

WHY WORLD LANGUAGES?

WORLD LANGUAGES ARE CRITICAL CAREER AND WORKPLACE SKILLS

World language capacity is crucial to Delaware in order for the state to maintain and strengthen its domestic economy; we cannot afford a monolingual work force. It is imperative that our education system prepares generations of Delaware students with the language skills to compete in an ever-changing global economy at home and around the world.

-Governor's World Language Expansion Initiative Executive Summary, 2011

92%

of European students learn a language in school, while only 20% of American students do

SOURCE: Pew Research Center

Top 8 Skills

Multi- or Bilingualism is one of the top eight skills required of all occupations

SOURCE: ACTFL.ORG

90%

of U.S. employers need employees that speak another language besides English

SOURCE: ACTFL.ORG

"AS I PLAN TO DEVELOP MY CHINESE-SPEAKING SKILLS, I WILL BUILD A **COMPETITIVE EDGE** FOR THE CAREER WORLD ONLY POSSIBLE FOR *bilingual professionals.*"

-Eryne Jenkins, US China Strong Foundation Student Ambassador and Caesar Rodney High School Graduate, Class of 2018

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENTS TO EARN A CERTIFICATE OF MULTILITERACY
- ADVOCATE FOR SCHOOL, REGIONAL, AND STATE POLICIES THAT SUPPORT WORLD LANGUAGE LEARNING



#TheFutureIsMultilingual

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Delaware
Department of Education