4 Ways Education Sectors Can Be More Inclusive of Language Learning

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Change Education Policy

Shift the Mindset

Increase Partnerships

Demand More Government Funding

swipe & learn







01 CHANGE EDUCATION POLICY

Make foreign language education a core academic subject in North American primary and secondary schools.



The study of official and foreign languages must be recognised and assessed as core academic subjects like math and science. Primary and secondary foreign language education is mandatory in most European countries; thus, Europeans are some of the most linguistically and culturally diverse people globally. Europe is proof that a change in North America's education policy around foreign language education can benefit learners.







O2 SHIFT THE LEARNER'S MINDSET

Establish a value proposition for foreign language education.

There is a lack of value placed on language learning and foreign language education. We must demand quality language and cultural programs by clearly defining the value proposition for foreign language education

language learning.

For example, programs that recognize heritage languages, bilingual or multilingual immersion programs, and even mother-tongue-based education. Let's shift learners' mindset from finding language learning as "not helpful or relevant" to fostering excitement around mental and social benefits.







03 INCREASE PARTNERSHIPS

Increase partnerships with private language schools, community organisations, and schools abroad



Experiential learning and culture are essential to language education. There are opportunities for partnerships between schools, community organisations, and private language schools to provide after-school language immersion programs, especially when schools may not have the capacity or financial resources to offer language studies. Traveling abroad can be expensive, but the chance to cultivate a language learning and cross-cultural experience in your community is very possible.







O4 DEMAND MORE GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Demand more government funding for language educator's professional development

Professional development for language educators needs to increase. The government should provide the necessary tools and resources to implement innovative language education pedagogies and create curricula and lesson plans relevant to their learners.



The language education industry is ever-evolving, so the government should also invest in training programs for language educators. Also, increased government funding to provide students with overseas experience comes with an increased value proposition.



