

 **Hiring Class A CDL Drivers** **Great opportunity to earn!** **EXPAND**

LANGUAGE IMMERSION EDUCATION ON THE RISE IN DENVER SCHOOLS

Posted: 08/06/2011 06:50:29 PM MDT Updated: 08/06/2011 06:51:51 PM MDT Author: pbhatia

Choose Either One of the Following Services

- Watch Battery Replacement**
5 yr Warranty - Value up to \$50
- Jewelry Cleaning and Polishing**
Value up to \$50

Compliments of



FAST-FIX JEWELRY REPAIRS
America's Jewelry Repair Professionals® 720-941-4110

Cherry Creek Shopping Center (Upper Level Next to Movie Theatre)



- It's c Hall
- Nicasio has surgery for broken neck, still in serious condition
- Copter shot down, killing 30 US troops, 7 Afghans
- New CU coach Jon Embree will "miss Nebraska" on the Buffs' schedule
- Pueblo woman gets 20 years for killing husband

MOST POPULAR

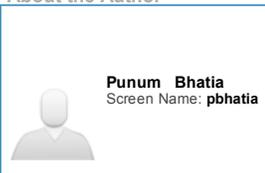
- Rockies' Juan Nicasio has broken neck, will undergo surgery
- Broncos' Tim Tebow fueled by criticism
- Man shot, killed by Denver police after high-speed pursuit
- Q&A: Broncos likely to add O-line depth from waiver wire
- Paige: Broncos' Tim Tebow dealing with tension, frustration

MOST COMMENTED: PAST 24 HOURS

- S&P downgrades US credit rating from AAA: 154 comments
- S&P cuts U.S. credit rating over concerns about federal debt: 102 comments
- Broncos' Tim Tebow fueled by criticism: 101 comments
- Man shot, killed by Denver police after high-speed pursuit: 63 comments
- Senate Dems give way to GOP to end FAA shutdown: 60 comments

Article | Comments | Print | Email | Share This

About the Author



DENVER— A growing number of Denver schools will be offering language immersion programs this year, on par with a national trend to increase global literacy.

As educators realize that a child's early years are crucial for language acquisition, preschools and kindergartens are quickly creating bilingual curriculums in a variety of languages, from Chinese to

Russian to Spanish. Most of these schools rely on full immersion, where every subject is taught in both English and a secondary language, but children rarely end the year with more than a handful of foreign vocabulary words and some studies show they are misunderstanding fundamental concepts. According to Fred Genesee of the University of Minnesota, bilingual children are more likely to outperform monolingual children academically and socially, but while Denver families may be eager to enroll in dual-language programs, it's important to understand the long-term benefits. Instead of attempting linguistic fluency, bilingual programs should be fostering brain development in young children, said Punum Bhatia, executive director of Montessori Casa International Preschool (MCI), a Chinese-English integrated laboratory school. Our intention is not to have our students speaking perfect Chinese, Bhatia said. But to awaken their neural pathways into processing a language that is so completely different from English. A pictorial and tonal-based language with few grammar rules, Bhatia believes Chinese will equip her students with the tools to learn additional languages in the future—be it Arabic or Swahili—and also to excel in other academic pursuits as it teaches them to absorb patterns of information in different ways.

The dual-language environment is also in accordance with the Montessori Method, said Bhatia, which emphasizes independence and intrinsic self-motivation. Students are encouraged to switch freely between languages, and unlike popular immersion programs, all MCI teachers are conversant in both languages and

lessons are taught in a seamless integration of Chinese and English.

We want to inspire a passion for learning, Bhatia said. Another language just opens up a whole new way of seeing the world. Founded in 2004, Montessori Casa International provides instruction for teachers in the Montessori Method; it is now expanding to include a lab school, where educational theories will be tested and best-practice research contributed to the field of early childhood education. For more information on this topic, or to schedule an interview with Punum Bhatia, please call 303.523.7590, or email Punum at pb@mcidenvr.edu.

Share

Short URL <http://dpo.st/qY4KRJ>

Facebook Stumbleupon Reddit Digg

You might be interested in:

LANGUAGE IMMERSION EDUCATION ON THE RISE IN DENVER SCHOOLS [Read More >>](#)

Superintendent and Mayor to visit schools [Read More >>](#)

Global Village Academy Awarded \$1.4 Million [Read More >>](#)

Denver philanthropist gives \$1.5 million [Read More >>](#)

Mayor Hickenlooper at Denver International School [Read More >>](#)

Host an Exchange Student
Make a Lifelong Friend from Abroad.

Click here
or Call
1-800-733-2773

YourHub.com on Facebook

[Like](#)

641 people like **YourHub.com**.

Virginia	Mikey	Javon	Osmara	Chuck
Linda	Mary Jane	Noelle	Eric	Hader

Facebook social plugin

Enter for a Chance to Win a Weber® Grill.

[ENTER NOW](#)

CHEESE & BURGER SOCIETY
HONORING WISCONSIN CHEESE