

Dear Parents and Guardians of Grade 6 Students:

The World Language program is a two-year program that prepares students to take French II or Spanish II in Grade 9 and enables students to pursue World Language study through the Advanced Placement level during High School. Current Grade 6 students have the option of taking French or Spanish in Grade 7. **Complete the attached form and return it to your child's 6th grade homeroom teacher no later than January 30, 2017.**

All students with a strong interest in learning a language will need to consider the following information:

- The World Language course is a rigorous academic subject *in addition* to the four required courses in English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. The World Language course will involve regular homework, varied and multiple assessments, and an end of 8th Grade course assessment.
- In Grades 7 and 8, World Language is offered every day for a full year in a daily, fifty-minute class period.
- Enrollment in the World Language program is a two-year commitment that prepares students for higher levels of World Language in High School and are eligible for High School credit as follows:
 - The student's passed course will count toward the 21 credits required for graduation.
 - The student's course grade will be recorded on the High School transcript.
 - The student's grade will not be calculated into the High School grade point average.
 - For High School language courses, one credit will be awarded at the completion of a course in Grade 8.
- Providing World Language for all interested students requires staffing based on student enrollment. Funding and the availability of highly qualified teachers are also critical factors.
- Students and parents should carefully consider the additional rigor of coursework when discussing the World Language option. Students need to be highly motivated, express a strong degree of interest, and be willing to work hard. Students demonstrating academic gaps, especially in Reading and Mathematics, should carefully consider not taking World Language at this time. It is important to note that the High School schedule provides many options to access World Language at that level.

Please complete and return the attached form to your child's Homeroom Teacher by Friday, January 30, 2017, regardless of participation interest. Placement of all interested students into World Language is contingent upon funding, class size, and teacher recruitment. Please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Catherine (Katie) Rusu / 6th Grade Counselor at 410.313.2844 should you need assistance.

Sincerely,

Christopher Rattay

Christopher Rattay
Principal

World Language Selection Request

*Please return this form to your child's Homeroom Teacher no later than
January 30, 2017*

I have read the information provided and understand that World Language selection represents an additional academic class with its associated workload and that this is a two-year program.

Please choose **one** of the following:

- _____ I would like my child to take Spanish in Grade 7.
- _____ I would like my child to take French in Grade 7.
- _____ I do not want my child to take a World Language.

Child's Name:

please print

Homeroom Teacher:

please print

Parent/Guardian Name:

please print

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date:

*Please return this form even if you choose **not** to participate in the World Language program.*