Family and Community Engagement in Dual Language Programs
Lynn Fulton-Archer
Delaware Department of Education

CONTEXT MATTERS

Delaware World Language Immersion

• 10-year initiative
• 20 immersion programs
• 10,000 students
Delaware’s Immersion Programs

- 7 Chinese sites
- 25 Spanish sites
- 80% of districts
- Grades K-5
- 5000+ students
- 1 in 7 kindergarteners

Delaware’s K-12 Immersion Path

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Instructional Content in Immersion Language</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>Grade K-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(50% of the day: minimum 150 minutes)</td>
<td>• Immersion Language Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Math</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>Grade 6-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>(30% of the day: minimum 90 minutes)</td>
<td>• Immersion Language Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grade 6-7</td>
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<td>• Social Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grade 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>Grade 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(15% of the day: minimum 1 course per year)</td>
<td>• AP Immersion Language/Culture</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grade 10-12</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Dual Credit Courses in immersion language</td>
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</tbody>
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Delaware’s Goal: Build Capacity

- 2017 Project Directors Meeting
- In Pursuit of Higher Education for All
Identifying “Communities”

• Families of students
• Local Residents (all languages)
• Immersion Learners
• Non-Immersion Learners
• Administrators
• TEACHERS

Categories of Engagement

• Language Support
• Literacy Development
• Cultural Awareness
• Newcomer Needs
Language Supports

• Strategic Pairs/Strategic Partners
• Student Callers
• HS/ES Language Mentors
• The “Abuelito” Program / Foster Grandparents
• Language Lesson Exchange

Literacy Development

• Storyteller Series’
• Family Literacy Nights
• Family Literacy Series’
• United Way’s Reading Angels Program
• DOE EL Action Plan / Literacy Coalition Partnership
Cultural Awareness

- “Mi Cultura” Teacher Presentations
- Hispanic Heritage Month Partnerships
- Latin American Community Center Programs
- Chinese New Year Outreach
- “Our Culture” Monthly Highlights
Newcomer Needs

- Immigration and Resident Right’s Programs
- La Esperanza Empowerment Sessions
- Mid-Atlantic Equity Center Interactive Webinar Series
- OELA Newcomer Toolkit

Educator Engagement and Support

- Immersion Teacher Preparation cannot keep pace with Immersion Program Growth
- In Delaware, less than 20% of current immersion teachers have taught in immersion prior to taking their position in the state
- Immersion teachers must be both content teachers AND language teachers
An Essential Question

How do we empower teachers without overwhelming them?

DE Professional Learning Framework

DE Professional Learning Structure

- Is ongoing, cyclical, and collaborative
- Is offered for both English and TL teachers
- Addresses both content and language topics
- Is differentiated by grade-level bands
- Includes language proficiency targets for all grades and all skill areas
- Deepens teacher understanding of language acquisition, and ACTFL and WIDA standards
Seaford School District
Two-Way Spanish Immersion in ALL elementary schools
High EL population
(Dominican, Haitian-Creole)

Credit for Native Language Proficiency Project
Many Haitian-Creole and Hispanic students with "Advanced-level" language
Delaware Certificate of Multiliteracy

CTE
Learning that works for Delaware

High school students enrolling in "Biomedical Pathway" with prospects of medical translation
Students enrolling in "Teacher Preparation Pathway" with goals to teach in immersion

Lynn Fulton-Archer
lynn.fulton@doe.k12.de.us

Communication leads to community, that is, to understanding, intimacy and mutual valuing.
— Rollo May