

**PROFESSIONAL LEARNING TEAM REPORT
2010-2011**

**EXHIBIT A
5-22-12**

Keywords (for database searching)

Foreign Language Immersion Instruction

Contact Information

Name	School	Grade Level or Subject
Elizabeth Pruitt	Chenery	5 & 7 French
Amy Sánchez	Chenery	5 & 7 Spanish
Carmen Nina Anderson	Chenery	6 & 8 Spanish
Xin Yu	Chenery	5 – 8 Chinese

Guiding Theme

Acquisition of 21st Century Skills

Inquiry Question

How do we use target language immersion experiences to improve students' speaking and listening skills as well as their confidence using the target language?

Process

- 1) Students completed a Survey at the beginning of the school year (prior to introducing the concept of Immersion) so the PLT members could gain an understanding of the students' level of confidence speaking in the target language, as well as their level of understanding of the target language using their listening skills.
- 2) PLT member teachers began conducting all instruction in the target language only at least one day per week (in Grades 7 French and Spanish, Grade 8 Spanish, and Grade 7 Chinese).
- 3) At the end of each Immersion Class, students reflected on that day's immersion experience by commenting on and answering questions about how much they felt they understood, how many times they spoke in the target language, and how comfortable they felt in the Immersion Class environment.
- 4) PLT member teachers created and used a variety of target language based speaking and listening activities to allow students to practice hearing and speaking the target language. Teachers also created and used a variety of speaking and listening assessments to assess students' speaking and listening skills.
- 5) Students completed a Survey at the end of the school year so the PLT members could gain an understanding of the students' current level of confidence using the target language, as well as their level of understanding of the target language using their listening skills following several months of weekly Immersion Classes.

Findings

- Based on the end of year survey results, we found that:
 - 1) Students felt that they have improved "a lot" or "somewhat" in their overall confidence using the target language, their listening comprehension skills, as well as their speaking skills in the target language.
 - 2) Students enjoyed the experience of being fully immersed in the target language, saw the value of target language immersion experiences, and appreciated the challenge.
- The PLT member teachers also found a correlation between students' level of participation and focus during Immersion class; students were more likely to participate over time and needed to focus much more in class in order to understand the teacher's instruction.

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Recommendations / Next Steps

- 1) Continue to conduct instruction in the target language at least one day per week.
- 2) Find more ways to tailor immersion experiences to student needs.
- 3) Find more ways to evaluate students' speaking and listening skills in order to collect "data" that shows students' progress.