



**Foreign Language at
Springhurst
FLES
October 29, 2009**

Outcomes for this evening



- Why implement a FLES program?
- What is the Implementation Plan?
- What does the FLES program at Springhurst look like in action?

This evening's hosts:

–Douglas Berry

Springhurst Principal

–Marj Holderman

Director of Curriculum and Instruction

–Jacqueline Laracuenta

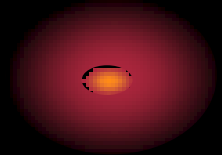
FLES Teacher

–Janet Foresti

Second Grade Teacher



The Importance of Learning a Foreign Language



Importance_of_being_bilingu_1.mp

District Strategic Plan: Global Culture:



Promote intercultural understanding so that our students value and are able to interact with people from different social, cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Action

Promote global communication skills for our K – 12 community through investigation of expansion of our foreign language programs.

Study Group Process

- **Researched best practices and current practices in area schools**
- **Visited FLES program in Harrison CSD**
- **Attended World Languages Conference at Teacher's College**
- **Completed District Foreign Language survey**
- **Foreign language department reflected on current curriculum**



What do we want the students of Dobbs Ferry to know and be able to demonstrate at the end of their study of foreign language in our district? What is the goal(s) of our foreign language program?

The Study Group identified the following goals (expected outcomes) for all our students to achieve through their study of foreign language:

- **To be able to communicate with other cultures.**
- **To gain knowledge and understanding (and respect) of other cultures.**
- **To enable our students to be competitive with other students (locally, nationally, internationally).**
- **To build competence (proficiency) and confidence in another language that they can build upon in higher education.**
- **To maximize all opportunities for all student in all 5 “C’s” – communication, cultures, connections, comparisons and communities (National Standards in Foreign language Education).**



Impact on Student Learning



- **Contributions to brain development**
- **Increased creativity and problem solving skills**
- **Improved memory**
- **An awareness and appreciation of other cultures**
- **Lifelong ability to communicate in a global society**
- **A desire to continue the study of a second language and possibly additional languages**

What is FLES?



- **Presents a second language as a distinct area of learning**
- **Follows the natural sequence of language learning (understanding, speaking, reading, writing)**
- **Primary emphasis is on understanding and speaking**
- **Emphasis is placed on cultural awareness and appreciation**
- **Grammar is learned indirectly (through use) rather than being the focal point of lessons**
- **Usually taught 3 to 5 times per week (75 minutes per week or 90 minutes per cycle)**
- **Instructional techniques feature visuals, manipulatives, songs, skits and games to fully engage the students in the process of communication**

Goals of Springhurst FLES Program



- **Enhance development of reading, writing, listening and speaking skills in English and Spanish.**
- **Acquire an understanding of and appreciation of other cultures**
- **Support other academic content areas.**
- **Build language proficiency with each new year of study.**
- **Further achievement towards state and national language standards.**

Goals of Springhurst FLES Program



- **Build enthusiasm for language learning through early success which will be transferable to all languages.**
- **Promote learning of Spanish at a prime language learning time.**
- **Enhance knowledge of world history and culture and experience increased global awareness.**
- **Build basic communication skills in target language**

Implementation Plan



Year	Program	What it looks like
09-10	<p>75 Minutes of FLES Instruction/week in second grade (15 minutes/day)</p> <p>Continuation of optional 5th grade foreign language exploratory program</p>	<p>15 minutes / day push in – 5 days a week.</p> <p>5th grade morning exploratory 7:45 – 8:30</p>
10-11	<p>Expansion of program to include 75 Minutes of FLES Instruction/week in third grade (15 minutes/day).</p> <p>Continuation of optional 5th grade foreign language exploratory program.</p>	<p>15 minutes / day Push in – 5 days a week</p> <p>5th grade morning exploratory 7:45-8:30</p>
11-12	<p>Expand program to include 75 minutes of FLES instruction/week in fourth grade (15 minutes/day).</p> <p>Continuation of optional 5th grade foreign language exploratory program.</p>	<p>15 minutes / day Push in – 5 days a week</p> <p>5th grade morning exploratory 7:45-8:30</p>
12-13	<p>Expand program to include 75 minutes of FLES instruction/week in fifth grade (15 minutes/day).</p> <p>Elimination of optional 5th grade foreign language exploratory program.</p>	<p>15 minutes / day Push in – 5 days a week</p>

MERCI, GRAZIE, GRACIAS

- **VIDEO**

