (2-way)
Chinese	Muir Elementary - Bountiful Stewart Elementary - Centerville Heritage Elementary - Kaysville Syracuse Elementary - Syracuse
French	Morgan Elementary - Kaysville Foxboro Elem. - No. Salt Lake Odyssey Elem. - No. Salt Lake
Secondary	
Spanish	Legacy Jr. High - Layton Farmington Jr. High - Farmington Viewmont High - Bountiful Layton High - Layton
French	Fairfield Jr. High - Kaysville

WHY IMMERSION?

- Students acquire language best when they are surrounded by it, when they don't hear any English, and don't use translations (Hinton 2002). Language is acquired by hearing it and understanding the meaning through context, gestures, and activities.
- Language learning through immersion activities takes less effort than in a typical classroom. If learners and speakers do things together and talk about what they are doing, then the learners automatically understand what is being said. During immersion activities, learners are absorbed in activities rather than straining to consciously learn the language. During their concentration and absorption in activities is when language learning truly happens (Hinton, 2002).
- Learners need to hear words and phrases many times and eventually learn to say those words and phrases themselves. By repeating daily routines in the language, learners have the opportunity to hear the same words and phrases repeated in the context of natural communication.
- Immersion is the best way to learn a language and culture at the same time. Since language and culture are completely interconnected (and one cannot be completely understood without the other), language should be learned along with its culture. It is by living the culture and doing hands-on activities while speaking the language, that the language and culture will be learned and fully understood.

