

District 97 Enhanced Elementary Language Learning 2011-2012



Why is second language fluency important?

✓ Physical / Physiological

✓ Intellectual / Academic

✓ Linguistic

✓ Global Competence



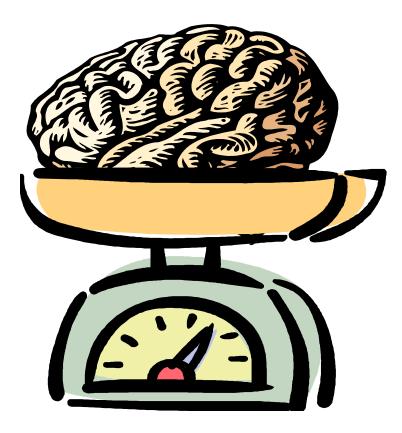




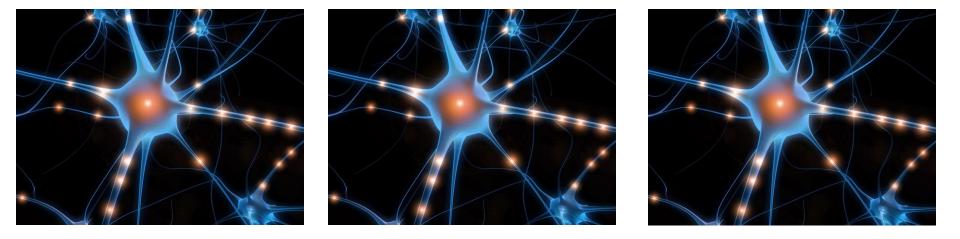


Physical / Physiological

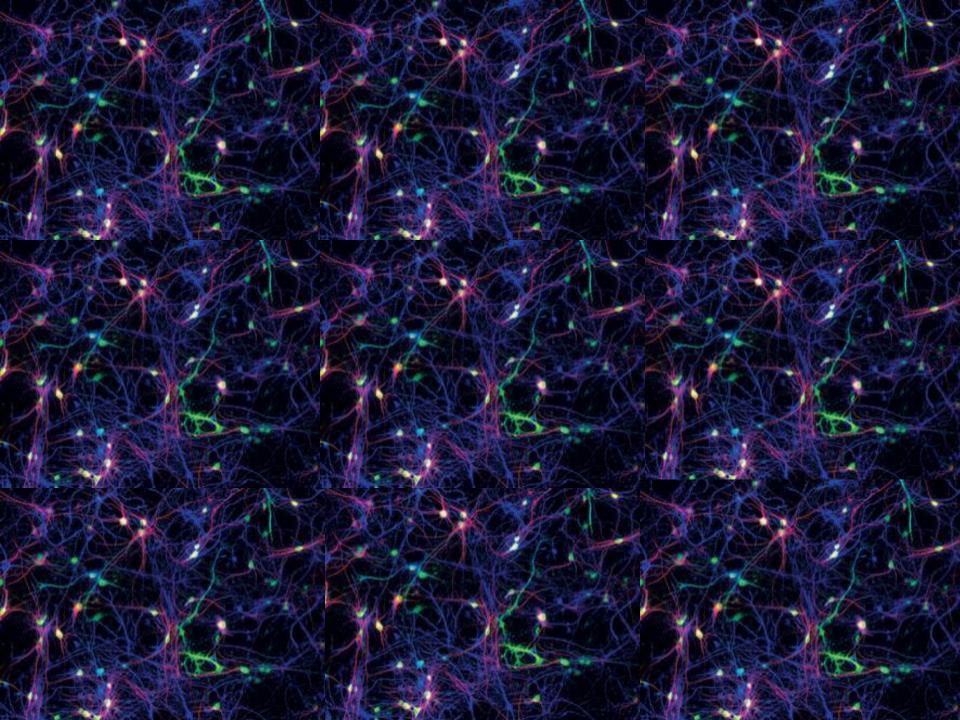




Learning a second language increases brain mass!



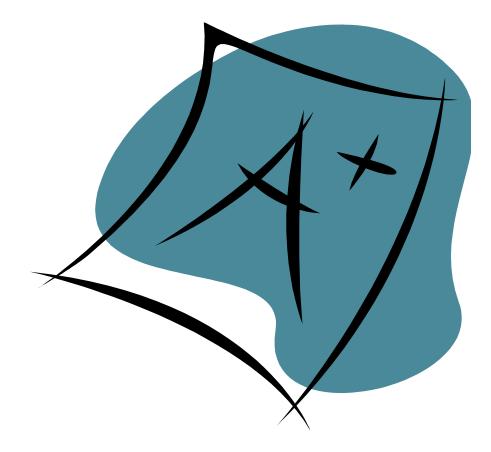
Learning a second language increases the *number* and **speed** of brain synapses!



BIGGERS FASTERS STRONGERS



Intellectual / Academic



Studies show correlation between second language acquisition and higher achievement,

including on standardized tests such as ACT and SAT.





matemáticas



lenguaje

Reinforcement of skills in native language and across academic disciplines.

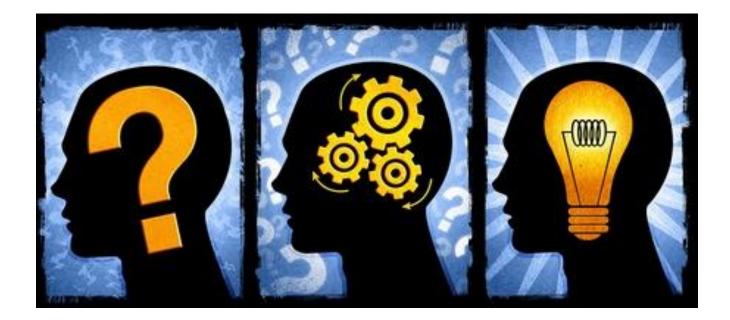


estudios sociales

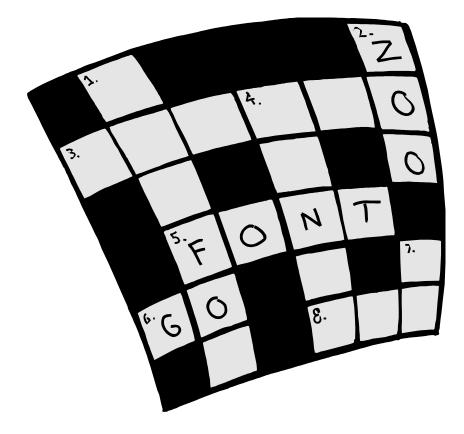


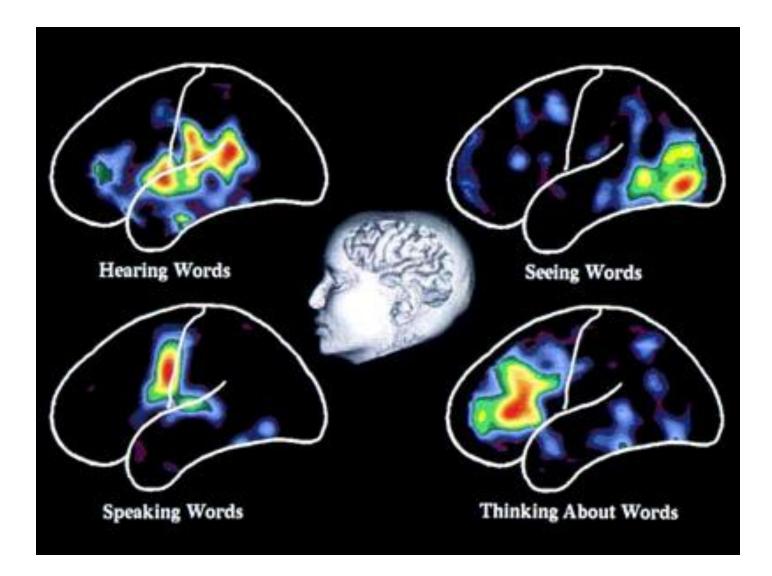
ciencias

Second language acquisition strengthens cognition and critical thinking skills.

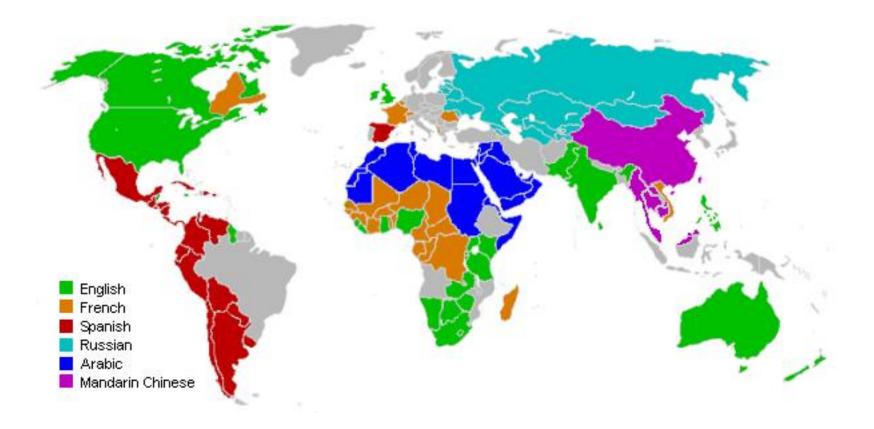


Linguistic









Global Competence





Relationships





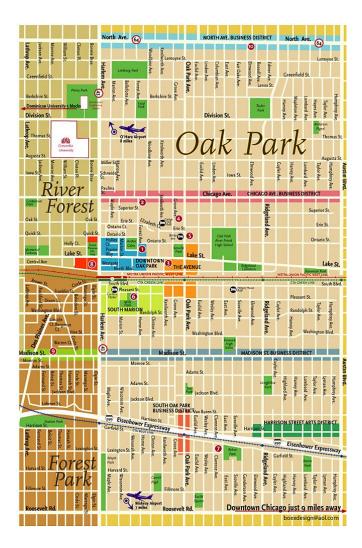


Bilingual workers wanted!



Question: What did President Obama recently admit embarrasses him?

Answer: Not speaking a second language!



Where are we now?

How did we get here?

1996 - 2001 Building Years

4 times a week ... 30-40 minutes per day

1996: 2 schools ... 3 grade levels K-2

2001: 5 schools ... building by grade levels





2001-2005 Losing Ground

2001: Program adopted all 8 schools district wide, BUT ...

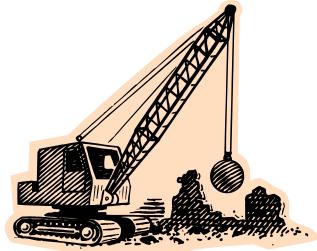
Language learning time cut to 3 days and 30 minutes per day

2004: Budget cuts eliminate instruction in Kindergarten & 6th grade

2005: Budget proposal to eliminate Grades 1-2, but instead ...

Reduce learning time to 2 days and 30 minutes per day

Program now at half of original size. Not even close to best practices.





Rebuilding & Remodeling

Our program must look very different in September. We have heard that loud and clear, from proponents and opponents, in the referendum discussions. *Dr. Albert Roberts*



Our Charge

- Creative model
- Provide students daily language learning
- Include technology
- Provide growth opportunities for students and teachers alike
- Incorporate appropriate assessment and accountability
- Offer multiple languages as possible
- Keep staffing costs as close to present levels as possible

Goals

- Give students a very strong foundation in a second language
- Students leave 5th grade ready for advanced studies at middle school
- Students are bilingual by the end of their experience in District 97





Mileposts

November 2010

- Initial meeting with Dr. Roberts.
- 20 page paper research findings, possible instructional models and other considerations.
- Dr. Robert's initial report to Board

November 2010 - March 2011

Work put on hold while waiting for referendum vote

Christmas break 2010 to early January 2011Apply for ISBE Foreign Language planning grant

Winter 2011

First meeting with Rosetta Stone

Mileposts

March 2011

- Dr. Roberts and Dawn meet re staffing reductions.
- Dawn and curriculum coordinator (Lisa Schwartz) visit 3 CPS language programs.

April 2011

- Referendum passes!
- Administrators work on staffing for 2011-2012.
- Dr. Roberts and HR Director meet with Dawn re next year.
- Elementary World Language (FLES) team develops tentative plan to enhance language instruction for 2011-2012.
- Second meeting with Rosetta Stone.
- Conference call between D97 & Rosetta Stone IT staff.
- D97 Awarded ISBE language planning grant for over \$39,000

Mileposts

May 2011

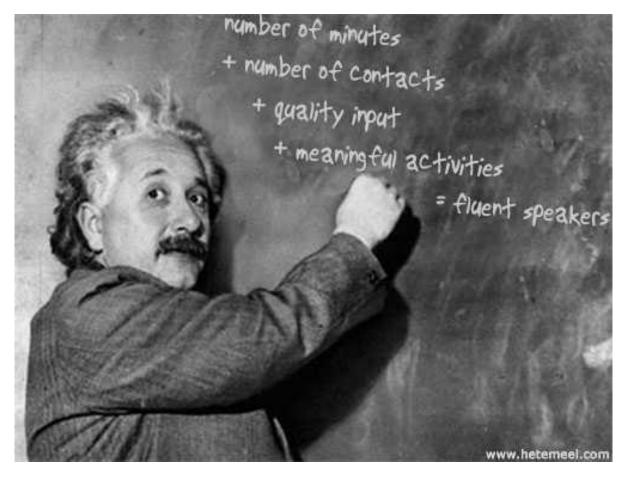
- Dawn and Dr. Roberts present to Education Council and other groups for input and discussion
- Revision of tentative plan and presentation to Board
- Planning grant work begins

Spring / Summer 2011

- Curriculum and Implementation work.
- Continued information gathering on program models, best practices, assessment tools, technology options.



How do we "build" fluent speakers?



Daily contact is critical.





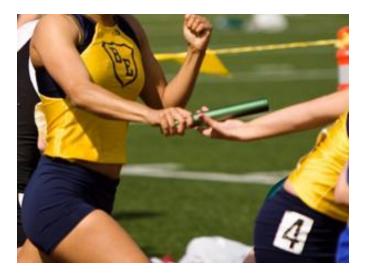




Restore direct instructional time with FLES teacher to 3 times a week for 30 minutes.

"Off Days"

- WL FLES staff provide language based lessons that students can do with non-FLES teacher.
- Reinforce other areas of the curriculum, such as math, science, and social studies.
- 20-25 minutes each session.



Possible "Off Days" Scenarios

- Technology based lessons created by language teachers.
- Math reinforcement through Everyday Math games, etc.
- Continuation of projects begun during instruction with language teacher.
- Student review and self assessments.







Key to Success ... Collaboration





Questions?

Comments?

Suggestions?