Welcome to the Spanish Immersion Program at Highland Park Middle School!
A positive and successful experience on the HPMS Spanish Immersion Team is created when students, families and teachers have a common understanding of the expectations and then work together to make it happen!

Students will receive the **maximum benefits** of the immersion program at Highland Park Middle School if they have **strong Spanish literacy skills** and are committed to practicing their **reading**, **writing**, **speaking** and **listening** skills in Spanish **everyday**.

The Spanish Immersion program at HPMS offers many of the core curriculum classes in Spanish (Math, Social Studies/Humanities, Science and Spanish Language Arts). **In these immersion classes, all instruction and student work is done in Spanish** using the same coursework and level of academic rigor as classes taught in English. **For Spanish Immersion students, reading and writing in English will ONLY be taught in the English Language Arts, English Language Learner classes and Readers and Writers Workshop.**

In order for students to study math, social studies/humanities, science and **simultaneously** work to improve their level of academic Spanish, we **expect students and families to commit to the following:**

**STUDENTS in the Spanish Immersion Program:**  
*I will be an active participant in my education and improvement of academic Spanish language by:*  
- communicating solely in Spanish during immersion classes.  
- completing coursework (in-class assignments and homework) in Spanish for immersion courses.  
- seeking clarification when I have questions or don’t understand course content, academic vocabulary, and expectations.  
- seeking opportunities to practice Spanish outside of the classroom in meaningful ways.  

*I will practice my Spanish outside of school by:*

___________________________________________________________________________  
___________________________________________________________________________  

_________________________________________  
Print Student Name  
________________________  
Student Signature  
________________________  
Date  

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS of students in the Spanish Immersion Program:**  
*I will be an active participant in the Spanish Immersion education of my son/daughter by:*  
- encouraging my children to participate fully in Spanish, complete their homework, and practice language skills at home (**reading in Spanish!**).  
- trying to help my son/daughter understand content and/or assignment instructions even if I do not speak Spanish (**translation resources such as google translate can be very helpful!**)  
- looking for opportunities outside of school to use the Spanish language and learn about cultures.  

*Possible opportunities for my son/daughter to practice Spanish outside of school include:*  

___________________________________________________________________________  
___________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________  
Print Parent Name  
________________________  
Parent Signature  
________________________  
Date

**Remember the Benefits of Dual Immersion!!**  
Research shows that students who participate continuously in an immersion program can become bilingual/biliterate and will, on average and over time, perform better than their single language peers on standardized tests!  
Visit the HPMS Immersion Team webpage for links to the research.  
highlandms.spps.org