

# NORTH BRANFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Essential Curriculum

### World Language

#### *Grades 9-12*

The primary goal of World Language Instruction grades 9-12 is proficiency. Language proficiency offers students the personal satisfaction of acquiring practical marketable skills, in order to function in a global society. The World Language program promotes an awareness of multicultural similarities and enforces the Major Goals of the National Standards of Foreign Language Learning. There are six domains:

- Communication
- Cultures
- Connections
- Comparisons among Languages
- Comparisons among Cultures and Communities

The World Language program offers all 9-12 grade students the opportunity to study Spanish, Italian or French. Upon completion of grade 12, students will be able to:

#### **1. Use another language to communicate with others.**

- Exchange information about current and past events.
- Exchange information concerning their personal lives and the lives of their friends, families and others within the community.
- Exchange information about international current events based on newspaper or magazine articles, television and radio programs, videos, films and Internet resources.
- Compare and contrast how information is reported in both the target and native cultures.
- Participate in culturally appropriate exchanges.
- Work in groups to develop solutions to problems.
- Exchange opinions on a variety of topics.
- Share their personal reactions and feelings about authentic literary texts.
- Discuss their personal feelings and ideas with members of the target culture in order to consider alternate viewpoints.
- Employ rephrasing and circumlocution to successfully communicate their messages.

#### **2. Understand what others are trying to communicate in another language**

- Understand the main ideas and relevant details of extended discussions.
- Understand the main ideas and relevant details of multimedia presentations.
- Comprehend the main ideas and relevant detail of live presentations.
- Recognize the characters, comprehend the main plot and relevant subplots of authentic literary texts.
- Comprehend the main ideas and significant details of full-length articles in print.

#### **3. Present information, concepts and ideas in another language in a way that is understood.**

- Prepare oral presentations on topics of current or historical interest.
- Perform scenes from plays and poems.
- Prepare oral and/or written analyses of themes found in literary texts.
- Describe, explain, and express opinions about multimedia texts.
- Write letters to peers in the target culture.
- Use a dictionary written entirely in the target language.

#### **4. Use an understanding of culture to communicate and function appropriately in another culture.**

- Identify and analyze products and practices of the target culture.
- Identify and discuss expressive forms of the culture in order to explore their effects on the larger community.
- Interact with a variety of cultural texts that reflect both peer and adult activities.
- Identify and discuss various patterns of behavior indicative of the target culture.
- Identify, discuss and analyze perspectives that are related to the target culture.

**5. Use an understanding of another language and culture to reinforce and expand their knowledge of other disciplines, and vice versa.**

- a. Use information acquired from other school subjects to complete activities in the World Language classroom.
- b. Acquire more complex and abstract information from a variety of authentic sources and integrate it into the World Language classroom.
- c. Analyze similarities and differences among sources.
- d. Use new information and perspectives gained through world language study to expand their personal knowledge.

**6. Use an understanding of another language and culture to broaden and deepen their understanding of that language and culture.**

- a. Use multiple media resources to analyze aspects of the target culture.
- b. Access and analyze materials for work on the target culture or language.

**7. Demonstrate an understanding of the similarities, differences and interactions across languages.**

- a. Analyze various elements of the target language.
- b. Evaluate the style of a communicative interaction in the target language.
- c. Cite evidence to support conclusions in both written and oral communication.
- d. Read and comprehend longer, more complex texts in abridged formats.
- e. Use a writing process that includes self-assessment and discussion with other students.
- f. Produce a range of written work that is coherent and accurate.

**8. Demonstrate an understanding of the similarities, differences and interactions across cultures.**

- a. Discuss and analyze different forms of communication across cultures.
- b. Compare and contrast the treatment of current issues across cultures.
- c. Analyze how other cultures view the role of the United States in the world arena.
- d. Use new information and perspectives to compare and contrast their experiences with peers of the target culture.
- e. Use new and evolving information and perspectives to demonstrate empathy and respect for the people(s) of other cultures.
- f. Evaluate the effectiveness of communication based on cultural elements.

**9. Use knowledge of language and culture to enrich their life and broaden their opportunities.**

- a. Communicate with members of the target culture.
- b. Establish and/or maintain interpersonal relationships with speakers of the target language.
- c. Use their target language skills and demonstrate cultural understanding.
- d. Use various media from the target language and culture for personal enjoyment.
- e. Read literature, listen to music, view films, and websites in the target language for entertainment.