

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE LANGUAGE

District Philosophy

At Churchville-Chili Central School District, we believe that “Language stands at the center of the many interdependent cognitive, affective, and social factors that shape learning” (Corson, 1999). Language is the primary tool for building knowledge of the world around us and knowledge of ourselves. Language learning is a life-long process and language learning must be fostered in all classrooms and in all aspects of the school community. We strive to recognize and meet the language needs of all students, both in developing the mother tongue and offering a multitude of opportunities to benefit from the experience of learning non-native languages.

Practices and Beliefs

Central to the mission of Churchville-Chili Central School District is the belief that it is the responsibility of the district “to challenge all students to strive for excellence while developing their unique talents and becoming respectful, resourceful and contributing members of an interconnected global society.” Therefore, the district embraces learner-centered instructional experiences as students learn through language and learn about language (Halliday 1980). From their earliest experiences and throughout their high school years, students are immersed in language-rich classrooms that encourage reading, writing, listening, speaking and viewing in an integrated, multi-disciplinary setting. Formal language instruction is embedded in authentic learning experiences where students can see the purpose of language conventions and the differences between varying language contexts. To ensure that all students reach their fullest potential, the district regularly assesses student’s language proficiency, both formally and informally, and provides the necessary resources and support. Resources and support include the continuum of intervention to enrichment services, and a rich array of print and digital media in each classroom and in the district’s six libraries.

All teachers are considered language teachers and support literacy in all subjects with a goal of preparing students to be college and career ready. In addition, NYS Common Core Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy have been adopted and embedded throughout all subjects.

IB Language Offerings

Student Language Profile

While English is the “mother-tongue” language for the majority of our students, the composition of the District also includes but is not limited to students whose first language is Portuguese, Patois, Liberian English, Macedonian, Polish, Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, Hindi, and Krio.

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Group 1—IB Language A

Language A HL at Churchville-Chili Senior High School is offered in English and is the language of instruction for all courses except Language B Spanish and French. All students will have the option to enroll in Language A HL and all IB Diploma students will be required to take Language A HL and Language B SL. Students at Churchville-Chili Senior High School are required to:

- complete four years of instruction in English Language Arts with a focus on reading, writing, and speaking, and listening.
- pass the NYS English 11 Common Core Assessment as part of the graduation requirements.
- learn research protocols through instruction in English Language Arts classes and by attending orientation classes taught by a certified librarian in the CCSHS Library. Students receive instruction on researching techniques, report format, and citations. (*Refer to Policy 7300: Academic Honesty*)

Individuals identified as students with disabilities may receive additional support services in the classroom or through Intervention Services. Students identified as having limited English proficiency will receive support services through the district's ESOL program.

Group 2—IB Language B

In accordance with the New York State foreign language syllabus, programs in French and Spanish focus on the development of proficiencies in listening, speaking, reading and writing. An appreciation and understanding of the foreign culture is also integrated into each foreign language class. Ninth grade students who have successfully completed the seventh and eighth grade levels in a modern foreign language will move into French II or Spanish II.

Language and cultural experiences at Churchville-Chili include:

- Spanish or French as a second language of study beginning in grade 7;
- three levels of a foreign language as required by the New York State Education Department;
- the choice of selecting an IB Language B option in grade 11. (*CCSHS offers 5 levels of Spanish and French including opportunities to earn college credit through Monroe Community College for Spanish IV and V and French IV and V, and AP French and Spanish Language*);
- an opportunity to join the Foreign Language Club; and
- an opportunity to participate in language activities and trips to further develop an appreciation and understanding of the culture.

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English Language Learners (ENL) or Students with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

The District has a responsibility to ensure that students of foreign birth or ancestry, who have limited English proficiency or English as a New Language, are provided with an appropriate program of bilingual transitional education or a free-standing program of English as a new language (ENL). The District has a comprehensive plan to meet the educational needs of students with limited English proficiency.

The District's ENL students receive instruction by NYS certified ENL teachers. The minutes are determined by the LAB-R screening test or the NYS ESL Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) per state education regulations.

At Churchville-Chili Senior High School ENL students receive pull-out service in a multi-age, multi-level grouping. The Common Core Student Standards serve as a foundation for developing the modalities of listening, speaking, reading and writing in English. Instruction is often aligned with the student's mainstream academic programs in order to develop comprehension, vocabulary, and proficiency in those areas.

A district comprehensive outreach program is offered to immigrant students and their families to help them assimilate to the Churchville-Chili Central School District. This gives parents a chance to learn about the ENL program, ask questions and receive specific information regarding resources in the school and community. As part of the Title III grant, students can choose to attend after-school and/or summer tutoring to meet their areas of need.

Foreign Exchange Students

The Churchville-Chili Central School District recognizes the importance of culture by welcoming foreign exchange students into the high school program. A foreign exchange student is a citizen and resident of another nation who has applied for admission to a District school for a specific time through an approved exchange program for the purpose of study in a prescribed curriculum.

Extra Curricular Language and Culture Opportunities

Other opportunities available to all Churchville-Chili Senior High School students to further develop an appreciation for their first language, English, or a second language may include:

- Foreign Language Club
- Foreign Language Honor Society
- Model UN
- Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Committee
- Foreign Exchange Students Sharing their culture in the Library

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