

## ***Communication, Curriculum, College Collaboration: Bringing a Diversity of Foreign Languages to Rural Burke County, NC***

A partnership between  
Burke County Schools and Appalachian State Univ.

Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP)  
US Department of Education



### **A three-year, federal grant which funds:**

- professional development and collaboration with all Burke County FL teachers
- teaching materials, resources for innovative projects, textbooks
- articulation of the language curriculum across levels and school types (high school, middle school, elementary school)
- salaries for hiring new teachers to bring French and German to parity with Spanish in the middle schools
- teacher sharing to extend all three languages to elementary school by Year Three

### **Goals of Year One (2007-2008): Planning**

- start collaborations between FL teachers at all levels
- build community, parent, and school support for FL programs
- build excitement for FL by serving some elementary schools via the traveling art (and FLAP!) bus in exploratory program (\*may extend thru June 2008—teacher shortage!)
- address textbook issues/assessment questions (April)
- develop assessment techniques and conduct sample assessments in language classes (May, limited)
- recruit new teachers in French and German (and fill all anticipated vacancies in Spanish by July 1, 2008)
- Summer Institute at Appalachian for all FL Teachers: 3 wks, July 14-August 1, 2008:
  - a content course in each target language (FRE, SNH, GER)
  - Curriculum/Assessment Course/Work Time for all (to refine assessment plans, articulation from Middle to High School)

### **Goals of Years Two and Three (2008-2010): Implementation**

- implement newly-articulated curriculum in all three language at existing high and middle school programs
- implement new programs in French and German at middle schools
- coordinate scheduling/teacher sharing arrangements to bring all languages gradually into the elementary schools
- assess results periodically to monitor success

**FLAP's Fundamental Goals:** Expand number of K-8 children learning a foreign language and make Americans more proficient in foreign languages. Assess what works and replicate it to build capacity!