

# Closing the world language education gap



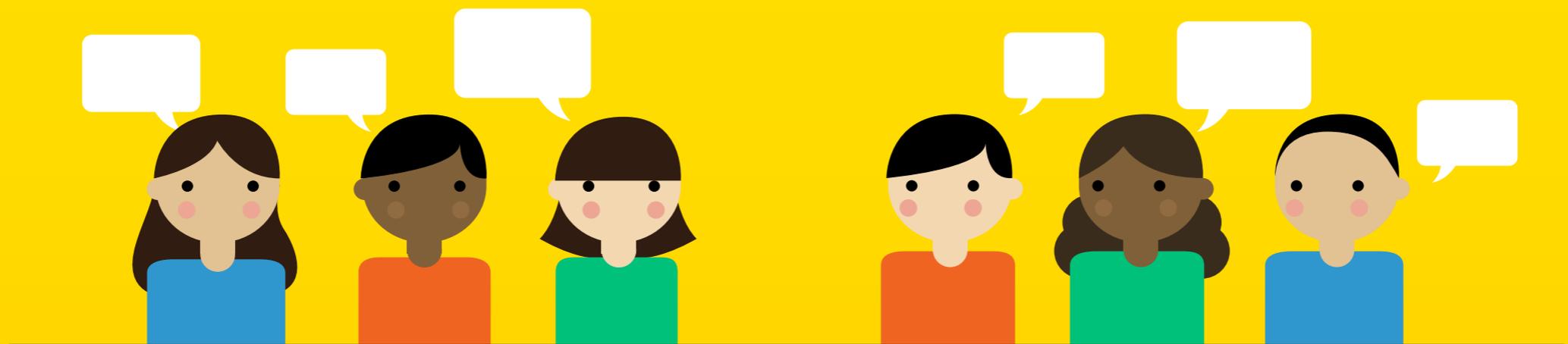
Education



## Closing the world language education gap

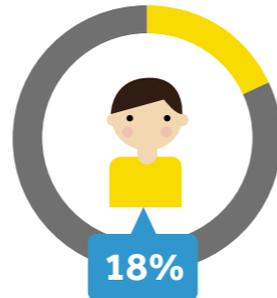
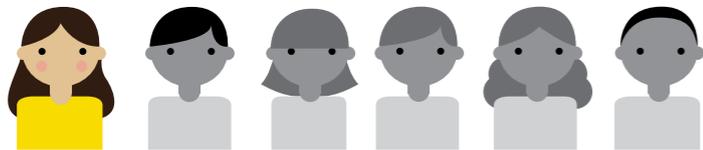
Time and resource allocation for language programs has been shrinking while the need for multilingualism only grows. It is critical that our students remain competitive on the global playing field. As the benefits of a multilingual society become clearer, parents insist that language learning is important for their children's future success.

However, our current education system still lacks the resources to provide all children the opportunity to develop the skills that will prepare them to succeed in an interconnected world. Global competence and language skills are no longer just nice to have—they are essential.

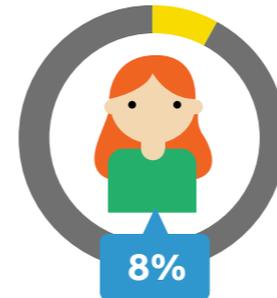


# World language education: a reality check

LESS THAN 18% OF AMERICANS SPEAK A FOREIGN LANGUAGE



of K-12 students study a language.



of college students study a foreign language.



36 states and the District of Columbia have identified foreign languages as a teacher shortage area.

TODAY'S STUDENTS FACE A GLOBAL FUTURE

During their careers, students will:

- Compete for global jobs
- Manage multicultural colleagues
- Collaborate on global teams



BUT THEY ARE NOT PREPARED<sup>1</sup>



Only 9.3% of Americans speak a second language vs. 52.7% of Europeans.



6 in 10 cannot find Iraq on a map of the Middle East.



75% incorrectly select English as the most widely spoken native tongue (it's Mandarin Chinese).

AS A COUNTRY WE CONTINUE TO UNDERINVEST IN WORLD LANGUAGE LEARNING TODAY

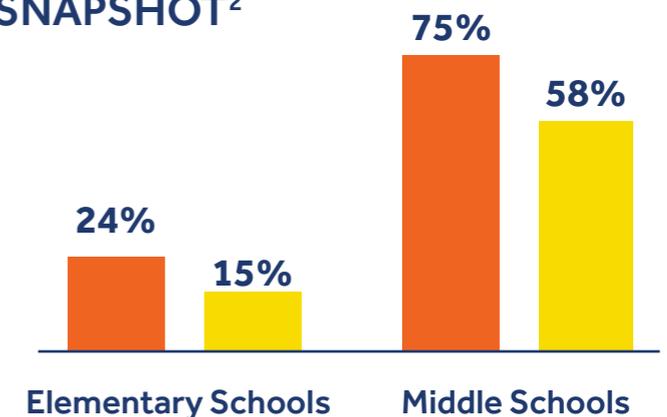
- Elective enrollment
- Decline in programs
- Limited resources
- Too focused on high school
- Limited funding
- Overlook critical Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs)



WORLD LANGUAGE PROGRAM SNAPSHOT<sup>2</sup>

The number of public schools with world language programs in this country has declined.

1997 2008



# Language provides building blocks for life successes



## PARENTS VALUE LANGUAGE LEARNING:



**57%**

of parents think that speaking another language is the most critical skill for the future.

## BUT NAYSAYERS ARGUE THAT:

- English is the lingua franca.
- There is no economic value.
- The opportunity costs are high.
- It is too difficult to offer and learn.



“ To compete successfully in the global marketplace, both U.S.-based multinational corporations, as well as small businesses, increasingly need employees with knowledge of foreign languages and cultures. ”

Committee for Economic Development

“ Language learning is important for every student because of implications for their future. As students are growing up and entering the world of greater diversity, of greater challenges, and greater connectivity with individuals from around the world, language acquisition will be a key to their future. ”

Dr. Mark Edwards, Superintendent, Mooresville Graded School District

# How to increase language learning: a road map



## PREPARE STUDENTS FOR THE GLOBAL WORKFORCE

- Make foreign language study mandatory.
- Increase teaching in LCTLs.
- Use EdTech to spark interest in cultures and languages.



## PREPARE EDUCATORS TO TEACH A CROSS-CULTURAL CURRICULUM

- Include global perspectives in credential programs.
- Integrate language study into training.
- Foster international exchange programs.

## TECHNOLOGY PLAYS A VITAL ROLE

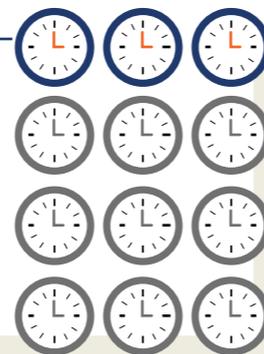


### ASSISTS SCHOOLS IN OVERCOMING CRITICAL BARRIERS

**33%**

of elementary school language instructors are uncertified.

In a 45-minute world language class, all students combined speak only **23.5% of the time.**



## BENEFITS BOTH STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

- Expands chances to build speaking confidence
- Enables pronunciation practice in a safe, friendly environment
- Complements classroom instruction
- Fosters individualized learning

## ENHANCES ANY LANGUAGE PROGRAM

- Increases cultural competence
- Improves 21st-century skills
- Provides 24/7 access



# What is the Rosetta Stone difference?

The Rosetta Stone® Language Learning Suite for K-12 interactive solution combines multiple resources and research-based methodologies to deliver the appropriate instructional support for a broad range of age groups and learning stages, in up to 24 languages. As a result, students gain the language skills they need to thrive in an increasingly cross-cultural and interconnected world.

## STUDENT-CENTERED APPROACH MEETS EVERY LEARNER'S NEEDS



- Immersion environment
- Vocabulary building
- Grammar tutorials and practice
- Authentic materials
- Advanced oral production
- Aligned to standards

## LANGUAGE LEARNING SUITE RESOURCES



- Live Tutoring
- Gamification
- Cultural Activities

## SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS FOR THE CLASSROOM



- Workbooks
- Lesson Planning Tools
- Teacher's Guide
- Scope and Sequence
- Stories with Activities and Questions
- Flash Cards & Memory cards
- Course Content
- Quizzes & Tests

Supplemental materials vary by language

## IMPLEMENTATION MODELS TO FIT ANY CURRICULUM



- Classroom instruction supplementation
- District- or school-wide implementations
- Language lab deployment for self-study
- Fully blended for higher engagement

# Will your students be world ready?



**Increasing students' language skills and global competency is a 21st-century necessity.**

**Today's classrooms will launch tomorrow's global citizens—and language is their key to communication.**

Be part of the solution and join the movement!  
Let's make sure all students have access to proven language programs in school.

**#GetLanguageReady**

## Learn More

Learn how Rosetta Stone can help your school or district close the world language education gap at [k12.rosettastone.com/GetLanguageReady](https://k12.rosettastone.com/GetLanguageReady)

### Sources

1 Asia Society & National Geographic Society, 2006

2 "Foreign Language Teaching in US Schools – Executive Summary," Center for Applied Linguistics, November 2009; Forbes: "America's Foreign Language Deficit," August 2012

## Join The Conversation



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