

Dear Parent(s),

September 2020



Welcome to an exciting new school year! We in the World Language Department are eager to work with your child to continue developing his/her language abilities.

We would like to take this opportunity to share some **important information about 7th grade World Language** since your child's achievement this year impacts the choices that he or she will have regarding the continuation of Spanish or German during 8th grade.

A few important things to know about 7th grade World Language....

- 7th grade is the last year in which students in HASD are **required** to study a World Language. (It is optional in 8th grade and beyond.)
- The 7th grade World Language curriculum begins introducing students to concepts traditionally taught in a first-year high school level course. Classes at this level become a bit more academic (less exploratory) in nature. Beginning in 7th grade, **it is very important for students to start building a foundation of key language concepts** to ensure a smooth progression to the next level language class.
- 8th grade World Language courses are a **continuation** of 7th grade. The 8th grade curriculum includes higher level content and moves at a more rapid pace. As such, **demonstrating proficiency with 7th grade concepts is a pre-requisite for enrollment in 8th grade World Language.**
- At the end of this school year, your child's Spanish or German teacher will make a **recommendation** regarding placement into 8th grade World Language.

Recommendations will be **based on** several factors, including:

- **positive classroom involvement** (*practice work / life skills*)
- **mastery of World Language standards throughout the year**
(*World Language Standards are shown in the chart on the back side of this letter. Those marked with an asterisk (*) are 7th grade World Language Power Standards. All students must demonstrate Mastery in these Power Standards by the end of the year to successfully complete 7th grade World Language. Students wishing to progress to 8th grade World Language must consistently demonstrate Mastery in all standards listed, both Power and non-Power Standards.*)
- **Essential Skills post-test**
(*This assessment is an additional tool designed to gauge student proficiency with key 7th grade concepts. It will be administered as a pre- and post-test during the 7th grade year.*)

Please **sign and return this form to Ms. Krizike** in order to acknowledge that you have received this letter and discussed its content with your child. If you have specific questions regarding this information and/or 7th grade World Language, please contact any of the individuals listed below. Thank you!

Lisa Krizike
Spanish teacher
GMS

Heather Feltz
German teacher
HMS

Sabrina Hayen-Infante
Spanish teacher
HMS/GMS

Jessica Kernen
German/Spanish teacher
GMS/HMS

Student Name & Class Hour

Parent Signature



HASD WORLD LANGUAGE STANDARDS

	INTERPERSONAL CONVERSATION:	Students can engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
*	INTERPRETIVE LISTENING:	Students can understand and interpret a language other than their own in its spoken form on a variety of topics.
*	INTERPRETIVE READING	Students can understand and interpret a language other than their own in its written form on a variety of topics.
	PRESENTATIONAL SPEAKING:	Students can present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners on a variety of topics in a language other than their own.
	PRESENTATIONAL WRITING:	Students can present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of readers on a variety of topics in a language other than their own.
*	CULTURE:	Students can demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices, perspectives, and products of the cultures studied.