

# FLEX IS BACK

## Spanish, Italian, German, and Chinese

***Hello! Ni hao! Guten Tag! Hola! Buon Giorno!***

We are excited to be able to offer instruction in **FOUR** foreign languages this year!

In today's world, it is almost a **MUST** to be able to speak more than one language! Experts agree that the best time to learn a foreign language is during childhood. Not only does it help with electives in high school, not only does it look good on a résumé, not only can it help to get accepted into your favorite college, it may be the deciding factor whether or not you will be hired for your dream job down the road!

In fact, Fairfax County is planning to incorporate foreign language classes in all elementary schools in the next few years, hoping to give our children the advantage of a bilingual education. Why wait until then? **FLEX will give OUR students a great head start, NOW!**

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| <b>Chinese</b> (grades 1-3 and returning students):<br>Monday 1:20 – 2:20 pm<br>Start: October 19, 2009, 15 weeks<br>Total cost: \$145<br>Instructor: Nancy Hongying Song       | <b>German</b> (grades 4-6, 3 <sup>rd</sup> graders accepted):<br>Friday 3:45 – 4:45 pm<br>Start: October 30, 2009, 15 weeks<br>Total cost: \$145<br>Instructor: Alexandra Turnage  |
| <b>Spanish</b> (grades 1-3):<br>7:40 – 8:40 am<br>Tuesdays<br>Start: October 20, 2009, 20 weeks<br>Total cost: \$179<br>Instructor: Mayra Castillo                              | <b>Spanish</b> (grades 4-6):<br>7:40 – 8:40 am<br>Fridays<br>Start: October 23, 2009, 20 weeks<br>Total cost: \$179<br>Instructor: Mayra Castillo  |
| <b>Italian</b> (grades 1-3 and returning students):<br>Friday 3:45 – 4:45 pm<br>Start: November 6, 2009, 15 weeks<br>Total cost: \$145<br>Instructor: Adriana Barsotti - Kaplan | <b>If you have any questions, feel free to contact us.</b><br><b>Alexandra Turnage</b><br><b>(703) 780 – 0246, <a href="mailto:rajdturnage@gmail.com">rajdturnage@gmail.com</a></b><br><b>Nancy Dernelle</b><br><b>(703) 799- 7498, <a href="mailto:gdernelle1@verizon.net">gdernelle1@verizon.net</a></b> |

These courses are at a beginner's level, so no need to be shy (reading and writing in the foreign language will **not** be the main focus). For returning students there will be new / advanced materials if indicated.

Please refer to the registration form for course codes, section #, etc. Scholarships, based on financial need, are available through the PTA. Please feel free to contact us, if you would like to apply.

If you are interested in other languages, please contact Alexandra Turnage; there may be a possibility to attend FLEX classes in the language of your choice at another school.

**Registration is available online from October 2- October 9 at [www.fcps.edu/aceclasses](http://www.fcps.edu/aceclasses) (credit card payment only) and has priority over paper registrations. For paper registrations please fill out one registration form for each child and return the completed registration form together with payment to the FLEX box in the school office.**

**Registration deadline is October 9, 2009**

**Note from Mrs. Nancy Hongying Song:**

Dear Parents and Students:

Ni hao! That means hello in Chinese. Has anyone ever told you that if you dig a hole in the ground far enough that you could reach China? I am from China. I chose Nancy as my American name, but in China my name is "HongYing," which means "red eagle." Many of you already know some Chinese culture – maybe you saw the Olympics from Beijing last summer, maybe you like Chinese food, and probably most things in your house were made in China. There are far more fascinating things in China, and I guarantee that by the end of the class you will know much more besides "Kung Pao Chicken." We will have a fun and interactive class, during which I'll teach you what pinyin and tone are. I will also help you explore Chinese names, greetings, clothing, food, holidays and much more. I look forward to sharing my love of Chinese culture with you!

Sincerely,  
红鹰 Hongying

**Note from Mrs. Alexandra Turnage:**

Dear Parents, Dear Students,

Since I speak German with my two daughters, our whole neighborhood has picked up at least the word "nein!" (no), but I promise that at the end of our course you will know a lot more. We'll start introducing ourselves with our new German names, learn our first numbers with a chocolate filled Advent calendar (a German tradition), play games, sing songs, act out little scenes and find out about Germany's traditions and culture, and we'll do a chocolate tasting or, if you wish, we can of course also do a Sauerkraut tasting instead. About myself: I grew up in Germany, spending my summers in Italy. I'm a translator and interpreter for German, Italian and English and studied languages and theater in Wuerzburg, Germany and Bologna, Italy. I taught my first language course (Italian) at the age of 17 and have always enjoyed my students' curiosity, enthusiasm and progress.

Sincerely,  
Alexandra Turnage a.k.a. "Frau Dimpfelmoser"

**Note from Ms. Adriana Barsotti-Kaplan**

Dear Parents and Students,

My name is Adriana and I am Christopher's mother. Chris is in Mrs. Tirey's 2nd grade. This will be my second semester teaching Italian at Stratford Landing and I hope it will be fun. We will play games and sing songs, you will learn how to say our name, your age, and you will also learn many new words so that you can tell me what you like to do. We will also do a lot of coloring while learning new words and we will taste new foods. I grew up in Padova, Italy. Padova is very close to Venice, and I am sure that most of you know about Venice, the city with no cars, and water instead of roads! Although I do not teach full-time, I do enjoy it immensely. I hope that we can have a lot of fun together, and that you will truly love learning about a new place, new foods, and new traditions.

A presto,  
Adriana Barsotti-Kaplan

**Note from Mrs. Mayra Castillo:**

Dear Parents and students:

My name is Mayra Castillo. I will be teaching Spanish at Stratford Landing Elementary School this year in the FLEX program. I was born in Bolivia, South America and have a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Simon Bolivar University in Bolivia. I am happy to have this opportunity to introduce the students to the Latin American culture and Spanish language. I will introduce subject matters like family, the seasons, colors and shapes, animals, numbers and more using fun materials to describe ideas. Thank you for your interest and I'm looking forward to welcoming my new students in my classes.

Sincerely,  
Mayra Castillo