

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION**

Literature describing the world of the 21st century contains many references to the growing importance of communication skills, including the ability to speak more than one language. With the ability for instant communication around our globally-interdependent world, there is an increasing need for United States leaders and workers who are bilingual or multilingual, and who can communicate effectively with the peoples of many nations.

The Governing Board recognizes the need for the District to develop and implement a plan to utilize available resources to provide all students with conversational experiences in a second language.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a plan based on the following objectives:

1. Establish a K-12 program designed to foster students' development of conversational skills in at least one language other than their native language.
  - a. Promote second language acquisition to begin no later than Grade 8 for optimal time necessary to develop competency and proficiency in the foreign language.
  - b. Develop a cultural awareness component as an integral part of each foreign language program.
  - c. Develop informative and summative assessments and benchmarks for all levels.
2. Provide teacher training in the area of communications-based instructional strategies for second language acquisition for all levels.

*(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)*

*(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)*

*(cf. 6141.6 - Multicultural Education)*

*(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)*