The seal of the State of Florida is visible in the background, featuring a central figure holding a scale and a sword, surrounded by a circular border with the text "SEAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA" and "GOD WE TRUST".

# Foreign Language Educators of Northeast Florida Summer Conference

August 3, 2013

Presenter: Chane Eplin, Bureau Chief

Student Achievement through Language Acquisition

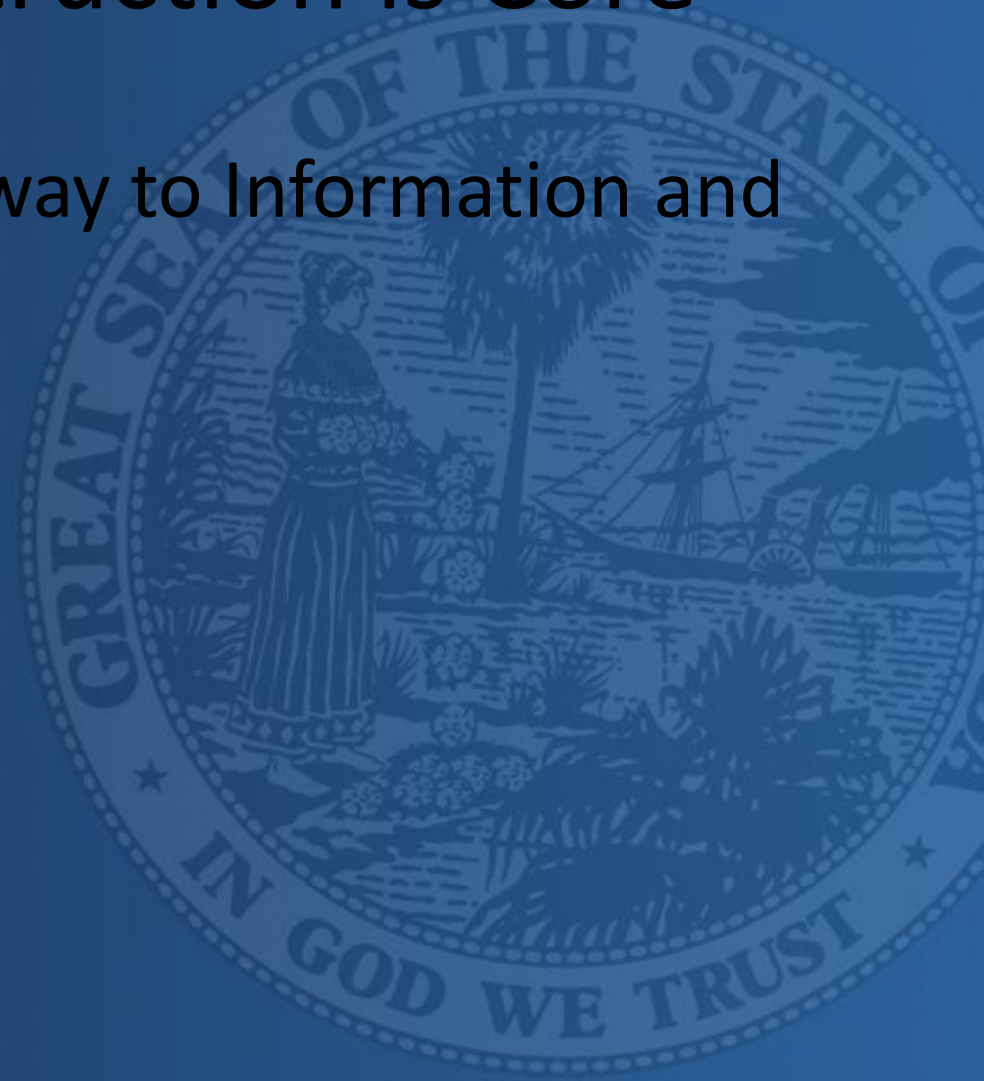
Florida Department of Education

# Monolingualism: The Illiteracy of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Derived from a quote by Gregg Roberts, Utah  
World Languages Specialist

# Language Instruction is Core

- Language is the Gateway to Information and Learning for All.



# Language Instruction is Core

- We Want Our Students to Have Opportunities to Compete in a Global Economy.

The Economist Intelligence Unit report, *Competing across borders: How cultural and communication barriers affect business*, surveyed 572 executives in Europe, Asia Pacific, North America and Latin America.

# The Conclusion?

- “Even when recruiting for jobs in their home market, almost one-half of all companies say that prospective candidates need to be fluent in a foreign language and a further 13% say that multilingual ability is a key selection criterion.” (Economist Intelligence Unit, 2012)

# Language Instruction is Core

- The World is Shrinking Because of Technology.
  - Many credit facebook, a form of social media, with aiding the Egyptian Revolution.
  - Financial service companies can easily trade on a global scale using less manpower.

# Benefits of Bilingualism

- Increases Cognitive Development and Abilities

“Studies of *balanced bilinguals* (bilinguals who have roughly equivalent abilities in the two languages) have suggested that bilingualism has a positive effect on cognitive development, especially under certain conditions of additive bilingualism where both languages are supported academically and emotionally by both the community and the society at large.” (Hakuta & Malakoff, 1991)

# Benefits of Bilingualism

- Improves Metalinguistic Skills

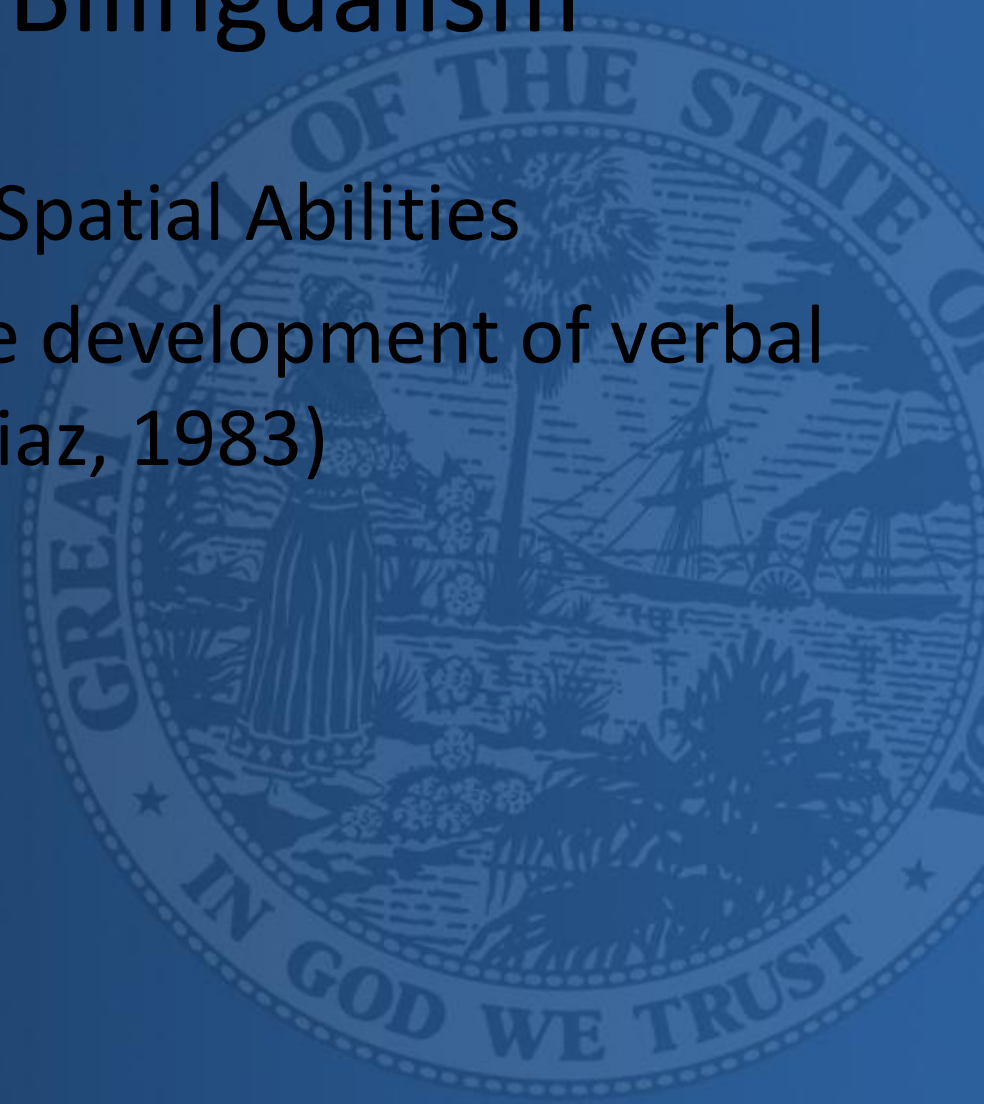
“Previous research has also shown that metalinguistic awareness may be enhanced in bilingual children, because learning two languages may require one to focus on the properties of both languages.” (Davidson & Raschke, 2009)



# Benefits of Bilingualism

- Advances Verbal and Spatial Abilities

“Bilingualism fosters the development of verbal and spatial abilities.” (Diaz, 1983)



# Benefits of Bilingualism

- Augments Memory Skills

“The experience of acquiring and using multiple languages improves bilinguals’ ability to encode novel information relative to monolinguals, while practice managing interlingual competition improves working memory processing and inhibitory control.” (Bartolotti & Marian, 2012)

# Benefits of Bilingualism

- Increases Multitasking Abilities

“People who can master more than one language are building a more resilient brain, one more proficient at multitasking, setting priorities, and, perhaps better able to withstand the ravages of age.” (Hotz, 2012)

# Benefits of Bilingualism

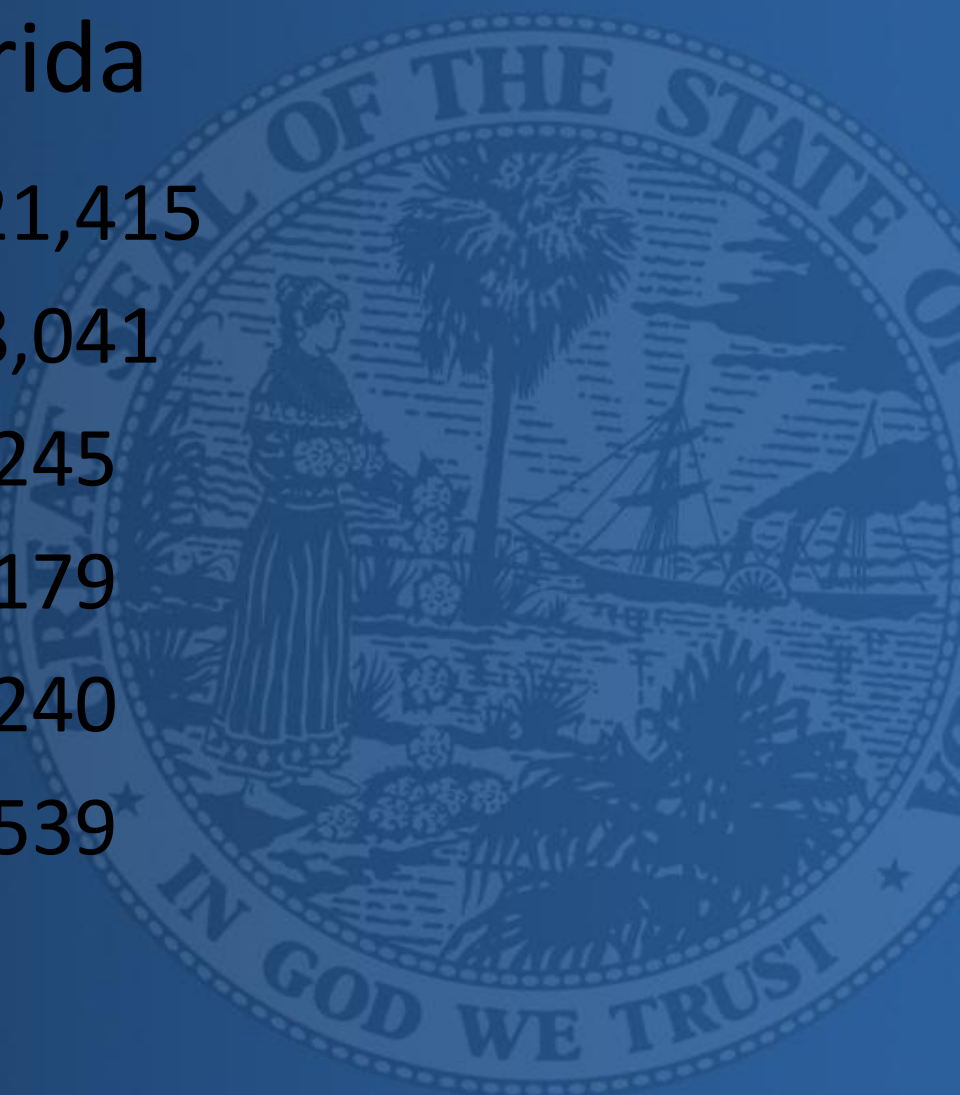
- Often Increases Pay

“Job candidates who are bilingual in both English and another language prove to be appealing to broadening companies, and many of these jobs have bilingual pay differentials, which, according to Salary.com, range between 5 and 20 percent more pay per hour. (Seamon, 2011)



# FLORIDA'S WORLD LANGUAGES PROGRAM

# Top Six World Languages Taught in Florida

The seal of the State of Florida is visible in the background, featuring a woman holding a scale, a palm tree, and a ship, with the text "SEAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA" and "IN GOD WE TRUST".

# Other Languages Taught in Florida

- American Sign Language
- Arabic
- Greek
- Classical Greek
- Hebrew
- Japanese
- Russian
- Portuguese
- Turkish



# Additional World Languages Courses Taught

- Spanish for Spanish Speakers
- Haitian Creole for Haitian Creole Speakers
- Portuguese for Portuguese Speakers
- World Language Humanities for International Studies
- Foreign Humanities for International Studies
- Language and Literature for International Studies



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Note: All requests must be sent in writing.