THE BILINGUAL REVOLUTION
WEBINAR SERIES
LOCATING A SCHOOL | MAY 12 | 2PM EST

CULTURAL SERVICES
FRENCH EMBASSY
IN THE UNITED STATES
ROAD MAP TO CREATING A DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM
3 MAJOR PHASES

1. Community Outreach
   Create a base of interested families

2. Locating a School
   Find a principal interested in opening a DL program

3. Launching the Program
   Provide support to the principal to prepare for the launch
Phase 2

Locating a School

Developing a Convincing Rationale and Locating a Host School
AGENDA

1. **Presentation**
   - Questions in Mind.
   - A Grassroots Approach
   - What Parents Want?
   - Advantages for School
   - Advantages for a Community
   - Advantages for Society

2. **Panel 1: Parents**
   - Talcott Camp, Eunjoo Feaster, Maria Kot, Katya Nicolaou, Sylvia Wellhöfer

3. **Panel 2: Principals**
   - Robin Sundick, Jean Mirvil, Sandra Noyola

4. **Discussion and Q&A**
QUESTIONS IN MIND

• How can parents make a difference by starting dual language programs in their communities?
• How can they locate the right school?
• How can they prepare to present the data and their idea to a school community?
• How can they build a proposal that will convince the school principal as well as other appropriate administrators and school authorities?
• In what ways can these programs improve schools and empower communities?
• What is needed to bring the advantages of bilingualism to as many children as possible?
WHAT PARENTS WANT

• access to dominant language and equal opportunity
• sustain one’s heritage
• cognitive development
• professional opportunities

Shared goal: A multilingual society with greater access to languages & cultures.
GRASSROOTS APPROACH

• A **bottom-up approach** which has emerged from a group of motivated parents, committed educators, and the involvement of multiple actors in the community.

• **Inspires and engages parents** into creating more bilingual programs in schools and community centers.

• **Provide coaching** and information for free to parents of young children

• **Involve the community** at all levels
This is bilingual education that returns the power to ethnolinguistic communities and their desire for the bilingual instruction of their children.

-- Prof. Ofelia García, The Graduate Center, CUNY
Foreword to *The Bilingual Revolution*
KOREAN

도로로 다니는 것
물 위로 다니는 것
하늘 위로 다니는 것

인라인스케이트
Jet ski
헬리콥터
Taxi
카약
열기구
버스
장수한
비행기

Hot air balloon
STEP BY STEP TO BUILD A STRONG CASE

When you are granted an interview with a school principal you must:
• Present the data and the project in a very professional way.
• Explain the benefits to the children and the community as being central to your initiative.
• Provide documents that will detail the demographics of incoming families by year and school zone.
• Explain the modalities of securing a dual-language grant from school authorities or from outside partners.
• After having met with a responsive principal, invite other players to come in and show their support, especially other parents, teachers, and community members.
• Reach out to foreign government officials, elected officials, and donors.
Get to know the schools

- Collect data about each school's mission, potential, and needs using first wave of interested parents
- Identify motivated families who have connections with principals and/or parent coordinators

Engage key players

- Who?
  - Principals, parent coordinators, parent advocates, superintendents, city council members
- Where?
  - Department of Education, School Boards, Community Education Council, Community Boards

Build a rationale and present it to interested principals

- Show the benefits for the school and the principal
- Illustrate the benefits for the community
ADVANTAGES FOR SCHOOLS

Implementing a Dual Language Program can have many benefits for a school.
• can give the school access to additional funding from the government.
• leads to the activation of an engaged and dynamic parent pool.
• can bring new opportunities for student enrichment throughout the school.
• Students from dual language programs perform better and obtain higher average results on standardized tests.
• can give a new school or an under-utilized school with empty classrooms a new identity.
• can help relieve overcrowding in already-established competitive schools, by exploring the potential advantage of socioeconomic integration

All of these factors participate in differentiating the school, making it more appealing for incoming students, and boosting their visibility and reputation.
ADVANTAGES FOR COMMUNITIES

Bilingual dual-language / immersion programs can have many benefits for the community:

• increase diversity in the classroom.
• provide integrated, inclusive and unifying educational experiences for students
• provides access to quality programs to children of diverse socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds.
• cultivate relationships among diverse groups of people within a community, thereby bridging traditional identity “barriers.”
• high desirability of immersion programs can act as a draw for families to give their neighborhood school a try.
• can increase education choice and quality in public schools.
• brings very motivated parents willing to take action
• fund-raising capabilities thus revitalizing school and neighborhood.
ADVANTAGES FOR SOCIETY

• Viable 21st Century approach that:
  - advances growth of our societies
  - invests in linguistic heritage
  - raises new generations of multilingual citizens of the world
  - creates jobs for multilingual teachers
  - places parents at center

• Creates an environment that:
  - embraces the cultures of families
  - promotes linguistic heritage
  - facilitates dialogue between parents and schools
  - respects all and helps bridge gaps
PANEL
Q & A
1 – Community Outreach
April 28 – 2PM

2 – Locating a School
May 12 – 2PM

3 – Launching the Program
May 26 – 2PM