

Attn: Janice - 425 - 6405

QUESTIONNAIRE

Staffing International Language Programs in Basic Education

1. What is the nature of the shortage of international language teachers in your jurisdiction?

We don't have a problem at the moment as we only operate on Saturday. Most of our teachers are over qualified and trained overseas but are not recognized in Alberta. A small percentage of teachers that not trained in both English and Chinese

2. In which languages is there a shortage?

Cantonese, as most recent immigrants are from China. However, enrollment in Mandarin ~~class~~ is growing while Cantonese is decreasing.

3. At what level (elementary, junior high, senior high) is there a shortage?

Senior.

4. How many new international language teachers are needed each year for the next five years in your school jurisdiction?

About 5

5. How is your school jurisdiction currently addressing this shortage?

There is not ~~is~~ a problem for us at least for the next 5 years.

6. What have been issues in obtaining teacher certification for your international language teachers?

Because we are not under Edmonton Public School Board, basically we can hire anyone we want. We usually hire teachers that certified overseas and about 20% that registered with the Alberta Teacher Association and certified in Alberta.

7. What are possible solutions to any shortage of international language teachers in your school jurisdiction?

So far, we don't encounter any shortage problem and probably won't in the next 5 years.

8. What types of policies would effectively address the shortage?

Suggestion: ~~certify overseas~~ recognize certified teachers from overseas. Have them write an equivalent test or take a one year program (instead of 3-4 yrs) so that they can be certified here.

9. How can we best prepare international language teachers for the future?

- Encourage the younger generation to learn a 2nd language.
- Encourage parents to send their children to learn a 2nd language.
- Have an exchange program available so students can go abroad and have the environment to apply the language they learned here.
- Promote international language to the public.