

# Banting Elementary School

**Number of Students:** 495 Pre-K through 6 (All data based on 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday Count 9/09)  
**Number of Classrooms:** 20 homerooms  
**Number of Staff:** 77 teachers, specialists, and support staff

## Race/Ethnicity/Demographics of Student Body

40% White  
48% Hispanic  
5% Black  
7% Asian  
22% Special education including speech and language  
49% Free or reduced lunch  
40% Limited English Proficiency

*Starting in 2001 and by 2008 Banting became a minority-majority school*

## Shared Mission of Banting Elementary School

Banting will promote high standards of excellence for all individuals with the support of students, staff, parents, and community in a respectful, safe, and enjoyable learning environment.

## Banting Vision

To instill in every child a life-long love of learning, and to be the school of choice for students, parents, and staff.

Banting is organized into **Professional Learning Communities** (PLC's) based on the grade levels taught. Each week teams meet for 30 minutes to discuss the following **FOUR FOCUS QUESTIONS**:

- What do we expect students to learn?
- How will we teach it?
- How will we know what students have learned?
- How will we respond to students who aren't learning?

Teachers use MAPs data to help guide their instruction. All staff development at Banting is related to our school goals.

Banting is a **Tribes Learning Community** that creates a safe and caring environment in which kids achieve! Students achieve because they feel included and appreciated by peers and teachers; are respected for their different abilities and cultures; are involved in their own learning; and have positive expectations from others. The learning of academic material and self-responsible behavior is assured because teachers utilize methods based upon brain-compatible learning, multiple intelligences, cooperative learning and social development research. Our school and classroom rules include:

- Attentive Listening
- Appreciations – No Put Downs
- Participation – Right to Pass
- Mutual Respect

## Banting ONE-WAY Dual Language Program

In the fall of 2001, Banting became a district site for a Spanish Bilingual Expansion program. We started with bilingual pre-school and kindergarten classes. Banting had the most space available in the district at the time and was chosen as the school for the Spanish bilingual program to expand. Each year, Banting receives a new group of students and the students proceed through the grades. The students are taught in Spanish starting in pre-school and kindergarten. During this time, they are naturally immersed in the English language all around them. In addition to being immersed in an English school environment, first through fifth grade students also receive English as a Second Language instruction from a qualified instructor. We believe students first need to learn (speak, read and write) one language well, before they are able to learn (speak, read and write) another.

We have found that the culture at Banting is one that is truly supportive of English Language Learners. The ELL students are well on their way to becoming truly bilingual individuals. For the majority of students, the transition to learning in English is in the intermediate grades.

<b>Banting</b>	
<p><b>Spanish Language Instruction</b>  <b>Through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade + ESL</b>            (% of Academic Instruction            Spanish / English )</p> <p>Pre-K -- 100            K-1 -- 90 / 10            2 -- 80 / 20            3 -- 70 / 30            4 -- 60 / 40            5 -- 50 / 50            (Note – Specials are taught in English.)</p>	<p><b>ELL Instruction</b></p> <p>Available for ELL's            from first language            backgrounds other            than Spanish.</p>

**Banting TWO-WAY Dual Language Program**

The Two-Way Dual Language (DL) kindergarten class began in the Fall of 2009. Two-Way DL classes are comprised of half English speakers and half Spanish speakers. Beginning in kindergarten, ninety percent of the classroom instruction is in Spanish. The percentage of English instruction increases each year until 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades when Two-Way DL students will receive 50% of their classroom instruction in both languages. A Two-Way Dual Language program provides our English speaking children the opportunity to learn a second language, through academic content, alongside native Spanish speaking peers. Spanish speaking children have the opportunity to be instructed with English speaking student models, while developing their language skills through academic content. The optimal window of learning a second language is during a child's primary years while their brains are sponges. Both groups will benefit from the multicultural aspect of the program.

**RSVP - SENIORS AND STUDENTS PROGRAM**

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Seniors and Students program started at Banting in the fall of 2008, allowing students the opportunity to connect on-on-one with older adult volunteers. The program brings the wisdom, experience, skills and dedication of community volunteers to students and classrooms at Banting. The RSVP Volunteer Coordinator recruits volunteers, plans orientation sessions, and lays out the groundwork for matching students and seniors. Volunteers age 55 and over serve as tutors, helping students with reading, math, and homework. Volunteer opportunities are also available for classroom mentors to assist with activities and projects. Interfaith Senior Programs is a faith-based, community-centered nonprofit organization serving Waukesha County. The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is funded in part by the United Way in Waukesha County and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Currently we have 15 RSVP volunteers regularly working in our school as well as 50 RSVP Pen Pals.

**School Rule:** Be kind and respectful to yourself, others and your school.



**Together we are one, to learn and have fun!**