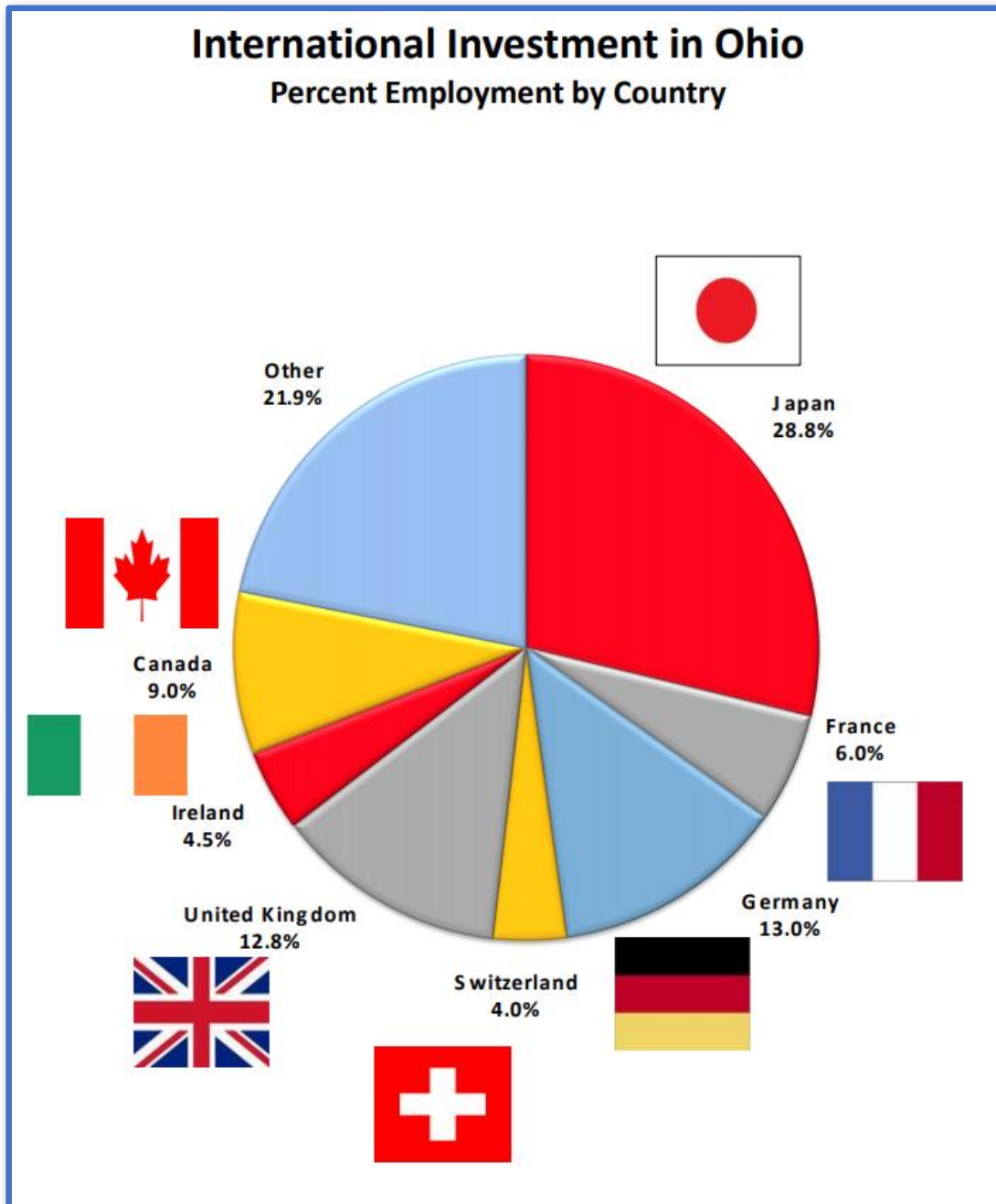

Adding an Italian Program to your High School



Italy = 1.6 % (3968/244,286 employees) (133/3798 international companies in Ohio)

Establishments and Employment by Country

COUNTRY	ESTABLISHMENTS	EMPLOYEES
Japan	893	70,258
Pacific Rim		
Australia	43	2,403
China - Hong Kong	10	1,442
China - Taiwan	9	394
China	39	4,333
India	41	2,893
Malaysia	1	280
New Zealand	14	1,671
Singapore	10	421
South Korea	16	1,198
Thailand	1	60
Germany	563	31,753
United Kingdom	399	31,292
France	204	14,772
Europe		
Austria	23	1,074
Belgium	37	3,996
Czech Republic	1	25
Denmark	24	250
Finland	23	2,467
Hungary	1	2
Ireland	152	10,935
Italy	133	3,968
Liechtenstein	4	167
Luxembourg	242	10,304
Macedonia	1	5
Netherlands	84	3,335
Norway	6	424
Poland	1	5
Russia	1	105
Slovenia	1	6
Spain	12	808
Sweden	51	6,387
Switzerland	136	9,822
Canada	544	22,052
Americas		
Bermuda	4	290
Brazil	8	372
British Virgin Islands	1	2
Colombia	2	640
Curaçao	1	80
Mexico	24	1,727

FIRST STEPS

Information Gathering/Survey:

1. **Interest Level:**
 - a. Is there enough interest from the students to begin an in-school program?
 - b. Is there enough long-term student interest to grow the program to a full 4 years?
 - c. Is it better to begin with an after-school club or program to gauge/spark interest?
 - d. Is it be better to begin in the elementary or middle school to gauge/spark interest?

 2. **Community Buy-in:** Are there parents or community members who would be willing to go before the school board to show their support for a program?

 3. **Funding:** Is the school or district able or willing to fund a growing articulated program over the course of 4 years and beyond?
 - a. What are the costs involved in moving from a part-time to a full-time teacher?
 - b. Is there an FTE available?
 - c. Is there district funding available for instructional materials?
 - d. Is there room in the schedule or building to add another course?

 4. **Outside Funding:** Is there other **sustainable** funding (grants, business partnership) to help support the program long-term?
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Staffing:

5. **Teachers:** Are there licensed Italian teachers available? (approx. 40 in Ohio)
 6. **Course Load:** Is the teacher willing to teach only one or two courses per year?
 7. **Preps:** If the program grows to 4 levels, is the teacher willing to teach 4 preps and still be part-time?
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Considerations:

8. **Colleagues:** How will you handle pushback from other language teachers in the school who already are struggling to keep their programs viable?

 9. **Funding:** How will you handle the view by many district officials that languages aren't as essential as other STEM or state-tested content areas, and that language programs are often eliminated when funding is cut or tax levies fail?

 10. **Relevance:** How will you give concrete data or evidence that learning Italian will help the students in college, career or other areas of their life or future?
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What has worked for successful high school Italian programs?

11. **Community**: a strong tradition of Italian culture, speakers and/or events; student involvement with this community.
12. **Italian Club**: begin with an after-school club or program that could develop into an official program.
13. **Early Years**: begin with a middle school or elementary program that continues to grow.
14. **Non-public schools**: have less constraints on teacher licensure requirements and more direct control on spending.
15. **Teacher Sharing**: find another school/district with whom you could share a teacher and split costs.
16. **College Credit Plus**: students can take Italian as a College Credit Plus course, either at a local university or taught in-house by a qualified teacher. This helps develop a high school-university relationship and alignment.
17. **Blended or Online**: students take blended or online courses led by a qualified instructor.
(Not computer-based programs!!)
18. **Grants**: apply for a state, federal or philanthropic grant to start the program, with the intent to integrate funding into the district budget when the grant ends.
19. **Local Partnerships**: develop a partnership/collaboration/internship program with a local Italian business.
20. **Collaboration**: work with all language programs in the school to develop partnerships or internships with local international businesses, bring in speakers, etc.
21. **Scholarships**: Rotary or other student scholarships, international exchanges to and from Italian schools.
22. **Enthusiasm**: one passionate teacher or leader can spur interest in a full-time program.
23. **Other Schools**: team up interested students/Italian Club with a local school that already has an Italian program