



NATRONA COUNTY SCHOOLS

BASC Report: Dual Language Immersion

February 9, 2026

Dual Language Immersion: The Early Years



EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE!



DLI History

Origination

- Work began in the early 2010s
- Surveys, Parent Advisory Board
- Studied the “Utah Model” of DLI
- Schools submitted proposals for implementation
- Board approved Spring 2013 (Chinese) to begin Fall 2013
- Professional Development for school leaders, teachers
- Originally intended for K-5 program

Guidance

- Board Policy 6700
- SOP 6700 (1) - Transition MS to HS
- SOP 6700 (2) - Elem Assurances
- SOP 6700 (3) - MS Assurances



DLI History

2013-14

- First DLI program - Mandarin at PV Elementary - 44 students

2014-15

- Second DLI program - Spanish at Park Elementary - grades K & 1 - 20 student per grade

2019-20

- Second Spanish DLI program - Verda James Elementary - 40 students per grade (starting at K)
- DLI reaches middle schools - Mandarin at CYMS, Spanish at DMMS

2021-22

- Spanish at Park Elementary grows to 40 per grade (starting at K)

2022-23

- First DLI students enter high school - Chinese & Spanish paths at both KWHS & NCHS

2025-26

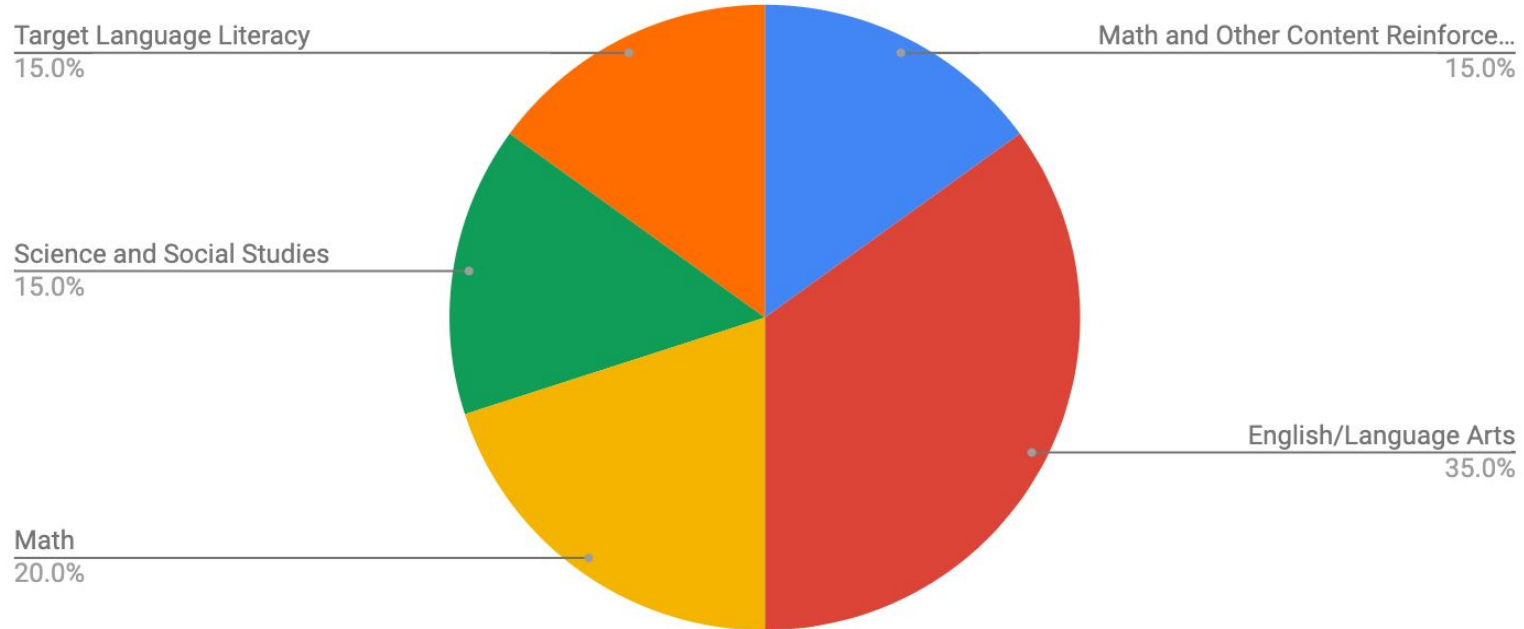
- Middle school expansion - Spanish at Centennial begins



Structure K-3 (50/50 Model)

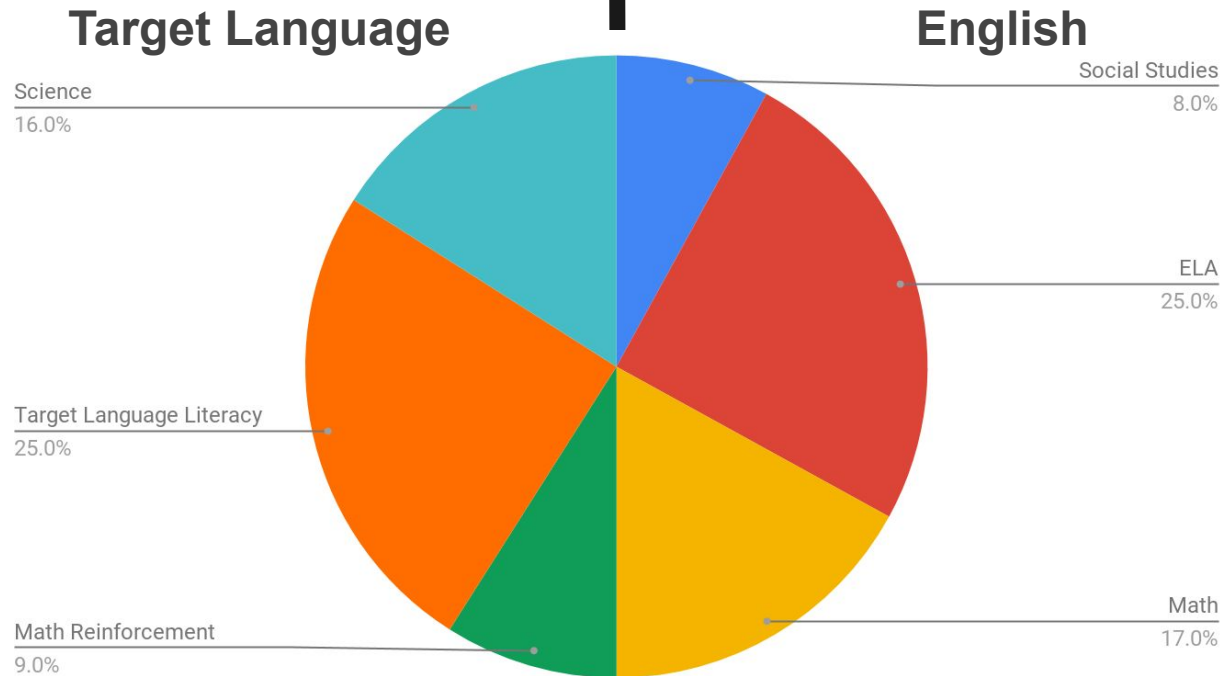
Target Language

English





Structure 4-5 (50/50 Model)





Structure Middle School

- Moves from the 50/50 model to a focus on *language and culture* in specifically designed courses
- Students must remain in one DLI course in order to stay in the DLI program
 - Language and Literature courses cannot be skipped

Language & Literacy Courses



Chinese

Level I Course Units:

- Welcome back, Food vs. Tradition, Holidays, Shopping, Summer Plans

Level II Course Units:

- School Life, Community, Technology, Health

Level III Course Units:

- Teenage Life, Arts, Traditions/Customs, Economy

Spanish

Level I Course Units:

- Educational Communities, My community, Technology, Individuals & Society, Art & Creativity, Education/Professional Careers, Economy, Alienation & Assimilation

Level II Course Units:

- Social Media, Health & Medicine, Fashion and Design, Fun and Entertainment, The Environment, Self-Esteem

Level III Course of Units:

- Family and Community, Science and Technology, Beauty & Aesthetics, Contemporary Life, Global Challenges, Personal & Public Identities



Culture & Media Courses

Chinese

Course A Units:

- Visual Arts, Calligraphy, Painting, Major Festivals, The Four Inventions

Course B Units:

- Activities and Sports in China, Major Festivals, Idiom Stories,

Course C Units:

- Education in China and the US, Major Festivals, Idiom Stories

Course D Units:

- Historical and Modern Figures, China- subcultures

Course E Units:

- Ancient China, Modern Chinese Society

Course F Units:

- Sharing the Planet/Globalism, Chinese Cultural Influences in America

Spanish

Course A Units:

- Discovery of the Americas Time Period (1492-1775)

Course B Units:

- Pre-Columbian Time Period (Before 1941), Family and Identity

Course C Units:

- National and Ethnic Identity

Course D Units:

- Family & Communities, Science & Technology

Course E Units:

- Study of Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean

Course F Units:

- Study of Music & Dance, Celebrations, Art & Architecture, Food & Schedules



9-12 World Language

Students continue their DLI journey through *World Language courses* at their chosen high schools. Students test for course placement in the Spring of their 8th grade year. (FLATS, CLEP)

For Spanish students, NCSD, in conjunction with BOCES, has concurrent and dual enrollment for students to earn college credit. Courses take place at the high schools, PIC campus, and Casper College. All high school students can take these courses.

For Chinese students, NCSD has partnered with University of Wyoming for students to earn high school and college credit. Courses are taken asynchronously at the high schools.

	2026/2027 Projection	2025/2026	2024/2025	2023/2024	2022/2023
Kindergarten		22	28	22	21
First Grade	22	26	22	20	32
Second Grade	26	18	19	30	29
Third Grade	18	17	30	28	35
Fourth Grade	17	30	26	35	29
Fifth Grade	30	24	34	28	26
Sixth Grade	24	32	24	25	30
Seventh Grade	32	23	21	25	23
Eighth Grade	23	13	20	17	26
Ninth Grade	13	17	12	20	18
Tenth Grade	17	11	17	9	
Eleventh Grade	11	14	6		
Twelfth Grade	14	3			
TOTAL	247*	250	259	259	269

Historical Chinese Enrollment & Projections

	2026/2027 Projection	2025/2026	2024/2025	2023/2024	2022/2023
Kindergarten		77	79	80	80
First Grade	77	80	79	77	83
Second Grade	80	79	72	79	60
Third Grade	79	69	75	55	58
Fourth Grade	69	67	53	57	23
Fifth Grade	67	52	57	22	21
Sixth Grade	52	52	20	19	16
Seventh Grade	52	17	18	16	17
Eighth Grade	17	19	14	15	15
Ninth Grade	19	14	15	12	17
Tenth Grade	14	10	11	7	
Eleventh Grade	10	5	4		
Twelfth Grade	5	2			
TOTAL	571*	573	497	439	390

Historical Spanish Enrollment & Projections



Staffing

The K-8 model is budget neutral as the language teacher replaces a general education teaching position rather than adding staff, resulting in no additional personnel costs except for 1 FTE (DLI funding) split between CYMS and the high schools.

High school staff teach concurrent courses (Spanish), no additional staff currently.



Assessment

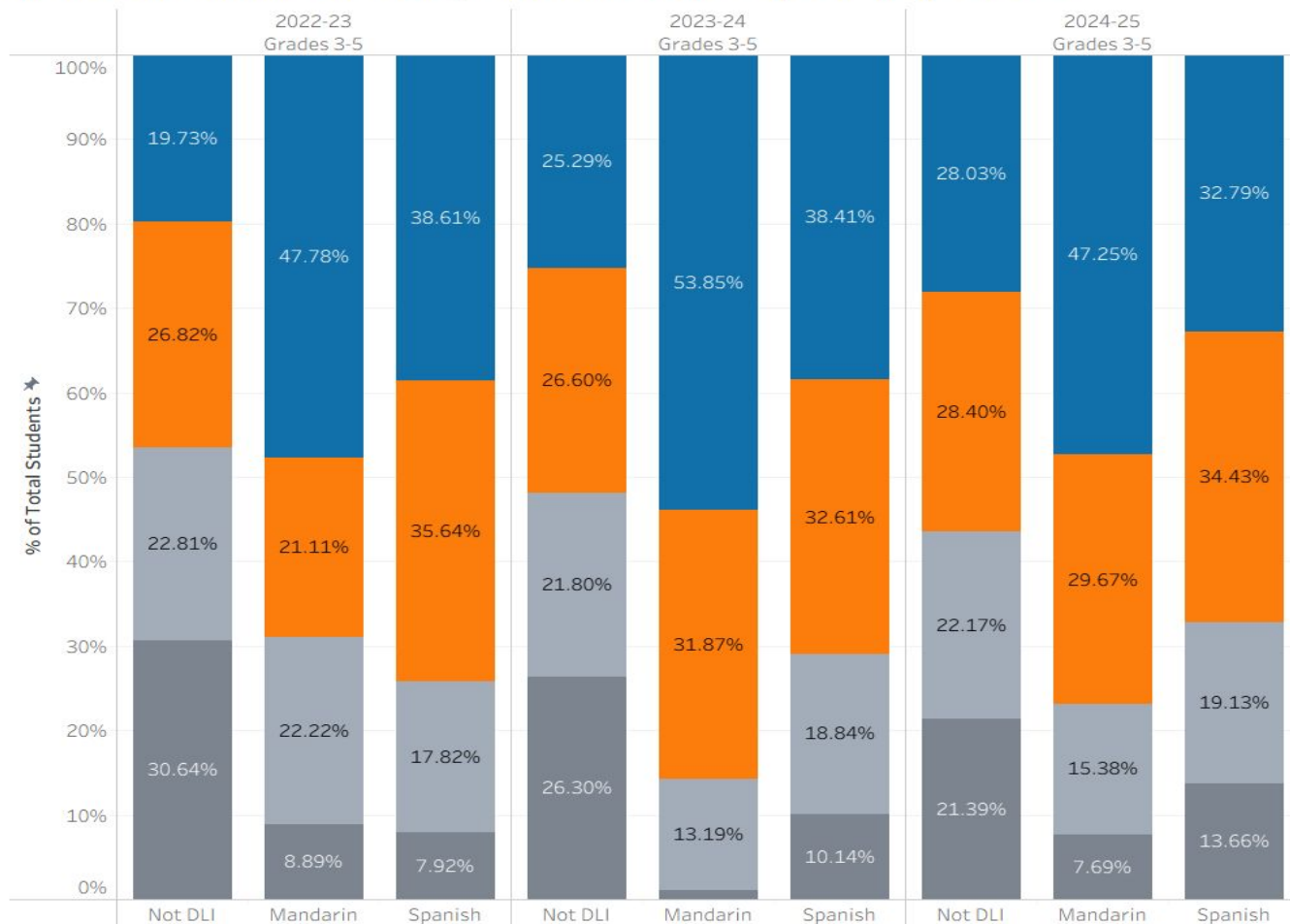
Continuous review of student data

- **AAPPL** - ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages - Grades 3-8
- **CLEP** - College-Level Examination Program - Spanish Grade 8
- **FLATS** - Foreign Language Achievement Testing Service - Mandarin Grade 8
- **WY-TOPP** - Wyoming Test of Proficiency and Progress - All Students Grades 3-10

Math Achievement Percentages for All for 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25

3-5 Math WyTopp Achievement

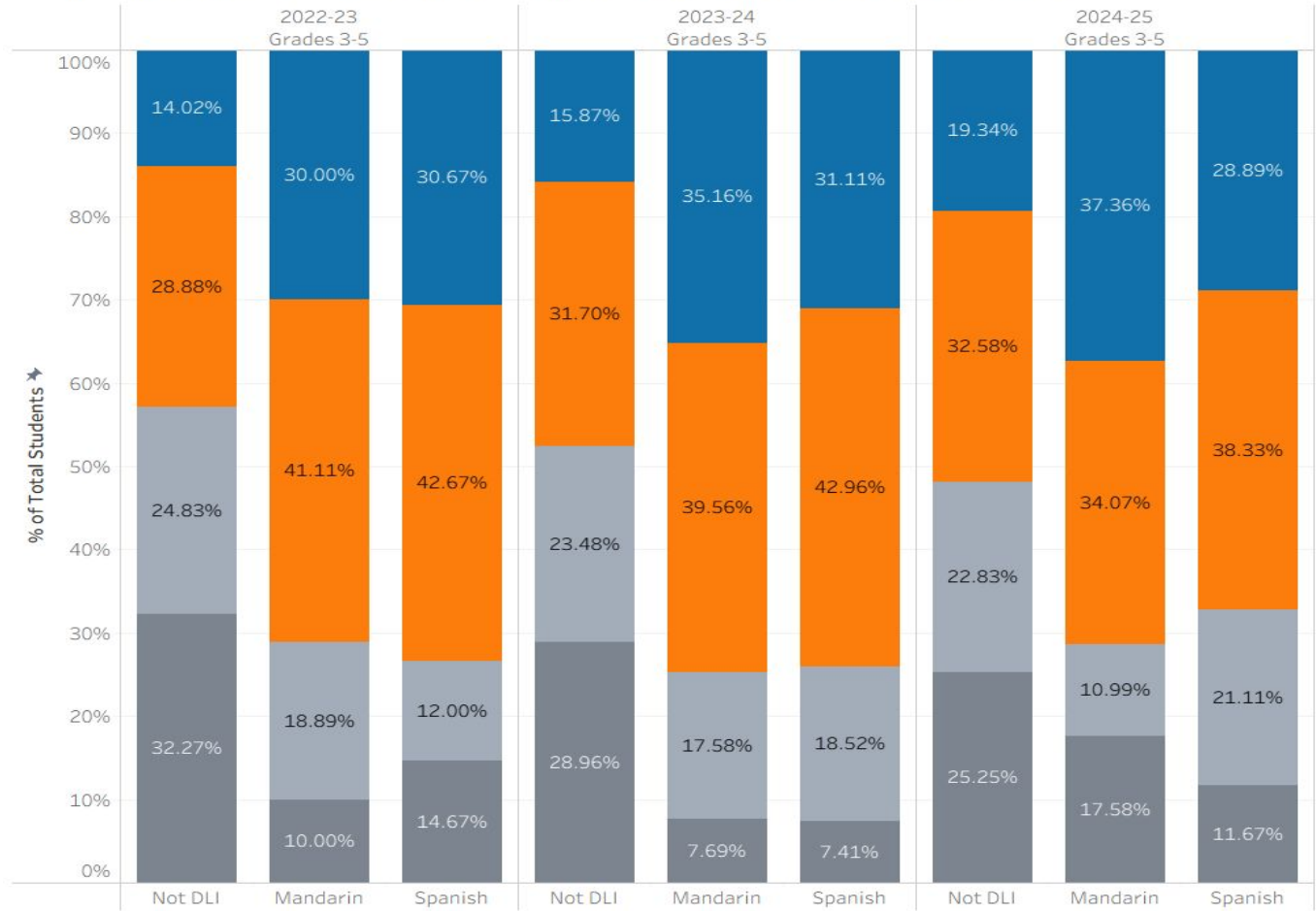
KEY: Advanced
Proficient
Basic
Below Basic



3-5 ELA WyTopp Achievement

KEY: Advanced
Proficient
Basic
Below Basic

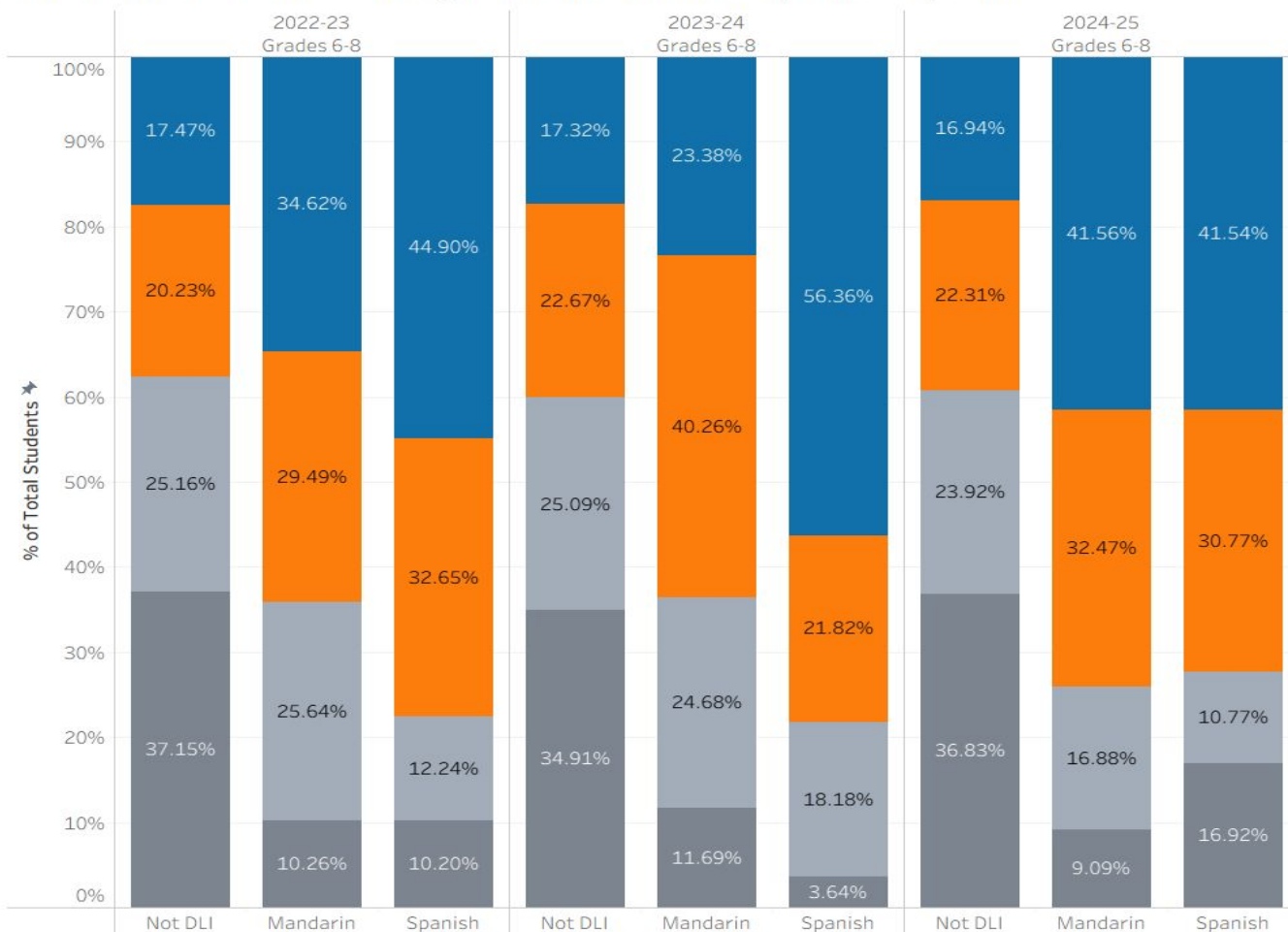
ELA Achievement Percentages for All for 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25






6-8 Math WyTopp Achievement

KEY: Advanced
Proficient
Basic
Below Basic

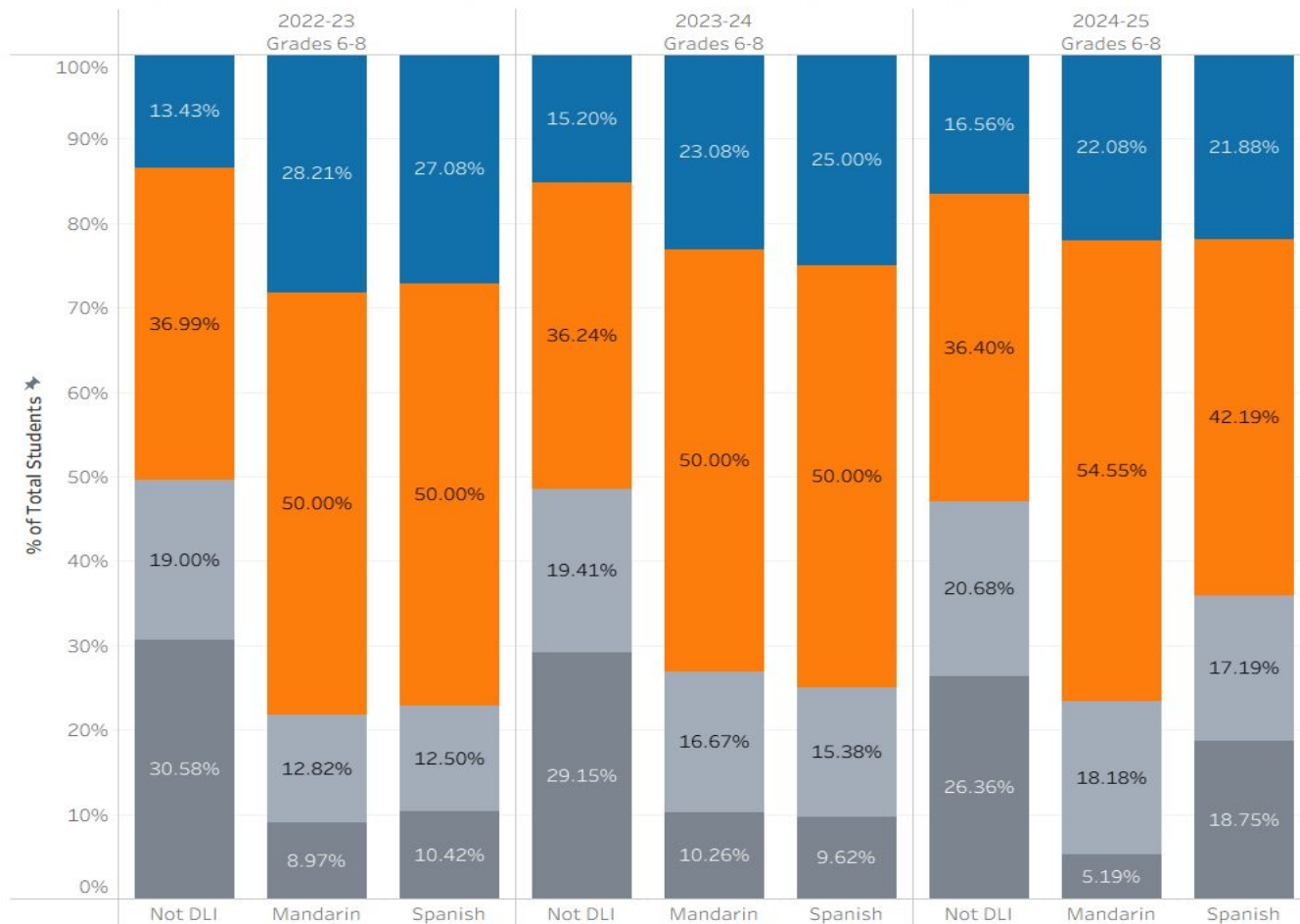
Math Achievement Percentages for All for 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25




6-8 ELA WyTopp Achievement

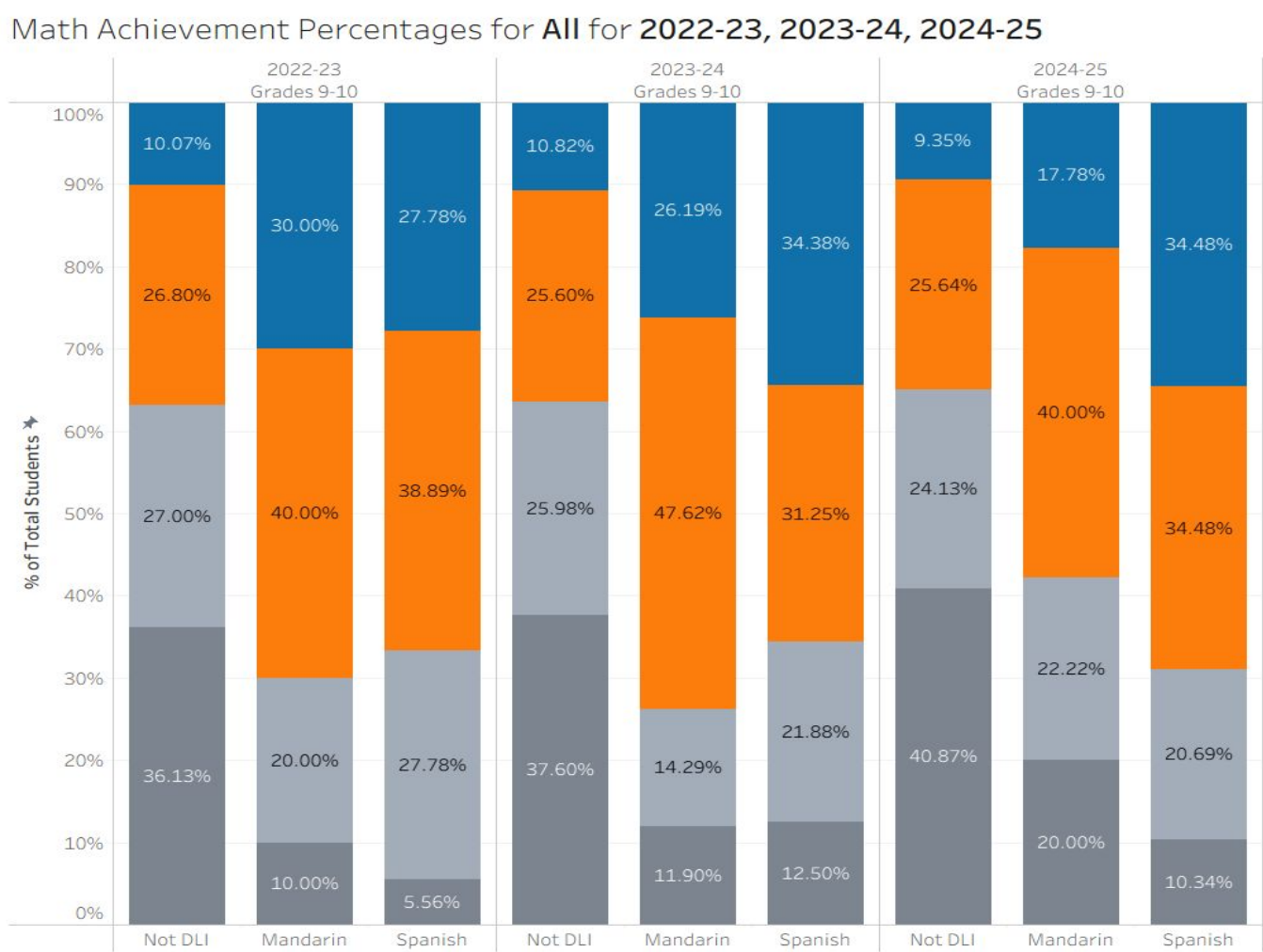
KEY: **Advanced** 
 Proficient 
 Basic 
 Below Basic 

ELA Achievement Percentages for All for 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25



9-10 Math WyTopp Achievement

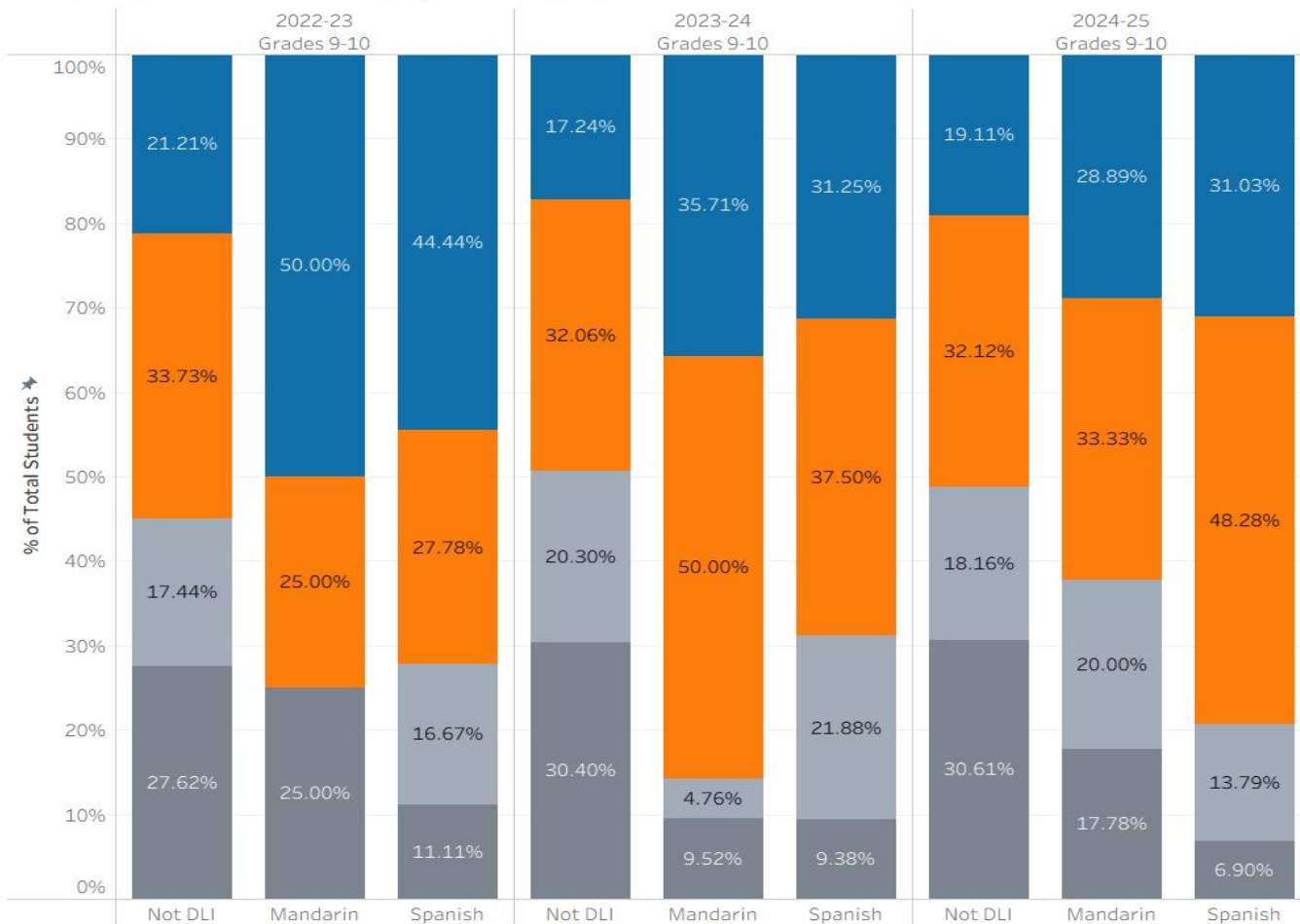
KEY: **Advanced** 
 Proficient 
 Basic 
 Below Basic 



9-10 ELA WyTopp Achievement

KEY: Advanced
Proficient
Basic
Below Basic

ELA Achievement Percentages for All for 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25



Dual Language Immersion - World Language - Middle and High School



High School & College Opportunities



Chinese

Pre AP Chinese / AP Chinese Courses @ PIC

CHIN 2030 - No longer offered

CHIN 2040 - Second Year Chinese II (3CR)

CHIN 3055 - Business Chinese and Culture (3CR)

LANG 4975-I - Writing in Chinese (3CR)

LANG 4975-II - Writing in Chinese (3CR)

LANG 4975-III - Writing in Chinese (3CR)

LANG 4800-I - Comprehension I (3CR)

LANG 4800-II - Comprehension II (3CR)

District funded (up to 7)

All current UW Chinese courses count towards a minor at UW (customized for NCSD)

Spanish

Concurrent Courses taught @ high schools (**BOCES funded**)

SPAN 1010 - Spanish II (4 CR)

SPAN 1020 - Spanish III (4 CR)

SPAN 2030 - Spanish IV (4 CR)

SPAN 2040 - Spanish V (4 CR)

Dual Courses taught @ PIC/Casper College (**BOCES funded**)

SPAN 2140 - Intro to Reading/Comp and Conversation (3CR)

SPAN 2220 - Intermediate Comp and Conversation (3CR)

SPAN 2495* - Workshop Topics

Opportunities @ University of Wyoming (**District funded**)

SPAN 3030, SPAN 3060, SPAN 3300, SPAN 3140

Funding High School/Dual Credits @ UW



HISTORICALLY:

- \$54,200 - C&I budget
- \$105,000 - Title IV Grant* (could be cut federally)

2022-23 (approx. \$700 tuition/fees, \$150 books)

- \$17,850 - 11 students (Sem 1), 10 students (Sem 2) - Chinese

2023-24 (approx. \$700 tuition/fees, \$150 books)

- \$37,400 - 22 students (Sem 1), 22 students (Sem 2) - Chinese

Funding High School/Dual Credits @ UW



2024-25 (approx. \$1049 tuition/fees, \$44/\$175 books)

- \$66,388 - 32 students (Sem 1), 27 students (Sem 2) - Chinese
1 student (Sem 1), 0 students (Sem 2) - Spanish

2025-26 (approx. \$966 tuition/fees, \$67/\$100 books)

- \$83,950 - 42 students (Sem 1), 38 students (Sem 2) - Chinese
0 students (Sem 1), 0 students (Sem 2) - Spanish

BUDGET SUMMARY 2025-26

\$159,200 (C&I + Title IV) - \$83,950 projected tuition/fees/books = ~\$75,250 remaining in Title IV

Funding High School/Dual Credits @ UW



PROJECTED ENROLLMENT BUDGET 2026-27

2026-27 (approx. \$1049 tuition/fees, \$150 books)

- \$135,002 - 50* students (Sem 1), 40* students (Sem 2) - Chinese
13* students (Sem 1), 13* students (Sem 2) - Spanish

*Students have not yet registered for 26-27 courses

BUDGET SUMMARY 2026-27

\$159,200 (C&I + Title IV) - \$135,002 projected tuition/fees/books = ~\$24,198 remaining in Title IV



Dual/Concurrent Grades

Students in concurrent/dual classes at CC have a high pass rate:

- 99% concurrent (A-D) and 94% dual - Casper College BOCES (all courses)

Students enrolled at UW Chinese courses struggle during their first year of courses:

- 79% (average) pass rate for those who complete the courses (no drops/withdrawal)
- 98% (average) pass rate for the remaining years and courses

Note: D/F's negatively impact UW GPA and can cause probationary status at UW (GPA below 2.0 - student will be placed on academic suspension for 1 semester, parents can petition for reinstatement, if sub-2.0 continues, can be a 5 year penalty with no admission to UW)



Capturing the Story

NCHS:

Principal Wilson

KWHS:

Principal Britt

CYMS:

Randall Bower

UW:

Valerie Brus

UW Students Reflections from Chinese Writing Course



“This course was definitely a challenging and helpful one that improved many of my skills other than writing and provided the next steps in my progression of learning Chinese.”

“There were three skills that I improved throughout this course. The first skill is discipline, one that I improved late into the course. As previously stated, I found that working in the school to finish assignments allowed me to focus and get them done on time, especially on top of sports and other homework. The other improvement would have to be my Chinese vocabulary skills. Throughout the weeks, working through the lessons, I’ve picked up new Chinese words and phrases to use in my writing and speaking. The last improvement would be in my general Chinese writing skills such as grammar like subject-verb orders and the proper way to implicate new vocabulary.”

“This course aligns with my personal goal of possibly traveling or living abroad. Furthering my Chinese skills would allow me to potentially one day live there and integrate into the culture. Learning Chinese is also great because of the relatives that I have who can only speak Chinese. By furthering my Chinese skills I’ll hopefully be able to communicate with them more and develop deeper relationships blocked by a language barrier. For the future and specifically developing my Chinese skills, I will continue to take these classes offered by UW. Another would have to be going to Asia over the summer with my family, in which I’ll have lots of opportunity to practice and further my Chinese skills.”

Celebrations



- Seal of Biliteracy



- All 50 states have adopted the Seal of Biliteracy for high school students who demonstrate proficiency in English and another World Language.
- This school year (2025-2026) will be the first year our initial group of DLI students will eligible to earn the Seal of Biliteracy.
 - 2022-2023 - 11 recipients
 - 2023-2024 - 13 recipients
 - 2024-2025 - 22 recipients
- Languages represented through the three years the Seal of Biliteracy has been available:
 - Spanish, French, and Japanese

- Strong post-secondary relationships with Casper College & University of Wyoming.
 - Potential for NCSD students entering college with a completed minor (21 credits) in Mandarin & Spanish as well as completed Associate's Degrees from CC

Continuous Improvement



Recommendation to study the program further with an Ad-Hoc to review K-12 programming, assurances, high school courses, and college opportunities.





Thank You