Supporting Delaware Immersion Initiatives
Governor’s World Language Expansion Initiative
Preparing a Globally Competitive Delaware Workforce (2011)

• 10-year initiative
• 20 immersion programs
• 10,000 students

DE DoE, 2015
2014-2015
385 Delaware Students
285 Caesar Rodney

2015-2016
5 Chinese schools (K-3)
12 Chinese teachers

Chinese Immersion

DE DoE, 2015
Support Provided by the State

• One-week Immersion Institute for immersion language teachers, English teachers, and program administrators in August
• Quarterly professional development sessions for teachers
• Quarterly instructional coaching visits
• Instructional support and mentoring by the Field Agent for Immersion
Support Provided by the District

- Monthly meetings facilitated by supervisor
- Curriculum support from district resource teachers
- Meetings with English partners
- Sustained professional development by outside consultants
- Parent information nights on proficiency
Building Partnerships
Chinese Immersion Teachers: Needs Projection

DE DoE, 2015
University Collaboration

- Teacher Recruitment
- Volunteer and Observation Opportunities
- Memorandum of Understanding-Certification
Lessons Learned

• Provide sustained professional development that aligns with school, district, and state expectations
• Ensure that professional development focuses on content as well as pedagogy
• Work to create dialogue between the district’s human resources department, your state education agency, and colleges/universities to allow for a smoother transition for immersion teachers from graduation to employment
• Cultivate partnerships with colleges/universities and community organizations to support a more diversified program
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