

Curriculum/Instruction Subcommittee

Monday, January 22, 2024 7:00 PM

Meeting Access: Curriculum Subcommittee (1/22/24 at 7:00 p.m.) Web:
<https://zoom.us/j/95267000653> Dial In: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 952 6700
0653, 3 Brush Hill Road, New Fairfield, CT 06812

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ELECTION OF CHAIR

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

III.A. November 27, 2023 – Regular

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

IV.A. World Language Presentation and Discussion

IV.B. Strategic Planning Update

IV.C. Adaptive Physical Education

IV.D. Reading Pilot Update

V. ACTION ITEMS

VI. OTHER

VII. ADJOURNMENT

BOARD OF EDUCATION, NEW FAIRFIELD, CT
Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting

Name of Subcommittee: Curriculum

Meeting type: Regular

Date of Meeting: 11/27/23

Minutes submitted by: K. Baker

Members present: Kathy Baker, Tim Blair, Greg Flanagan

Members absent: Stephanie Strazza

Other attendees: Ken Craw, Allyson Story, Dominic Cipollone, Amy Johnson, Ed Sbordone

Meeting Access: Curriculum Subcommittee (11/27/23 at 6:00 p.m.) Web: <https://zoom.us/j/97223979183>

Dial In: (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 972 2397 9183

Meeting called to order: at 6:00 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 23, 2023 – Regular Meeting

Tim Blair stated that he was at the meeting, not that he was absent.

Motion: To approve the minutes of October 23, 2023, as revised

Made by: Kathy Baker

Seconded by: Greg Flanagan

Recording of vote: All in favor

III. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Kindergarten Age Requirement Update - Allyson Story presented the process for how the waiver was developed and will be implemented. Fifty-six children are eligible to apply for the waiver for 2024. Thirty-five parents responded that they would apply for the waive, eleven responded no and ten are not sure. We are aiming for registration to open on Dec 10, 2023. Waiver assessments for students born Sept. 2, 2019 - Dec 31, 2019, will be held on January 2-9, 2024. We will hold a mini-K session to evaluate the children in different play scenarios. All parents seeking a waiver need to submit by December 22, 2023. Assessments will be play-based in nature to assess kindergarten readiness skills in the areas of literacy, numeracy and social skills. Parents will be given a parent information survey to complete as part of the process. All waiver decisions will be made by January 12, 2024. It will be difficult to add an additional teacher with the budget constraints. Parents will know prior to the PreK lottery process.

IV. ACTION ITEMS - none

V. OTHER - Preview of future meetings:

- Update on reading waiver in December.
- Look at world language program and recommendations to strengthen the program.

Motion to adjourn: Made by: Kathy Baker

Seconded by: Greg Flanagan

Recording of vote: All in favor

Meeting adjourned at: 6:28 p.m.



World Language Continuous Improvement Plan

Curriculum Committee
January 22, 2024



World Languages at New Fairfield Public Schools - Current

| | Spanish | French | Italian | Chinese |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 6th Grade | Exploratory | Exploratory | | |
| 7th Grade | ✓ EOD | ✓ EOD | | |
| 8th Grade | ✓ EOD | ✓ EOD | | |
| High School | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

EOD = Every Other Day

World Languages Enrollment at New Fairfield Middle School



| 2023-24 | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | Spanish | French |
| 6th Grade <i>Exploratory</i> | 165 (one semester) | 165 (one semester) |
| 7th Grade | 98 | 44 |
| 8th Grade | 86 | 59 |



In our High School program, the current enrollment is as follows:

| | Spanish | French | Italian | Mandarin | Latin |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Level I** | 37 | 7 | 39 | 8 | - |
| Level II (including Honors) | 90 | 8* | 44 | 23 | 10 |
| Level III | 58 | 27* | 26* | 9* | 10* |
| Level IV Honors | 26 | 5 | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| AP Language | 22 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| AP Literature | 4 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| TOTAL Enrollment | 237 | 46 | 114 | 44 | 21 |

For Italian, Latin and Mandarin, Level III is Honors and there is no Level IV.

Current HS staffing: 2.2 FTE Spanish (includes .2 chair), 1.0 Italian, 1.0 French, .8 Mandarin .4 Latin

**Honors challenge available to students*



What is a Level I Course?

Introductory courses designed to provide students with exposure to the four basic skills of language acquisition:

- reading comprehension
- listening comprehension
- speaking
- writing.

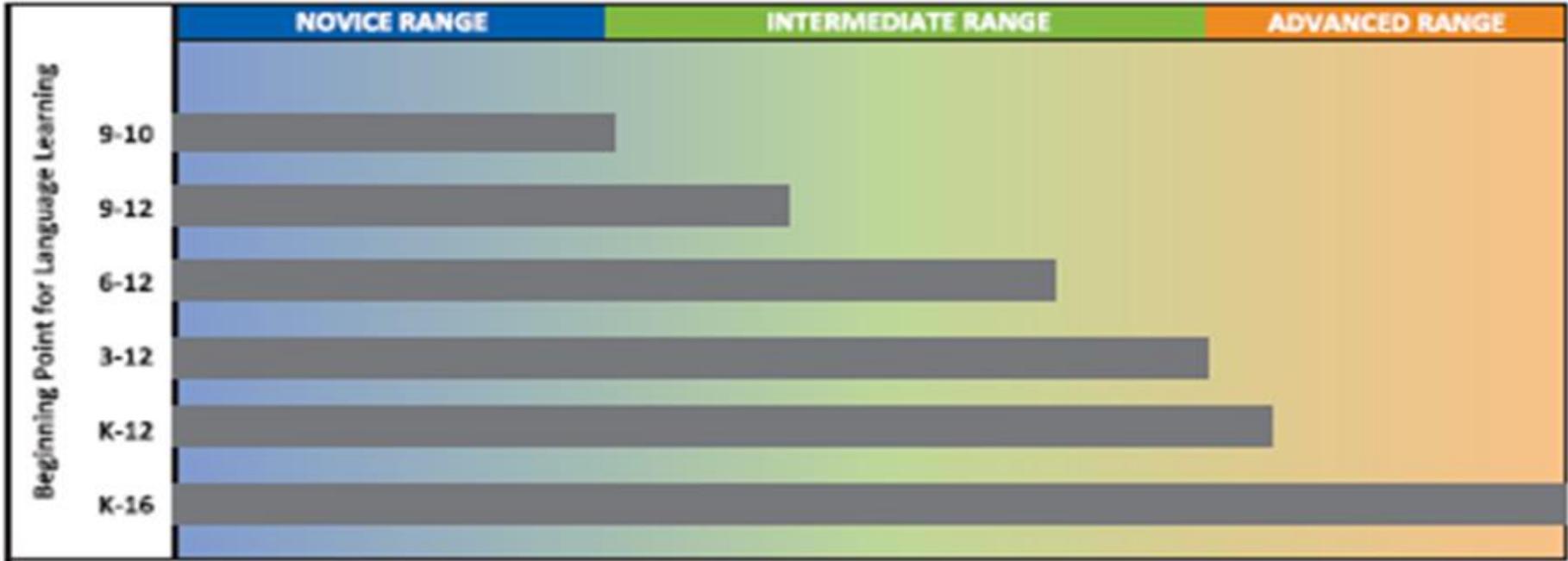
Students are expected to attain a level of proficiency equal to the Novice High.

Sampling of World Language Programs in Fairfield County



| District | Elementary | Middle School | High School |
|------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Brookfield | K-5 - push in on a 6-day cycle. (55-70 min. per week) | 6th - EOD (22 min.) 7th & 8th - Daily (44 min.) | 82 minute block |
| Bethel | N/A | Daily | 80 minute block |
| Ridgefield | Just announced K-5 WL in Ridgefield Press article. 12/16 (3-year roll out) | Daily | 80 minute block |
| Newtown | Spanish begins in Kindergarten | Daily | 3 to 4 times per week, 55 minutes |
| Wilton | French and Spanish begin in 3rd grade | Daily | 86 minute block |
| Weston | K-2 meets 10 min. 4 out of the 5 days 3-5 meets 2 to 3 times week, 30 min. per session | Daily | 60 minute blocks |

Time for language acquisition matters



Source: ACTFL Performance Descriptors for Language Learners

Recommended timeline for expanding World Language program at NFPS



Year 1 (2024-2025)

- Grade 5 will choose Spanish or French and begin their course of study during their 6th grade.
(Full year course, meeting EOD)

Year 2 (2025-2026)

- 6th Grade:
(EOD or Daily)
- 7th Grade:
(Daily Spanish I or French I)
- 8th Grade:
(Daily Spanish II or French II)

Year 3 (2026-2027)

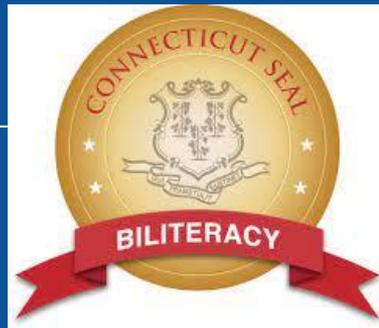
- Grades 3-5 to receive Spanish
60 to 90 min. per week

Year 4 (2027-2028)

- Consider Grades K-2 to receive Spanish instruction
40 min. per week.

The overall goal of WL in Cons/MHHS is to develop proficiency and to be effective, confident communicators in the target language.

Success measured by the number of graduates to achieve a Seal of Biliteracy by their graduation date.





Staffing planning

| | Middle School | MHHS | CONS |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Year 1 <i>(2024-2025)</i> | 0 FTE (cost neutral) | | |
| Year 2 <i>(2025-2026)</i> | 1.0 FTE | | |
| Year 3 <i>(2026-2027)</i> | | 1.0 FTE | |
| Year 4 <i>(2027-2028)</i> | | | .6 FTE |

Curriculum Planning



| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Year 1 <i>(2024-2025)</i> | Spanish 6 & French 6 to focus on basic skill acquisition in 2 areas: Interpersonal and Interpretive Communication |
| Year 2 <i>(2025-2026)</i> | Evaluation of Spanish IA/B and French IA/B to determine pacing of skill acquisition. Introduction of additional standards (Presentational Communication) and expansion current ones. |
| Year 3 <i>(2026-2027)</i> | Creation of new curriculum (Spanish K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) based on Comprehensible Input (CI) in order to foster students' familiarity with language acquisition as well as develop confidence in speaking skills. |
| Year 4 <i>(2027-2028)</i> | |



Questions