

The Benefits and Challenges of Dual-Immersion Programs within Bilingual Education



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Educational Studies Major Capstone
EDUC 450 - 05 — Independent Study — Professor Diana Baker

Benefits and Challenges

Benefits:

- Skills cross-over between languages
- Academic achievement is higher
- Second language acquisition/proficiency
- Literacy and language skills advance
- Equal value to both languages
- Students first, curriculum second
- Cross-cultural connections
- Employment

Challenges:

- Lack of certified educators
- Little research
- Drop off in secondary education
- Little teacher development/training
- Implementation and instruction in two languages
- Transitioning
- Curricula and assessment



Community Partner

Name: Geneva City Schools

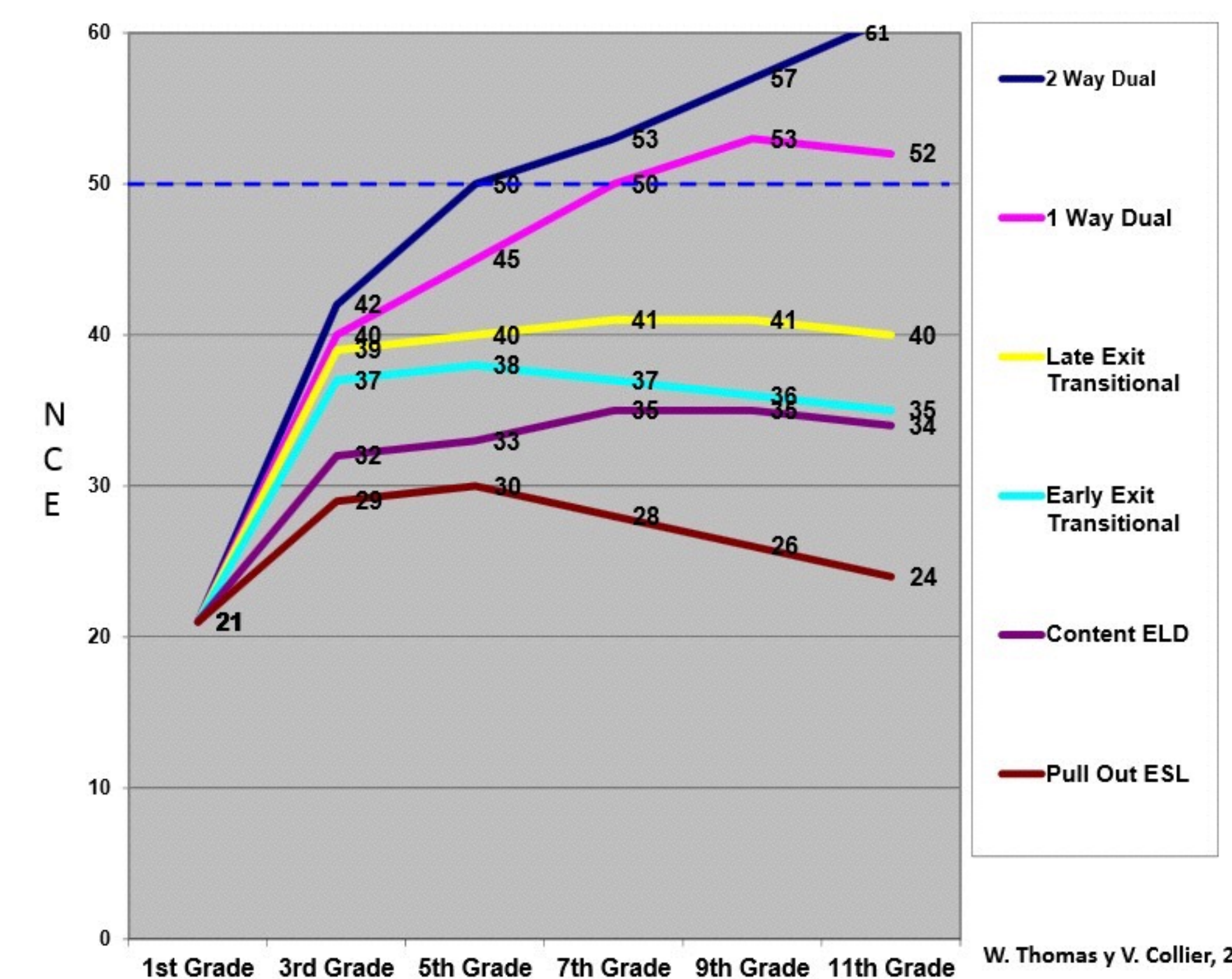
Mission Statement:

"The mission of the Geneva City School District is to educate and **graduate all students** with the essential skills and knowledge to live **lives of consequence.**"

Project Purpose/Need:

Create a useful tool/resource that Geneva City Schools can use when advertising their dual-immersion program for future enrolled students, that highlights the benefits and challenges of this specific type of model, within the general context of bilingual education.

English Learners' Long-Term Achievement by Program Model



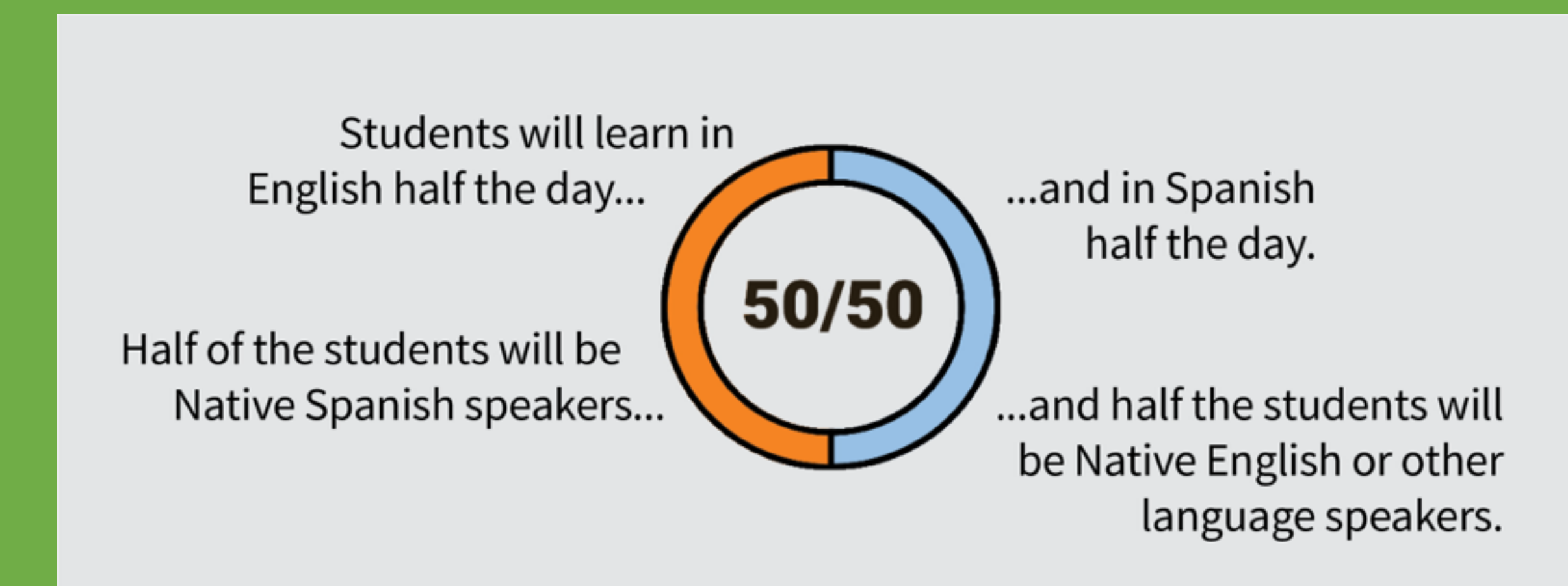
Bilingual Education and Dual-Immersion Programs

Bilingual Education is an education model where...

- Academic content is taught in two languages
- Academics integrate native language instruction, which incorporate social justice ideologies
- Structural models vary

Dual-Immersion Programs are models of bilingual education where...

- Academic content and class composition are 50:50
- Two teachers and two classrooms



Takeways (Specifically Useful for Geneva)

- Focus on minority language in earlier grades
- Both languages need to extend outside of the classroom
- Trained teachers are key
- Active parent involvement
- Active community involvement
- Dual-immersion programs can close the achievement gap

