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Funding for Foreign Language Instruction

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A joint effort of NYC Community Education Councils and PTA s

Attendees

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Agenda

- 1) Benefits of Dual Language Learning
- 2) Dual Language Program Challenges
- 3) Educational Opportunities
- 4) Funding for Foreign Language Instruction
- 5) NYC DOE Dual Language and Transitional Bilingual Education Programs
- 6) Types of Foreign Language Programs
- 7) Foreign Language Career Opportunities
- 8) Appendix

Benefits of Dual Language Learning

Research has shown that dual language education provides a number of educational and cultural benefits.

- 1) Cognitive development
 - Bilingual speakers have an easier time: 1) understanding math concepts and solving word problems¹, 2) developing strong thinking skills², and 3) focusing, remembering and making decisions³
- 2) Increases academic performance
 - Native English speakers already on grade level can exceed the achievement of their monolingual educated peers⁴
- 3) Accelerates transition from English Language Learning designation
 - English learners made slightly higher gains per year in typical transitional bilingual programs than they did in typical English-only programs⁵
- 4) Increases career opportunities
 - Bilingual adults have more job opportunities than monolingual adults¹
- 5) Improves cultural awareness
 - Native English-speaking children receive many of the benefits of travel to, and life in, other countries, along with an increased understanding of other cultures⁴
- 6) In certain situations can improve school diversity

¹ Zelasko, N. & Antunez, B. (2000). If your child learns in two languages. National Clearinghouse for Bilingual Education

² Kessler, C. & Quinn, M. E. (1980). Positive effects of bilingualism on science problem-solving abilities

³ Bialystok, E. (2001). Bilingualism in development: Language, literacy, and cognition

⁴ Thomas, C. & Collier, V. (2003). The Multiple Benefits of Dual Language

⁵ Greene, J. P. (1997). A meta-analysis of the Rossell and Baker review of bilingual education research

Dual Language Program Challenges

Dual language programs face a number of challenges that schools, principals, teachers, and students must overcome on a regular basis.

- 1) Lack of dual language classroom funding
 - Schools receive almost no funding for DL programs beyond the baseline per student allocation
 - Schools fund the additional expense out of their existing budget (eg. textbooks, classroom and homework materials, translation, classroom libraries, and online resources all in the targeted language, and professional development)
- 2) Shortage of Certified Dual Language Teachers
 - DL teachers face additional challenges including earning DL certification, securing DL classroom materials
 - Could require “re-tenuring” if transition from Common Branch to a DL license. Potentially at risk to excessing
 - New York City Council Resolution 890-2015 calls upon the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, A.329/S.554, which would require more foreign language instruction in elementary schools and would allocate funding to support college students wishing to become foreign language teachers
- 3) Bluebook utilization capacity
 - Seats in a dual language classroom are not interchangeable with a seat in a non-dual language classroom and should be reflected differently for utilization purposes
 - A monolingual 3rd grade student cannot simply join a 3rd grade DL classroom and be expected to understand the language and content
- 4) Late registration
 - Students cannot join a DL class after 1st (or 2nd) grade unless the student already speaks the language
 - With certain children, if the parents are committed to working with their child to “catch-up”, parents should be given the option to enroll their child in a dual language program
- 5) Lack of advanced DL middle school and high school programs for those who were enrolled in elementary DL classes

Educational Opportunities

An academic path for dual language already exists in our public schools, CUNY and SUNY systems.

- 1) There are 389 NYC DOE public schools (elementary, middle and high schools) that offer 607 dual language and transitional bilingual education programs in 14 different languages (Appendix A).¹ NYC students speak over 160 languages.² In addition the DOE will be announcing additional new dual language programs on May 3rd.

- 2) The New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB) recognizes high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages, in addition to English.³ Districts request a digital copy of the Seal image that is placed on a student's diploma. This Seal identifies:
 - High school graduates with language and biliteracy skills for employers
 - Provides universities with additional information about applicants seeking admission
 - Students with twenty-first century skills

- 3) Dual language education opportunities exist throughout our CUNY and SUNY system and does not require attending an expensive private school or going to an out of state school:
 - There are eight (8) CUNY schools that offer approximately 30 undergraduate foreign language programs covering 11 foreign languages (Appendix B). In addition, schools offer study abroad opportunities themselves and/or through the CUNY Education Abroad program (166 programs in 51 countries)⁴
 - 16 SUNY colleges and universities offer 20 different languages. The SUNY Study Abroad Consortium serves all 64 SUNY campuses, and offers over 1,000 overseas study programs in over 60 countries⁵

(1) NYC DOE 2017-2018 Bilingual Education Programs (Dual Language and Transitional Bilingual Education). Includes 63 Dual Language Pre-k Programs. Does not include Pathway to Education program.

(2) NYC DOE Division of English Language Learners and Student Support 2015 - 2016 report.

(3) www.nysed.gov/bilingual-ed/schools/new-york-state-seal-biliteracy-nyssb

(4) <http://www1.cuny.edu/sites/studyabroad/>

(5) <https://www.suny.edu/studyabroad/aboutus.cfm>

Funding for Foreign Language Instruction

Schools with Dual Language, Transitional Bilingual or enrichment programs receive almost no funding to specifically support students enrolled in bilingual classes.

- 1) Although schools received additional funding to support the needs of their English Language Learners, the Fair Student Funding Formula allocates almost no funds for foreign language instruction. Schools with ELLs in DL or TBE programs receive an additional \$160 (k-8) / \$220 (9-12) per ELL student per year
- 2) Based on the limited information we were able to collect, it is estimated that an elementary school Dual Language class cost \$11,400 more than a general education class¹
- 3) Using the DOE list of 389 NYC DOE public schools, there are an estimated 4,634 dual language classrooms. We estimate the total amount of funding necessary to be on average **\$5,800** per class or **\$26.9 million for the 2018-2019 school year**

Elementary schools would require \$5,700 DL per classroom, using the School Allocation Memorandum weights, middle schools would require \$6,156 (1.08 x \$5,700), and high schools would require \$5,871 (1.03 x \$5,700)

- 4) Schools must draw upon their existing budgets or direct support from PA/PTAs and parents of dual language students to support the additional costs of dual language and enrichment programs:
 - Foreign language textbooks
 - Translation of materials
 - Purchase of foreign language curriculum and materials
 - Foreign language books for both classroom and school libraries
 - Teacher professional development (more expensive and few DoE options)
 - Online resources

¹ Information provided by 2 elementary dual language schools.

Funding for Dual Language and Transitional Bilingual Education

Instruction: \$26.9mm 2018-19 school year

- Elementary school Dual Language class cost \$11,400 more than a general education class
- Assuming a 50/50 ELL vs non-ELL class ratio, elementary schools would require \$5,700 DL per classroom to cover the additional costs of the non-ELL students. Factoring in the School Allocation Memorandum weights, middle schools would require \$6,156 (1.08 x \$5,700), and high schools would require \$5,871 (1.03 x \$5,700)

Type of School	Number of Programs (1) (a)	Grades (b)	DL/TBE Classrooms per Grade (est)(2) (c)	Total DL/TBE Classrooms (a) x (b) x (c)	Per Class Unfunded Cost (50/50 ELL vs Non-ELL) (d)	Total per Type of School (a)x(b)x(c)x(d)
Pre-k	63	1	1	63	5,700	359,100
Early Childhood (k-2)	16	3	1.5	72	5,700	410,400
Elem (K-5)	281	6	1.5	2,529	5,700	14,415,300
HS (9-12)	74	4	1.5	444	5,871	2,606,724
JHS (6-8)	95	3	1.5	428	6,156	2,631,690
k-12 (K-5)	15	6	1.5	135	5,700	769,500
k-12(6-8)		3	1.5	68	6,156	415,530
k-12 (9-12)		4	1.5	90	5,871	528,390
k-8 (K-5)	48	6	1.5	432	5,700	2,462,400
k-8 (6-8)		3	1.5	216	6,156	1,329,696
Secondary (6-8)	15	3	1.5	68	6,156	415,530
Secondary (9-12)		4	1.5	90	5,871	528,390
Total	607			4,634		\$ 26,872,650

PK/K-5	3,231
6-8	779
9-12	624
	<hr/> 4,634

*How can we work together to secure funding for foreign language instruction?
What are the next steps that we can take together?*

(1) Based on NYC DOE 2017-18 Final Bilingual Education Program list as of January 2018 and DOE press release.
 (2) Schools may have 1 or more DL sections per grade. No readily available information to determine exact count of DL classrooms in each grade at each school.

NYC DOE Dual Language and Transitional Bilingual Education Programs

There are 389 NYC Department of Education (“DOE”) public schools across the five boroughs that offer a total of 607 bilingual education programs in 14 foreign languages.¹

School Type	Dual Language	Transitional Bilingual Education	Total
Pre-k	63	0	63
Early Childhood	8	8	16
Elementary	144	137	281
High school	13	61	74
Junior High-Intermediate-Middle	38	57	95
K-12	4	11	15
K-8	32	16	48
Secondary School	5	10	15
Total	307	300	607

¹ NYC DOE 2017-2018 Bilingual Education Programs (Dual Language and Transitional Bilingual Education), plus 63 pre-K Dual Language programs. Does not include Pathway to Education program.

Types of Foreign Language Programs

Schools currently offer four¹ forms of foreign language programs.

1) Dual Language

Students are taught in two languages, English and the targeted language (eg. Spanish, French, Chinese, Russian). The goal of this program is for students to be able to read, write, and speak in both English and the targeted language. In Dual Language classes, English and the targeted language are used equally to support students in achieving and/or maintaining bi-literacy and bilingualism

2) Transitional Bilingual Education

Provides reading, writing, and other classes in English and in the students' home language. As the students' English improves, time spent learning in English increases and time spent learning in the home language decreases. Once students are no longer identified as an English Language Learner, they exit the program

3) Enrichment

Students receive foreign language instruction on a limited basis (eg. 30 mins a week to daily instruction)

4) Computer based learning

Student use individual computerized learning (eg. PowerSpeak) and chose the foreign language

¹ ENL – English as a New Language is focused on teaching a student to read, write and speak in English. However those same students can be enrolled in Dual Language or Transitional Bilingual Education programs.

Foreign Language Career Opportunities

Knowing a second language leads to many potential career opportunities that are not available to monolingual individuals.

NYC and the tri-state area is the home to thousands of US and foreign multinational companies that need people who can speak foreign languages.

- 1) Indeed.com – A search on New York City jobs requiring or preferring foreign language resulted in numerous types of jobs (FBI, foreign language and English teachers, United Nations, foundations, sales, bank branches, translators, social services, Major League Soccer, security, investigators, research analysts, paralegals, department stores, non-profits, business development, business consultants, hospitals). Salaries \$35,000 – \$110,000+
 - “Spanish, New York, NY, 10 miles”, 6,000+ jobs
 - “Chinese, New York, NY, 10 miles”, 1,015+ jobs
 - “Russian, New York, NY, 10 miles”, 584+ jobs
- 2) Monster.com
 - “Spanish, New York, NY, 10 miles”, 1,000+ jobs
 - “Spanish, Brooklyn, NY, 10 miles”, 1,000+ jobs
 - “Chinese, New York, NY, 10 miles”, 480+ jobs
 - “Russian, New York, NY, 10 miles”, 140+ jobs
 - “French, New York, NY, 10 miles”, 160+ jobs
- 3) NYC.gov
 - Spanish – 75 jobs
 - Chinese – 6
 - Russian – 5
 - French – 18
 - Creole – 11

Appendix

Appendix A - Current Dual Language and Transitional Bilingual Education Programs

- 1) Arabic
- 2) Bengali
- 3) Chinese
- 4) French
- 5) Haitian Creole
- 6) Hebrew
- 7) Italian
- 8) Japanese
- 9) Korean
- 10) Polish
- 11) Russian
- 12) Spanish
- 13) Urdu
- 14) Yiddish

Appendix B - CUNY Foreign Language Programs

College	Language Programs
Baruch	Spanish
Brooklyn	French, Italian, Spanish
Hunter	Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Japanese, Polish, Russian
John Jay	Spanish
Lehman	French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Russian, Spanish
Queens	Chinese, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Russian, Spanish
Staten Island	Italian, Spanish
York College	French, Spanish