

Facilitating Participation in A Global Society

State Student Advisory Council on
Education Subcommittee

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“Speak two languages and you’re bilingual. Speak one?
You’re an American.”

The Problems We Face

- **American students lack proficiency, cultural, and practical geographic understanding in language studies**

What Causes These Problems

- Unqualified, unenthusiastic educators
 - Proficiency standards lack for tenured teachers
 - Educators hide behind or not trained in technology and misapply it's use
 - Intense qualification standards discourage native speakers to teach in public schools
 - Low pay grade
 - Lack of potential school resources

What Causes These Problems

- Reliance on too much “bookwork”
- Sacrifice new teachers in place of excessive technology
- Immediate immersion into language
- Travel to Practical Countries through Study Abroad

General Solutions for A Global Society

- Start Foreign Language Study Earlier
- Study Abroad Programs
- Native Speaking Teachers
- Take Latin Out of Curriculum, add Middle-Eastern/Asian Languages
- More Conversational
- Oral Proficiency Exam
- Extend Class time
- Effective Student Exchange Program
- Introduce "World Religion" class: an objective look at the religious tendencies of countries throughout the world

Country to Country Software

- Direct Foreign Connection through Computer Software
- Through an instant messaging device in the school's computer system
- Enables more native, conversational aspects of language
- Gives accurate cultural picture without traveling to the country

TALC: Technology and Language Communication

- Students are allowed to communicate through a secure, supervised, and direct network with students throughout the world from their very own language labs
- “A Modern Pen pal”: Through visual, oral, and instant messaging communications, students are able to develop the intricate understanding and a depth that is unmatched through a classroom

TALC: How Can This Be Done

- Refurbish existing language labs and increase access to new ones
- Encourage international relations through developing lasting partnerships within the TALC network

World Religions Class

- Institute “World Religions” Class in all public high schools
- An objective look at major world religions, how they impact their native culture and vice versa
- Taught by teachers who have a foundation in world cultures
- Immerses students in the culture of the world and enables a deeper of understanding of the regions of the world

Proposals

- Establish better learning environment by starting earlier with inspiring teachers
- Encourage interactive networks between schools throughout the world
- Establish “World Religions” class in all public high schools in order for students to gain a clearer understanding of cultures and countries throughout the world