NEW JERSEY WORLD LANGUAGES CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK
A Document in Support of the Core Curriculum Content Standards for World Languages

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CURRICULUM
FRAMEWORK

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The New Jersey World Languages Curriculum Framework, like the standards themselves, is intended to be a “living” document, subject to periodic review and revision. Comments and suggestions regarding the Framework should be submitted to the New Jersey State Department of Education (Attention: World Languages Coordinator).
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The New Jersey World Languages Curriculum Framework is a resource and guide for educational communities as they restructure their schools to align existing world language curricula with the Core Curriculum Content Standards. The standards reflect the goals for world language learning and are the basis for the future of well-articulated, extended-sequence world language programs in the state of New Jersey. These standards ensure not only a vertical articulation from one grade level to the next, but also a horizontal articulation reaching across the entire school curriculum. Students will be expected to develop communicative and cultural competence in a language in a progressive fashion along the continuum of the learning process. Students will use language to access information and resources. In addition, they will transfer knowledge acquired outside the world language classroom to the language learning process.

New Jersey emphasizes the importance of every student linking school-based learning with a career theme and having both school-based and work-based learning experiences. The five Cross-Content Workplace Readiness Standards are therefore included in this World Languages Framework.

This Framework is designed to be used by educators who practice in a variety of teaching environments from Kindergarten through Grade 12 (e.g., world language teachers/specialists and classroom teachers). Administrators, school board members, parents, local business leaders, and members of the community are also urged to utilize this Framework to assist them in creating and communicating a district vision of standards-driven world language classrooms. Participation in both the process and outcomes encourages the development of new strategies, the finding of additional resources, and a sense of energy and commitment to the teaching and learning of world languages.

This document presents broad, overarching concepts and ideas to assist in the development of district goals, curriculum, and instruction. It provides an overview of new instructional strategies and assessments that will enable educators to create supportive and effective learning environments.

This Framework acknowledges the practical difficulties involved in implementing an articulated sequence of K-12 world language programs. The guidelines and resources offered in this document will facilitate this transition process. The driving force in making the vision of the standards a reality is the belief that all New Jersey students should become functionally fluent in at least one world language other than English, as well as skilled in negotiating in other cultures as they make the transition from school to their life's work.
VISION: A NEW BEGINNING FOR WORLD LANGUAGES IN NEW JERSEY

The New Jersey World Languages Curriculum Framework envisions the following:

- A well-articulated K-12 world language program that prepares all students to actively and effectively participate in the dynamic global community of the 21st century

- A continuous sequence of language learning, firmly grounded in research on second-language acquisition, that is integrated into the core curriculum

- An instructional sequence that provides opportunities to use language through meaningful, interactive experiences, enriched by culturally authentic content, and transacted as a cumulative and spiraling process
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