# Did you know?

HCPSS Elementary World Language Program

Did you know that students who begin language study at an early age have

## Better and more advanced reading skills?

Research suggests that children's knowledge of a second language gives them an advantage in learning to read. Their ability to apply the insights and experiences of one language to the other as well as the wider experience of language is beneficial.

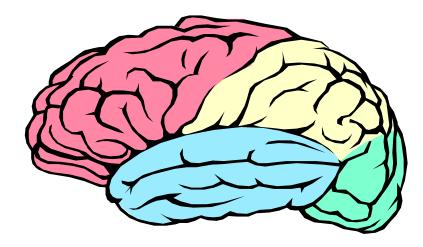


HCPSS Elementary World Language Program

Did you know that early language learning

#### Gives brains a boost?

Research into the effects of second language acquisition on children suggests that exposure to more than one language is an excellent way of flexing those brain muscles—and building them up too. Children who have been exposed to a second language from an early age have significantly larger density of "grey matter" in their brains.



## Did you know?

HCPSS Elementary World Language Program

Did you know that students who begin language study at an early age have

#### Natural-sounding, native-like accents?

Children are always mimicking what they hear, and are surprisingly good at it. They are uniquely attuned to slight differences in tone and sound. Their sensitive ears help them pick up on and duplicate the tricky sounds adults and even adolescents often stumble over. By starting early, your children can speak smoothly, confidently and more native-like.



## Did you know?

#### HCPSS Elementary World Language Program

Did you know that students who begin language study at an early age have

a greater grasp of one's first language—including a bigger, richer vocabulary?

The experience of learning a new language can bring greater understanding and improved grammar to our first language. Knowing the way another language works encourages us to examine our own language's mechanics in a positive way. Students begin to make these comparisons early on. By being able to compare the two, students learn more than they would with one language.



## Did you know?

HCPSS Elementary World Language Program

Do you know why Elementary World Language teachers speak the target language throughout the class?

Research informs us that children learn language best:

- •when meaning can be communicated in the second language without the use of the native language (English)
- •through extended listening experiences and negotiation of meaning
- when the language is used in a relevant, meaningful context



## Did you know?

#### HCPSS Elementary World Language Program

Did you know that native language instruction for heritage speakers of Spanish

## supports academic school achievement?

The strategic use of the students' native language serves as a vehicle for the development of higher order thinking skills. When an English Language Learner's native language is valued as an assist for academic achievement, they are more likely to have increased selfesteem and greater self-efficacy.



#### **HCPSS Elementary World Language Program**

Did you know that children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds and English Language Learners

make the greatest proportionate achievement gains from foreign language study?

Early foreign language study is less dependent on previous verbal learning than most other elements of the elementary school curriculum and this allows some students to succeed who have otherwise experienced repeated failure in school. (Curtain & Dahlberg 2004)



# Did you know?

**HCPSS Elementary World Language Program** 

Did you know that students who learn a foreign language

outscore their non-foreign language learning peers in the verbal and math sections of standardized tests?





**HCPSS Elementary World Language Program** 

Did you know that students who study a second language at an early age

#### derive intellectual benefits such as:

- •greater academic achievement
- increased self-esteem
- increased creativity
- better communication skills
- •greater cultural awareness?

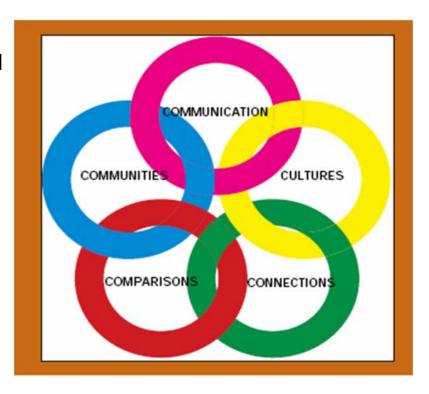




**HCPSS Elementary World Language Program** 

Did you know that the elementary world language program

is aligned with the American Council on the Teaching Foreign Languages (ACTFL) World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages?



# Did you know?

**HCPSS Elementary World Language Program** 

Did you know that language learners build skills and proficiency in four areas of communication?

- Speaking
- Listening
- Reading
- Writing



## Did you know?

**HCPSS Elementary World Language Program** 

Did you know that offering foreign language study demonstrates to ELL students and their families

that languages other than Englishand by extension cultures other that the mainstream- are valued?



# Did you know?

**HCPSS Elementary World Language Program** 

Did you know that bilingualism is associated with more effective controlled processing in children?

The assumption is that the constant management of two competing languages enhances executive functions.

(E. Bialystok, 2001)

