

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Patrick Podgorski

TO: Dr. Griff Powell & Dr. Kyle Schumacher and District 301 Board of Education

CC: Stephen Buchs.

DATE: April 10, 2025

RE: Illinois Seal of Biliteracy & State Commendation Award Winners

Central District 301 is proud to present the current 2024-2025 State Seal of Biliteracy Award Winners & State Commendation toward Biliteracy Award Winners.

The State Seal of Biliteracy is a recognition given to graduating high school students who have demonstrated a high level of proficiency in English and in reading, writing, listening and speaking in another language(s). The Seal is affixed to the diploma and designated on the transcript.

The State Commendation toward Biliteracy is a recognition given to graduating high school students who have demonstrated significant progress towards achieving a high level of proficiency in English and in reading, writing, listening, and speaking in another language.

Students may apply for the Seal or Commendation during any year in high school, but Seals and Commendations will only be awarded at graduation, if their scores are verified. Participation for the Seal is open to all Central 301 high school students, including students who learn another language outside of school.

Illinois public universities will accept the State Seal of Biliteracy as equivalent to two (2) years of foreign language credit if a student's high school transcript indicates that he or she received the State Seal of Biliteracy. Students also can earn college credit, distinguish themselves on resumes and college applications, earn scholarships and help to continue their understanding of meeting advanced language goals.

Seniors receiving the State Seal of Biliteracy this year are:

1. Shub Shah - German
2. Mateusz Plazcek - German & Polish
3. Jackson Wipperfurth - German
4. Teagan Cathcart - German

5. Parina Soni - German
6. Damian Sternak - Polish
7. Mia Estrada - Spanish
8. Andres Quesada - Spanish
9. Michahela Aguirre - Spanish
10. Rafael Rojas - Spanish

Seniors receiving the State Commendation for Biliteracy this year are:

1. Ethan Ringa - German
2. Luke Vanoss - German
3. Parv Mehta - German
4. Andres Quesada - German ***Also Seal for Spanish
5. Jayden Beecroft - Spanish
6. Bella Braasch - Spanish
7. Layla Carley - Spanish
8. Kassim Musoke - Spanish
9. Daniel Rodriguez - Spanish
10. Sydney Teresinski - Spanish
11. Maylin Wang - Chinese

Congratulations to these 20 students on their hard work and dedication to continuing their education in multiple languages. We are proud of these students who represent both heritage learners and foreign language learners and look forward to seeing what else they accomplish.