

Why DO languages matter?

In response to this question, posed during the 2017 CSCTFL Conference, attendees explained...

<p>Languages are a critical combination of a robust set of skills to connect humanity. Language learning helps make us better communicators, have global perspectives, help brain health and foster every other discipline, as they are the vehicle through which new ideas are developed and shared. Moreover, language learning requires risk-taking, creativity, grit, and dedication towards long term and challenging goals, making it an invaluable and essential component of a world class education.</p>	<p>Languages open the door to the exploration of similarities and differences between cultures.</p> <p>In the process of learning communication skills, one can see how intermingled many cultures are, which can shift perspectives previously held.</p> <p>Languages make the connections around the world more feasible and accessible.</p> <p>Languages tear down invisible borders!</p>
<p>We promote peace when we understand and value each other.</p>	<p>Learning another language enables us to view the cultural perspectives of others.</p>
<p>* International understanding, * Business * 21st Century Skills (Critical thinking)</p>	<p>Languages open doors to the hearts, minds and cultures of the world.</p>
<p>“The sum of all knowledge is not found in one language.” We must show other cultures and peoples that we seek to understand.</p>	<p>Languages create global citizens. Languages enrich and empower!</p>
<p>We are one human race fighting to overcome the barriers between us. Languages start as a barrier but really are <u>bridges</u> to connect us.</p>	<p>It is an essential part of a well-rounded education. It opens up possibilities for some students who may not be successful in other areas.</p>
<p>* They allow people to expand their worldview. * They allow for intercultural communication. We need global citizenship now more than ever and World Languages are a way to become global citizens.</p>	<p>1) Bilingualism and biliteracy, however and whenever acquired, confer lifelong cognitive and educational benefits.</p> <p>2) Languages are vital for national security.</p> <p>3) Languages are increasingly important for job growth across the US.</p>
<p>We are desperate to build bridges and connection among people and cultures for one world. Teachers and our students are the hands and feet of this movement of unity and hope. </p>	<p>So our kids don't grow up to be like... <i>(name of a person... removed so as not to make a political statement)</i> Fill in any name you think is appropriate.</p>
<p>Language is how we filter our reality. More language allows us to better perceive and communicate about the world around us.</p>	<p>In this world, we need to better understand our neighbors, our friends and coworkers! Languages are the first step.</p>
<p>Empathy</p>	<p>Because there is not another way without it.</p>

