

Japanese Bilingual Bicultural Program at Clarendon

Celebrating Over 40 Years

In 1973, concerned members of the Japanese-American community came together with a shared goal—to give affirmation to their culture and ancestry. From this spirit emerged the Japanese Bilingual Bicultural Program (JBBP), a program that has served as a national model for integration of language and cultural studies in elementary school education.

Clarendon JBBP promotes educational excellence while fostering an appreciation of international diversity. It is one of the few public elementary school programs in the nation where children can learn about Japanese culture and language. At the same time, Clarendon's JBBP students excel in the standard California state curriculum, consistently scoring in the top ranks of San Francisco elementary school students on standardized tests.

Our program embraces children of non-English speaking Japanese families, Japanese-American children, as well as children from other backgrounds. This culturally-diverse environment nurtures respect for people different from oneself, an important ingredient in the learning experience. Our community consists of a wide cross-section of students—most of our students are beginners to Japanese language and culture.

Clarendon JBBP continues to flourish because of the strength of the people who dedicate their time and energy to it. A shared commitment to providing every child the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed, is at the center of our program, paving the way for future generations.



Clarendon

JBBP @
Clarendon Elementary School

JBBP
Japanese Bilingual Bicultural Program

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Quick Facts

- ✿ Kindergarten to 5th grade
- ✿ ~270 students of diverse backgrounds
- ✿ Great enrichment, going beyond the standard curriculum
- ✿ Active parent participation and fundraising
- ✿ Special Day Classes, Resource Specialists, Speech Therapy, OT, and PT
- ✿ Comprehensive Social-Emotional Learning curriculum
- ✿ On-site before & afterschool care



National
Blue
Ribbon



California
Distinguished
School



PBIS
Silver
Medal




Civics
Learning
Award



Program details

Clarendon JBBP is not an immersion program – the subjects are taught in English. The children receive approximately 2.5 hrs/ week of Japanese instruction by our classroom teachers. Furthermore, through our unique instruction model, Teacher-led FLES (Foreign Language in Elementary School), Japanese language is used in classrooms throughout the day, allowing students to learn the language in authentic context. The Japanese curriculum at Clarendon is based on national and state standards. Original textbooks and materials are used in an effort to make the Japanese language learning practical and relevant for our young learners. Since elementary school age is when children absorb oral performance the most, emphasis is given on speaking and listening, although basic writing is also taught. Native Japanese Curriculum Coordinators support the curriculum development and the Japanese language and cultural activities.

Philosophy



Cultural studies are essential to expanding children's awareness of the world and its rich possibilities. JBBP provides students a window on global issues, international diversity, and world geography. We are committed to a vision that:

- ❁ Embraces cultural diversity & respect for all
- ❁ Builds social and community relationships
- ❁ Promotes emotional and physical development through sports and group activities
- ❁ Fosters intellectual growth
- ❁ Develops solid problem-solving skills

Curriculum

The Clarendon JBBP curriculum meets and exceed the requirements established by the state of California and SFUSD. Japanese-speaking children benefit from assistance in their native language as they master English skills. English-speaking children benefit from exposure to Japanese reading, writing, and conversation. Japanese art and music activities enliven the lessons in our program.

Parent Participation

Parent involvement is the hallmark of the experience at Clarendon. Parent participation and volunteerism is essential to maintaining the quality and diversity of school projects and activities. Opportunities exist for everyone to help out.



Parent fundraising supports Japanese language instruction and cultural events, instruction in Physical Education, Art and Music, which includes Taiko drumming for grades 4 and 5. Parents also fund an upper grades writing instructor, field trips, and classroom supplies for teachers and each student.

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)



At Clarendon, SEL is a key component to learning. Our approach is multifaceted: community building and problem solving through restorative practices; PBIS (positive behavioral interventions and supports) designed to teach students how to be Safe, Respectful, Responsible and Kind and to identify emotions.

Activities & Enrichment



Activities include the SFUSD curriculum plus:

- ❁ Japanese Language Instruction
- ❁ Celebration of Japanese seasonal events such as Otsukimi (Harvest Moon Viewing), Oshougatsu (New Year), Hinamatsuri (Doll's Day) and Kodomono Hi (Children's Day)
- ❁ Japanese cultural workshops and performances, including tea ceremony, puppet shows and choral concerts
- ❁ Art Instruction related to local exhibits
- ❁ Japanese vocal music lessons, plus Taiko drumming for upper grades.
- ❁ Library Services
- ❁ PE Group Activities
- ❁ 4th & 5th grade Talent Show
- ❁ Participation in the Annual Cherry Blossom Parade
- ❁ School events such as Walkathon, Community Arts & Sciences Day, Undoukai (Japanese-Style Field Day), Fred Korematsu Day and Performing Arts Night
- ❁ Classroom activities include:
 - Origami, shibori, sumi-e, Japanese Art
 - Songs and games in Japanese
 - Making Japanese foods such as dango, mochi and ozouni

Community Highlights

Our recently renovated campus includes new classrooms and shared spaces. New resources include a Media Center/Library that is open for classroom lessons and to kids during recess time, and our Wellness Center, which is run by social worker and paraeducator.