how & why we aim for

90% In the TARGET OF LANGUAGE

The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) recommends that language educators and their students use the target language as exclusively as possible (90% or more) at all levels of instruction during instructional time and, when feasible, beyond the classroom.

Well...if your student spent the entirety of math class talking about soccer, they might not learn much math! Similarly, if your student and teacher spend the majority of their foreign language class speaking English, they simply are not getting as much of the language and cultural proficiency that they need to be successful communicators.

How?Communication is a two- way street. The student AND the teacher both have responsibilities in a 90%time classroom! Here are some examples of what needs to happen to be successful:

Teachers need to...

Students need to...

Provide visual supports along with oral language

The more visuals, gestures, and actions, the better to communicate meaning



Have eyes & ears on me (teacher)

My students need to keep attention on me, wherever I am in the room.

Teach strategies for using our resources

I need to remind my students or regularly to use their resources and teach them strategies for how to use them



Utilize our resources

My students are encouraged to use visuals & information on the wall, word banks in their folders, songs that jog the memory, etc

Celebrate the effort!

As the teacher, I need to support and celebrate effort on a continual basis



Make the effort

I regularly remind students that being an active participant in class makes the difference in their learning.

Parents can..

- Check in with students and teacher on their progress
- Incorporate
 vocabulary at
 home ask your
 student to speak
 with you or teach
 you a new word!
- Encourage studying and effort at home