

Policy 6142.2: World Language Instruction

In order to prepare students for global citizenship and to broaden their intercultural understanding and career opportunities, the Governing Board shall provide students with opportunities to develop communicative and cultural proficiency and literacy in one or more world languages.

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend a variety of world languages to be taught in the district's educational program based on student interest, community needs, and available resources.

For any program designed to provide students with instruction in a language other than English to a degree sufficient to produce proficiency in that language, the Superintendent or designee shall establish a process for schools to receive and respond to input from parents/guardians and other stakeholders regarding the non-English language in which instruction will be provided. (5 CCR 11300, 11312)

If American Sign Language courses are offered, they shall be open to all students regardless of hearing status.

The district shall offer a sequential curriculum aligned with the state content standards, state curriculum framework, and, as applicable, California university admission requirements for languages other than English.

Instruction in world languages shall be offered to secondary school students beginning no later than grade 7 and shall be designed to develop students' skills in understanding, speaking, reading, and writing the language. (Education Code 51220)

The district may establish a dual-language immersion program that provides integrated language learning and academic instruction for native speakers of English and native speakers of another language, with the goals of high academic achievement, first and second language proficiency, and cross-cultural understanding. (Education Code 305-306)

The Governing Board shall ensure that students have access to high-quality instructional materials in world languages. In accordance with Board policy, teachers shall be encouraged to identify and use supplemental resources, such as literature, technology, newspapers and other media, dictionaries, and volunteers from the community to enhance the world language instructional program.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development as necessary to ensure that teachers of world languages have the knowledge and skills they need to implement an effective instructional program that helps students attain academic standards, including communicative and cultural proficiency and understanding.

The district shall determine appropriate measures to assess student proficiency in world languages offered by district schools. Students who have attained a high level of proficiency may receive recognition for their achievement.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide annual reports to the Governing Board regarding the effectiveness of the district's world language program which may include, but not be limited to, whether the district's world language program is serving the grade levels required by law, a description of the district's curriculum and the extent to which it is aligned with the state's content standards and curriculum framework, student achievement of district standards for world language instruction, and student participation rates in each language course. Program evaluation shall be used to identify needed improvements and may be considered in determining the world languages to be taught in the district.