



Good Afternoon, Board Members and SPSD Community,

Mrs. Melanie Olk, our district EL/Multilingual Coach/Teacher has been working hard to put our district and students on the map for the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy. Two of SASA's students have been awarded the seal, Khushpreet Kaur Ghotra and Mankisha Kaur Ghotra. Heather Essex, the counselor at SASA assisted in providing the necessary documents. SPSD has never had this recognition before, and we hope to continue to pursue the Michigan Seal of Biliteracy for other students as this is an honor to be celebrated! We would like to honor these students in front of the Board of Education, and during future graduation ceremonies.

The Michigan Seal of Biliteracy (MI-SoBL) has been created to recognize high school graduates who exhibit proficiency in English and at least one additional world language via several approved pathways. The MI-SoBL has been created to encourage students to study world languages and embrace their native and heritage languages. The MI-SoBL will provide employers with a way to identify individuals with strong language and biliteracy skills. The MI-SoBL may serve as an additional tool for colleges and universities to recognize applicants' language abilities for admission and placement. This website provides information to students, parents, teachers, and administrators about the MI-SoBL with the goal of creating greater equity and access to this award.

<https://www.michigan.gov/mde/services/flexible-learning/michigan-seal-of-biliteracy>

Please celebrate this great success with our students and their families!

Jennifer Nichols
Executive Director, State & Federal Programs/PD
Saginaw Public School District

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