

# French Dual Language Education –Trends and Supports

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FRENCH CULTURE  
IN THE UNITED STATES



HIGHER EDUCATION,  
ARTS, FRENCH LANGUAGE

# Why Dual Language?

- 66% of the world's population is bilingual, only 20% of Americans
- In 2010, 240,000 job postings in the United States required advanced language skills
- In 2015, that number was 630,000
- Multiple studies demonstrate that students in immersion settings develop much greater language proficiency than those in traditional language classes, and has no impact on acquisition of subject matter  
([https://carla.umn.edu/immersion/documents/ImmersionResearch\\_TaraFortune.html](https://carla.umn.edu/immersion/documents/ImmersionResearch_TaraFortune.html))



# Why French?

- One of the fastest growing languages in the world
- Currently 300 million speakers – Projected to reach 750 million by 2050
- Geographic Diversity – Europe (France, Belgium, Switzerland), North Africa (Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria), Sub-Saharan Africa (Senegal, Cameroon, Ivory Coast), The Americas (Canada, Haiti, French Guyana)
- \$110 billion in annual trade between France and the United States, 1 million jobs created by French-U.S. foreign direct investment



# French Dual Language Education in the United States

- 173 French Dual Language and immersion programs across the United States (serving over 30,000 students)
- 29 programs opened in just the past 3 years
- 3 programs in Massachusetts:
  - Holliston (100% K-2<sup>nd</sup>, 50% 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>) – Majority anglophone students
  - Milton (75% 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>, 50% 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, 30% 5<sup>th</sup>) - Majority anglophone students
  - Brockton (50/50 immersion) - 1/3 francophone students, 2/3 anglophone or other

# The French Dual Language Fund

- Joint initiative of the French Embassy and the FACE Foundation (French American Cultural Exchange)
- 2 million dollars in funding through 2022
- Includes 4 main programs



# Annual Grants Program

Up to \$10,000 per year for :

- Creating or developing a francophone environment in your school (books, DVDs, workshops with francophone authors, film screenings)
- Purchase of pedagogical resources for American immersion schools (eg. Subscription to TV5Monde)
- Professional development for teachers and administrators (Summer schools in France, the CARLA institute in Minnesota)
- Possibility to receive funds even before start of program



# French Teaching Interns

- \$4,000 scholarship to host a French teaching intern for one school year (total cost is around \$7,000)
- French master's students on a J-intern visa, work 32 hours/week. Priority to interns selected through the French government agency CIEP.
- At least 30 students must be served by the program, with 30% of content in French





# French DLI Professional Development Summer Institute

- Summer institute to provide immersion teachers with curriculum development, classroom management, and effective use of resources
- Fee is \$150 for the five day program. Hotel and food covered by program.
- Will be at the University of Georgia next year







# Future Immersion Teacher (FIT) Fellowship

- Scholarships for students wishing to get certified in bilingual education
- The scholarship depends on the type of program – up to \$10,000 a year
- Ten partner universities
- Two target groups : 1) Student's looking for a master's in French immersion education  
2) Current teachers looking for a certification in immersion teaching



# French Getaways Program

- Brings francophone authors, artists and musicians to immersion schools in the United States
- Holliston, MA : 3 workshops, 90 each minutes



# Brockton, MA – Program opened in 2018

- Program started in 2018, 56 students in the kindergarten class
- Building up to a K-5 program
- In Fall of 2019, demand for program was more than double available spots

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