



MINNEAPOLIS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Urban Education. Global Citizens.

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Re: World Language High School Placement Process

Dear Parents,

This letter is to inform you about the high school placement process for your 8th grader in a world language class. Your 8th grader's language teacher will use the established criteria to make recommendations for your son or daughter to be placed into an appropriate level language course at their high school. The recommendation process begins in March. It is advised that students and parents become familiar with the expectations and the process for recommendations so that your son or daughter's transition into a high school language course goes smoothly. We want to ensure your son or daughter's language learning is articulated, and that he or she is placed into the most appropriate level where he or she will continually develop language proficiency without disruptions.

Please refer to the MPS World Language's website to review the criteria: <http://worldlanguages.mpls.k12.mn.us>

- Placement criteria assumes that students have learned the language through a **standards-based, communicative approach in a sequential program**. (i.e., 6th grade, every other day, 7th & 8th grades, every day.)
- Programs that meet only quarterly **may not** prepare students to advance into Level 2 or Level 3. This means students are more likely placed into Level 1.

Level 2 placement:

- Typically a student who has studied **the same language every day for the minimum of 2 years** should meet the placement criteria for Level 2.
- In some unique cases, a student who has had only one year of the language study might qualify for Level 2 placement depending on the language skills that he or she has acquired through outside of classroom experiences.

Level 3 placement:

- A student who has had a **solid language learning experience for 2-3 years (class met daily, etc.)** might meet the Level 3 criteria.
- In some cases, a student who has had extra exposure to the language through extra-curricular activities, study abroad program, or extended language camp might demonstrate language proficiency that meets the criteria for Level 3 or higher placement.

In spring, your son or daughter will receive a World Languages Teacher Recommendation Form from his or her language teacher. This form will indicate the level for which your son or daughter will be recommended.

If you have any questions about the process or criteria, please contact your language teacher or refer to the webpage above. You can also contact the World Language Content Specialist, Ayumi Stockman, at ayumi.stockman@mpls.k12.mn.us or 612-668-0669.