

# World Languages: Why Learn Japanese?

# Why learn Japanese?

Learning Japanese can have both short- and long-term benefits through the introduction and acquisition of a new language and culture. Reasons to learn Japanese:

- Japanese is the 10<sup>th</sup> most spoken language in the world.
- Japan has the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest economy in the world.
- Knowing Japanese will set your child apart from other students who take more commonly-studied languages
- Japanese is a stepping stone to learning other Asian languages
- Learning Japanese is the path for an insider view of the culture, work ethic, and business etiquette of the Japanese people.

#### <u>Japanese in Business</u>

- Exports to Japan account for \$50+ billion of the U.S. GDP each year.
- Japan is known for its technological innovations.
- Some notable Japanese companies are: Toyota, Honda, Nissan, Sony, Canon, Mitsubishi
- International businesses prefer to hire people who speak more than one language.

  Japanese is a huge market, and business leaders are looking for people who can speak Japanese.

## Japanese in the World

- Japanese speakers are the internet's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest language group.
- The Japanese are known as high-tech leaders in fields such as optical media, semiconductor manufacturing and industrial robotics.
- Japanese cultural exports are exploding from anime to sushi bars, karaoke to manga, bonsai to origami.
- The Japanese are international tourists accounting for billions of dollars of revenue in the United States each year.

## Which schools in Fulton County offer Japanese?

- High Schools
  - o Milton HS, Riverwood HS and Roswell HS
- Middle Schools
  - o Elkins Pointe MS, Northwestern MS and Ridgeview MS

#### Is Japanese offered in Fulton County Virtual School?

- No. Japanese is not currently offered in Fulton County Virtual School.