

A blue rectangular graphic with yellow and orange text. At the top is the year '2023'. Below it, the words 'PSMLA Exemplary Program' are written in a large, bold font, with 'P' and 'Program' in orange and 'SMLA Exemplary' in yellow. Underneath, the words 'Awards' and 'SHOWCASE' are written in a smaller, bold yellow font, stacked vertically.

2023 PSMLA Exemplary Program Awards SHOWCASE

In honor of the national “2005 Year of Languages”, PSMLA began an award program to recognize and honor Exemplary PA high school foreign language Programs (PEP). All PA high schools (public, parochial, private, charter) are encouraged to SHOWCASE their exemplary programs!

To participate, high schools must submit documented evidence that they meet the rigorous criteria established by PSMLA – with signatures of the school superintendent, principal, and supervisor or department chair to attest to the accuracy of the information submitted.

PEP criteria are detailed in the form of the 11 Indicators and the PEP Rubric (www.psmla.org). The PEP Rubric serves as a BLUEPRINT to assist schools by helping them to evaluate their world language programs and by providing concrete goals for improvement, as needed. The two-year awards may be earned at four levels: Globe, Bronze Globe, Silver Globe, and Golden Globe.

PSMLA believes that all PA students deserve exemplary foreign language programs! Therefore, PEP is *not* a competition; *every* school that meets and provides the required evidence receives a commensurate award.

On the following pages see:

- 2023—2024 PEP Schools by award categories
- Individual School Profiles alphabetically
- Rationale for the 11 PEP Program Indicators
- Note to Parents and Administrators

2023 PSMLA Exemplary Program Awards



GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS

Academy of Notre Dame de Namur, Villanova, 2022-23
Gettysburg Area High School, Gettysburg Area S.D., Gettysburg, 2022-23
Merion Mercy Academy, Merion Station, 2022-23
North Hills Senior High School, North Hills S.D., Ross Twp., 2022-23
Owen J. Roberts High School, Owen J. Roberts S.D., Pottstown, 2022-23
Parkland High School, Parkland S.D. Allentown, 2023-2024
Penncrest High School, Rose Tree Media S.D., Media, 2022-23
Pittsburgh Allderdice High School, Pittsburgh S.D., Pittsburgh, 2023-24
Plymouth Whitemarsh High School, Colonial S.D., Plymouth Meeting, 2023-24
Sewickley Academy, Sewickley, 2023-24
Strath Haven High School, Wallingford-Swarthmore S.D. 2022-23
Upper St. Clair High School, Upper St. Clair S.D., Upper St. Clair, 2023-24



SILVER GLOBE AWARDS

Greater Latrobe Senior High School, Greater Latrobe S.D., Latrobe, 2022-23
Upper Merion Area High School, Upper Merion Area S.D., King of Prussia, 2022-23



BRONZE GLOBE AWARDS

Dallastown Area High School, Dallastown S.D., Dallastown, 2023-24
Delaware Valley High School, Delaware Valley S.D., Milford, 2023-24



GLOBE AWARDS

Boiling Springs High School, South Middleton S.D., Boiling Springs, 2023-24
Highlands High School, Highlands S.D. Natrona Heights, 2023-24
Lower Moreland High School, Lower Moreland S.D., Huntingdon Valley, 2023-24
Deer Lakes High School, Deer Lakes S.D., Cheswick, 2023-24
Titusville Area High School, Titusville Area S.D., Titusville, 2022-23



Academy of Notre Dame de Namur

Villanova, PA

2022-2023

Amanda Klause, aklause@ndapa.org Phone: 610-687-0650, ext. 142

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	The Academy of Notre Dame offers language study to all students in Grades 6-12. Of the high school enrollment, 97.83% of students are studying one or more world languages. Of the total school enrollment, 98.37% of students are studying one or more world languages.
Provide a variety of languages in 4 year high school sequence	At Notre Dame sequential programs begin in grade 6 and continue through grade 12 in French, Latin, Mandarin and Spanish (Levels 4 +). Latin, French and Spanish are also offered at the AP level. All world language courses are yearlong courses and meet in a modified block schedule 5 times per 8-day cycle.
Retain students at higher levels	100% of current grade 9 students are enrolled in a WL class; 83.3% of current grade 12 students are enrolled in a WL class Level 4 or above.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	The Academy of Notre Dame has one section of level 5 and one section of AP in French, one section of AP Latin, and two sections of level 5 and one AP class in Spanish. Students are enrolled in all five classes.
Schedule classes that are one level per period	In all Commonly taught language classes at the Academy of Notre Dame, classes are one level per period.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	The Academy of Notre Dame has an extended sequence of instruction in French, Latin, Mandarin and Spanish in Grades 6-12. All world language classes meet five times per 8-day cycle (modified block scheduling).
Implement Key Instructional Practices	95% of modern World Language teachers implement key practices.
Administer Standards-based performance assessment	The school administers standards-based assessments in all modern languages at four benchmarks. In all levels 1-4, a written assessment is given to all students. In 2021 students in all levels of Latin took the National Latin Exam, an assessment related to the Classical Standards.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	88% of World Language teachers attended at least 5 hours in-house and at least 5 hours of outside professional development activities.
Maintain membership in professional organizations	100% of World Language teachers belong to at least one professional organization. Most belong to two or more.
Provide special program features	Notre Dame has sister schools in seven countries and engages with them in Global Classroom activities. Extracurricular activities are provided for World Language students during the activity period once per month. Notre Dame provided students with the opportunity to interact with a Guatemalan textiles display and meet an indigenous weaving practitioner



Boiling Springs High School

South Middleton School District

Boiling Springs, PA

2023-2024

Michael Bogdan, mdb2@smsd.us, 717-258-6484

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	49% of eligible students are enrolled in a world language class.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	
Retain students at higher levels	20% of ninth grade students continue to level 4 and above.
Participate in AP, IB level 5, and/or CIS program	Students are enrolled in both the French and Spanish AP Language & Culture courses. All courses are enrolled this year.
Schedule classes that are one level per period	There are no multi-level courses. AP Spanish (level 5) and Honors Spanish 6 are taught together but have one curriculum taught to the entire group and flipped with a second curriculum the following year.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	French and Spanish span five years, beginning in grade 8. All courses are enrolled this year.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	100% of high school language teachers meet the Four Key Instructional Practices.
Administer Standards-based performance assessment(s)	Students in both languages offered participate in the AP Language & Culture Exams.
Engage in yearly staff development on world languages topics	100% of high school faculty meets the requirement of outside professional development.
Maintain Membership in professional organizations	100% of high school world language teachers belong to a professional organization.
Provide special program features	Teacher traveled with students to France in summer 2022. French students have pen pals in France with whom they communicate during the entire semester.



Dallastown Area High School
Dallastown School District
Dallastown, PA
2023 – 2024

Cherie Garret, Cherie.garret@dallastown.net, 717-244-4021 ext 3414

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	49% of total school enrollment is enrolled in a world language class.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	4 world languages are offered in a four-year sequence, and 3 are offered in a five year sequence.
Retain students at higher levels	29% of students in a language in 9th grade continue to level 4 and above.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	At least one such class for every traditional language offered.
Classes are one level per period	No more than 2 multi-level IV/V world language classes.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	5 years (sequential program begins in grade 8) in 3 languages (French, German, and Spanish)
Implement Key Instructional Practices	Key instructional practices are implemented 70% to 79% of the time
Administer Standards- based Performance assessment(s)	District-wide, standards based assessment in all languages taught at one language level
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	100% of World Language teachers participate in at least one in-house world language specific workshop(equivalent to 2.5 hours half a day).
Maintain Membership in Professional organizations	70% to 79% of world language teachers belong to a professional world language organization.
Provide special program features	Two programs features that connect world language students to outside resources & provide language outside of the classroom: Tour to France and 2022 DAIS World Language Program.



Deer Lakes High School

Deer Lakes School District

Cheswick, PA

2023 – 2024

Desiree Rotondo, drotondo@deerlakes.net, 717-244-4021 ext 3414

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	Total enrollment is 581. World Language has 239 students enrolled. Therefore, 41% of our student body is enrolled in foreign language.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	Our school enrollment is 581 students. We offer both French and Spanish in our curriculum.
Retain students at higher levels	61% of 9th graders, 32% of 11th graders are enrolled in foreign languages.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	AP French, French IV, French College in High School and Spanish IV are offered.
Classes are one level per period	We have one multi-level class taught at Deer Lakes High School. French III and IV.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	Both languages offered have sequential programs. Spanish I-IV, French I-IV.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	100% of modern world language instruction is aligned with the Four Key Instructional practices.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	District-wide, standards-based assessment in all languages taught at 1 benchmark level.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	
Maintain current membership in Professional organizations	66% belong to professional world language organizations.
Provide special program features	European Educational tour (July 5-17, 2022). Highly active French National Honor Society.



Delaware Valley High School

Delaware Valley School District

Milford, PA

2023 – 2024

Gary Cotroneo, cotroneog@dvsd.org, 570-296-1850 ext 7052

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	35% of high school students are enrolled in a world language.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	The Delaware Valley School District had a 5-year sequence beginning in 8th grade: French, German and Spanish.
Retain students at higher levels	22% of our students are retained.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	Delaware Valley High School has Advanced Placement courses in French, German and Spanish.
Classes are one level per period	Delaware Valley High School has 2 split-level classes this current school year AP French/French 4 and AP German/German 4.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	The Delaware Valley School District has full year daily language instruction in grades 8-12 in French, German and Spanish.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	Based on interviews and observations, 100% of the six high school teachers at Delaware Valley High School implement all 4 key instructional practices on average 91% of the time.
Administer Standards-based performance assessment(s)	Delaware Valley has a District-wide Standards-based assessment in all languages taught at one language level (AP French, AP German, and AP Spanish).
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	Three teachers attended a 6-hour language conference at East Stroudsburg University on Friday, November 18, 2022. 6(4HS/2MS) Spanish teachers had a PLC pertaining to a presentation on the new textbook series being implemented. 3(2HS/1MS) teachers had a PLC to plan the year.
Maintain current membership in professional organizations	50% of the language department is enrolled in a professional organization.
Provide special program features	AP Spanish and Spanish 4 students took a field trip on November 3rd.,2022 to see the play “El Tiempo de las Mariposas.” AP French, French 4, and French 3 students took a field trip on December 1, 2022 to Broadway in NYC to see the play “Phantom of the Opera”



Gettysburg Area High School

Gettysburg Area School District

Gettysburg, PA

2022 – 2023

Tarja Wilson, twilson@gettysburg.k-12.pa.us, 717-334-6254

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	Total school enrollment is 1040 students. The World Language enrollment is 409. 38% of total school enrollment is in a world language class.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	We have levels IV and V world language classes in French, German, and Spanish. Total school enrollment is 1049.
Retain students at higher levels	12% of 9th grade students continue to level 4 and above.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	At least one such class for every traditional language is offered.
Classes are one level per period	No multi-level classes are offered in modern languages.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	We have an extended sequence of instruction (5 years) in French, German, and Spanish. It begins in grade 8 in the Middle School.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	95% of world language teachers follow key instructional practices as described by HS principal Jeremy Lusk based on formal and informal observations.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	The district administers standards- based assessment in French, German, and Spanish at two levels. (1 & 2)
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	90% of WL teachers participated in at least 2 activities. Ms. Tosh was hired
Maintain current membership in professional organizations	100% of WL teachers maintain current membership in professional organizations.
Provide special program features	All: National Foreign Language Week & Holiday Market. Spanish: Dominican Republic Trip, German: German-American Day at McDaniel College, bi-annual Germany trip, French: Bi-annual trip to France.



Greater Latrobe Senior High School

Greater Latrobe School District

Latrobe, PA

2022 – 2023

Laura Smith, laura.smith@glsd.us, 724-787-0545

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	The student enrollment for World Language classes at Greater Latrobe Sr. High is 50 %
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	Greater Latrobe Sr. High has level IV and AP classes in Spanish, German and French with a total school enrollment of 1,156.
Retain students at higher levels	29.5% of students in a language in 9th grade continue to level 4 and above
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	Greater Latrobe Sr. High has AP Spanish, AP French and AP German classes
Classes are one level per period	Greater Latrobe Sr. High has 1 split level class. (French II/III)
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	We have French, German and Spanish beginning in grade 7 and continuing through grade 12
Implement Key Instructional Practices	Greater Latrobe high school teachers implement key instructional practices an average of 80%.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	District-wide, standards-based assessment in Spanish, French & German is administered at two levels (level 2 and 3).
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	80% of World Language teachers participated in an outside professional World Language Activity. 80% of World Language teachers participated in a 2-day in-house workshop equivalent to over 5 hours
Maintain current membership in professional organizations	80% of world language teachers belong to a professional world language organization
Provide special program features	French and German Clubs prepared and presented cultural and language activities/ lessons to the district elementary students. Spanish 2 students participated in an E-Pal program with students from Valencia, Spain.



Highlands High School

Highlands School District

Natrona Heights, PA

2023 – 2024

Laura Proano, lproano@goldenrams.com, 724 226-2400

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	46% of Highlands High School students are enrolled in World Language classes with 331 students enrolled in Spanish and German in a school of 716 total students.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	Highlands High School offers two World Languages (German and Spanish) and has a total of 716 students.
Retain students at higher levels	20% of Highlands World Language students continued to level 4 this year with 28 students in level 4 and a total of 142 students in 9th grade enrolled in German or Spanish.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	Highlands High School participates in College in High School (CHS) Spanish IV through La Roche University's Scholar Program with MLSP2001 - Intermediate Spanish I
Classes are one level per period	Highlands High School has one level of Spanish and German per class period and no multi-level (split) World Language classes.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	Highlands High school has 4 years of German and Spanish from 9th to 12th grade with 41-minute classes Monday-Friday for the entire school year.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	72% of world language instruction in Highlands High School is in line with the four key instructional practices. This is the average degree that 3 teachers implement key instructional practice 1 (60%), 2 (90%), 3 (60%) and 4 (80%).
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	Highlands Level 4 Spanish and German classes complete the same mid-year proficiency assessment that assesses the communication and comparisons standards and is rated using an adapted IPA rubric tied to the national ACTFL writing scale.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	66% of Highlands World Language teachers (2/3) participated in a 4-hour in-house world language specific workshop on March 14, 2022 to learn how to code in the target language Hummingbird robots (2 hours) and to create World Language pacing guides (2 hours).
Maintain current membership in professional organizations	100% of Highlands World Language teachers (3/3) are members of PSMLA.
Provide special program features	Highlands High School offers the Global Scholars Program and has recognized 11 Global Scholars Program graduates since the program was started in 2018.



Lower Moreland High School

Lower Moreland School District

Huntingdon Valley, PA

2023 – 2024

Jamie Lincow, jlincow@lmsd.org, 215-938-0220

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	484/ 835 (58%) of students are enrolled in World Language classes at LMHS.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	In the 2022-2023 school year, we have 248 students enrolled in level 4/5/6/AP for Spanish and French.
Retain students at higher levels	Almost all 9 th graders at level III continue to level IV and above. 123 students enrolled in level III and 248 enrolled in level IV and above.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	We have students enrolled in 2 AP Spanish classes: Spanish Language and Culture and Spanish Literature and Culture. We have students enrolled in 1 AP French class: French Language and Culture.
Classes are one level per period	No multi-level world language class is taught.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	We offer language instruction from grade 7 through grade 12 and we have students enrolled full year of instruction for each course.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	100% of language teachers at LMHS employ the four Key Instructional Practices on a consistent basis as per the Department’s Supervising Principal.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	All students are assessed twice a year (at the end of semester 1 and semester 2) and exams are aligned with the national Standards
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	6/6 members of the department completed at least 5 hours of in-house professional development.
Maintain current membership in professional organizations	5/6 members of the department maintain membership in professional organizations.
Provide special program features	French students attended a showing of Les Misérables at Academy of Music in Philadelphia. 6th grade students had a cultural, exploratory day to help pick their future language.



Merion Mercy Academy

Merion Station, PA

2022 – 2023

Patricia Nowlan, pnowlan@merion-mercy.com (610) 664-6655 x 332

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	Language study is offered to every student at Merion Mercy Academy. 83.1% of the student body is currently enrolled in a French, Latin or Spanish class.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	At Merion Mercy Academy, we have a four-year sequence of French, Latin and Spanish. AP French, AP Spanish, and AP Latin are offered yearly and are considered 4th level courses.
Retain students at higher levels	73.86% of students in 9 th grade at Merion Mercy Academy continue to study language at level 4.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	In the 2021-2022 school year, Merion Mercy Academy has one section each of AP French, AP Latin, and AP Spanish.
Classes are one level per period	In the 2021-2022 school year, the Language Department at Merion Mercy Academy does not have any multi-level (split) classes for the three languages taught: French, Latin, and Spanish.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	We have an extended, four-year sequence of instruction for French, Latin, and Spanish. All language courses meet 4 out of the 5 days of the cycle. For 3 of these 5 days, classes meet for 40 minutes. For one of these 5 days, classes meet for an extended (block) 66 minutes period of instruction for an average of 37 class-minutes per day per cycle. AP Spanish, French and Latin courses are considered fourth level courses.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	100% of World Language teachers implement key instructional practices at Merion Mercy Academy. This 100% indicates the number of teachers within the department that employ the 4 key instructional practices (5/5) in the observations of the Head of School and after conversation between the Head of School and Language Department Chairperson.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	Merion Mercy Academy world language teachers conduct Oral Proficiency Interviews (based on the ACTFL OPI Scale) with all Level 2 and 3 French and Spanish students. The National Latin Exam is administered to all Latin students in Levels 1-4.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	100% of world language teachers completed at least 5 hours of in-house professional development. 80% of world language teachers completes at least 5 hours of outside professional development.
Membership in professional organizations	5/5 (100%) of world language teachers belong to at least one professional world language organization, including (but not limited to) PSMLA, AATSP, AATF, and CAAS.
Provide special program features	We have many special program features at Merion Mercy Academy, including chapters of the National French, Latin, and Spanish Honor Societies and week-long, school-wide celebrations of each of the Department’s target languages.



North Hills Senior High School

North Hills School District

North Hills, PA

2022 – 2023

Melissa Marangoni, marangonim@nhsd.net, 412-318-1402 x 2125

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	There are 1380 students enrolled at North Hills High School. 125 students are enrolled in vocational half day programs, leaving 1255 eligible students. There are 673 students enrolled in World Language classes.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	We have year-long classes in a four-year high school sequence in French, German, Latin, and Spanish. The total enrollment at North Hills High School is 1380 students.
Retain students at higher levels	There are 265 9th grade students enrolled in World Language classes and 157 students enrolled in levels 4 and above at North Hills High School. $157/265 = 59\%$ retention rate
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	We have CHS courses in French, German, Latin, and Spanish. These are full year courses worth 1 high school credit with the option to purchase college credits through the University of Pittsburgh.
Classes are one level per period	There are no split-level courses. All classes are scheduled as one level per period.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	We have level 1 for French, German, Latin, and Spanish in 8th grade for 40 minutes per day 5 days per week. French, German, Latin, and Spanish classes in grades 9-12 are 40 minutes per day 5 days per week. Grades 9-12 language courses are worth 1 high school credit.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	All of the World Language teachers at North Hills High School implement the 4 key instructional practices 90-100% of the time
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	District-wide, standards-based assessment in all traditional language levels, non-traditional at 1 level using a rubric aligned to the ACTFL scale. Due to virtual / hybrid learning and restrictions during the 2019-2020 & 2020-2021 school years, we were unable to administer this common assessment and do not have current ratings
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	100% of our World Language teachers participate in at least 5 hours of outside world language specific professional development and in-house professional world language activities.
Membership in professional organizations	100% of World Language teachers (8/8) at North Hills High School are current members of professional organizations.
Provide special program features	Students may apply for admission into honor societies for French, German, Latin and Spanish. Students are inducted each year. French, German, Latin, and Spanish clubs are open to all students, and members actively participate in the school community. .



Owen J. Roberts High School

Owen J. Roberts School District

Pottstown, PA

2022 – 2023

Dr. Kathryn Soeder Email: ksoeder@ojrsd.net Phone: (610) 469-5589

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	Approximately 69.5% of the high school students are enrolled in a World Language class.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	The high school has French, Spanish, Latin, and German all in a four-year sequence. OJRHS has 1,779 students.
Retain students at higher levels	Approximately 80% of 9th graders enrolled in world language classes continue on to advanced levels.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	The OJRHS has AP Spanish, AP Latin, AP French, and AP German courses.
Classes are one level per period	Courses with multi-level classes are only in LCT languages (German and Latin) .
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	The sequential program for all world languages begins in grade 6.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	All world language teachers provide instruction using the Four Key Instructional Practices over 90% of the time.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	All World Language students have a standards-based assessment at two benchmark levels.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	50% of the world language teachers participated in outside professional development activities and all teachers participated in inhouse professional development activities.
Membership in professional organizations	Over 90% of the World Language teachers are members of a professional organization.
Provide special program features	We have several program features. Two of them include participation in the National Spanish Exams and having a chapter in the National Junior Classical League.



Parkland High School

Parkland School District

Allentown, PA

2023 – 2024

Kellie O'Donnell odonnellk@parklandsd.net 610-216-6247

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	73% of total school enrollment is enrolled in a World Language class.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	We have a 5 year sequence of French, German and Spanish and a 4 year sequence of American Sign Language and Latin. We have a total student enrollment of 3212 students.
Retain students at higher levels	68% of students continue to level 4 and above. Currently 666 9th grade students, 452 students in levels 4,5.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	We have level 5 and AP courses in French, German and Spanish. We also subscribe to dual enrollment / CIS courses in French 4/4H/5/AP, German 4/4H/5/AP , Spanish 4/4H/5/AP, Latin 2,3 and American Sign Language 1,2,3.
Classes are one level per period	We have no multi-level (split) classes.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	We have the IWL course (Introduction to World Language) in 7th grade for the entire school year that consists of 12 weeks each of French, German, and Spanish that meets 3 days/6 day cycle, 50 minutes per class period. We have level 1 in French, German, and Spanish in 8th grade that meets every day, 50 minutes per class period.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	100% of World Language teachers follow Key Instructional Practices.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	All level 4CP students completed an oral IPA based on an imaginary trip they took. Classical language Latin project and results are also included.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	42% of the teachers participated in an outside workshop/course and 100% participated in an in-house WL workshop.
Membership in professional organizations	100% of our World Language teachers belong to a professional organization.
Provide special program features	We have an annual World Language Week, a French newsletter and clubs and honor societies for ASL, French, German, Latin and Spanish.



Penncrest High School
Rose Tree Media School District
Media, PA
2022 – 2023

Mrs. Kimberly Riviere, Email: kriviere@rtmsd.org Phone: 610- 627- 6294

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	73% of Penncrest students are enrolled in a World Language course
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	French, Latin, Mandarin Chinese & Spanish are all offered in 4 year sequences
Retain students at higher levels	Over 76% of our students continue to level IV and AP
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	We have AP Chinese, French & Spanish
Classes are one level per period	No split-level courses for traditional languages. There are split level courses of Latin*3/4 & Chinese* IV/AP (*exempt)
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	World Language instruction in French & Spanish begins in 6th grade
Implement Key Instructional Practices	100% of high school teachers implement key instructional practices
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	Chinese, French & Spanish students complete oral proficiency interviews that are scored using a common, ACTFL-based rubric. All Latin students take the National Latin Exam
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	89% of WL teachers completed a half-day in-house WL professional development workshop.
Membership in professional organizations	100% of WL members maintain membership in at least 1 professional association.
Provide special program features	There are bi-annual exchange programs with France & Spain, as well as bi-annual immersion trips to Costa Rica, Quebec & China.



Pittsburgh Allderdice High School

Pittsburgh School District

Pittsburgh, PA

2023 – 2024

Ms. Jennifer Felton jfelton@pghschools.org

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	76% of total school enrollment is enrolled in a foreign language class
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	Spanish, French, Japanese, and Portuguese are offered in our school which has a total of 1,039 students out of 1,371 enrolled in a world language class.
Retain students at higher levels	49% of students continue with 4 consecutive years in high school.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	The district offers levels 5 and 6 classes in Spanish and French.
Classes are one level per period	There are no multi-level (split) world language classes per school in commonly taught languages.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	The Spanish and French programs expand 13 years starting in kindergarten.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	90% of world language teachers follow key instructional practices as described.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	District-wide, standards-based assessment in all languages taught.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	80% of world language teachers participate in at least one full day local, state, or national world language conference per year in addition to at least one in-house world language specific workshop.
Membership in professional organizations	100% of world language teachers belong to a professional world language organization.
Provide special program features	World language programs outside of class include the Japanese Speech Competition and weekly Spanish tables during all lunches.



Plymouth Whitemarsh High School

Colonial School District

Plymouth Meeting, PA

2023 – 2024

Rich Madel, rmadel@colonialsd.org 484-802-2695

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	63% of total enrolled students are also enrolled in a world language course.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	In the 2022-23, 193 students are enrolled in levels 4, 5, and/or AP in all languages offered (i.e., Spanish, French, and Latin)
Retain students at higher levels	53.5% of freshmen enrolled in a world language course are retained at higher levels.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	In the 2022-23 school year, we have students enrolled in at least level five and /or AP courses in each language offered at PWHS (e.g., H Spanish 5, AP Spanish, H French 5, AP French, French Cult/Civ 5, H Latin 5, and AP Latin).
Classes are one level per period	In the 2022-23 school year, there is 1 multi-level language class (Latin 5H and Latin AP)
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	Language instruction begins with an exploratory experience in 6th grade and continues with a proper full year of a student-selected language in grade 7. Spanish, French, Latin have levels 1A/1B, 2, 3H, 4H, 5H, AP as full semester/full credit courses in the High School. Each course meets for 64 minutes each day for a full semester (90 days).
Implement Key Instructional Practices	According to the Department of World Languages' Supervising Principal, 95% of modern world language instruction in PWHS is in line with the Four Key Instructional Practices.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	All modern and classical languages participate in the AP Language and Culture exam. Spanish and French share an integrated performance assessment task at Level 1
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	8/8 members of the department completed 5+ hours of Comprehensible Classroom workshop on November 8, 2022. 8/8 members completed 5+ hours of in-house professional learning via PLC book studies and discussions focusing on research-based language pedagogy during the 2021-22 school year.
Membership in professional organizations	100% (8/8) department members are active members in professional organization
Provide special program features	Special Program Feature 1: 10+ hours of extracurricular language club activities Special Program Feature 2: 10+ hours of free choice reading in the target language (Spanish) during independent periods throughout 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years



Sewickley Academy

Sewickley, PA

2022 – 2023

Marina Buratti mburatti@sewickley.org 412-741-2230 ext. 3318

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	95.5% of our high school students are enrolled in one or more world language courses
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	We have: Chinese: I, II, III, IV, V, AP, Independent Study; French: I, II, III, IV, V, AP Italian: I, II, III, IV, AP; Spanish: II, III, IV, V, AP Latin : IV, V, AP
Retain students at higher levels	Three consecutive years of the same language are required, so all 9th graders are enrolled in language. This year there are 54 9th graders (100%) enrolled in a language course. There are 105 students enrolled in an advanced level (IV or above) course. 46 out of 64 (71.8%) of current 12th graders are enrolled in an advanced level language course.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	AP level courses are offered for each language.
Classes are one level per period	Chinese V/AP and Italian IV/AP are multi-level courses. While multi-level, the curriculum taught is the same, with differentiation in activities and assessments depending on the level of the course for which each student is registered.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	Spanish instruction begins at the pre-K level. Lower School Spanish meets for 20 minutes, four times, during the eight-day cycle, with the exception of pre-K that meets only twice in the schedule. Middle School language classes meet four times during the eight-day cycle, at 65 minutes per period. In the Senior School, language classes meet four days out of the eight-day cycle for 3 periods at 65 minutes and one period at 80 minutes. French and Chinese start in Middle School. Latin and Italian are only in the Senior School.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	100% of teachers implement key instructional practices, based on classroom observations.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	Every student enrolled in an AP course is required to take the test in each of the languages offered at Sewickley Academy. Attached are copies of the Cultural Comparison/Presentation Section of the AP Exam for Chinese, Italian, French, and Spanish, as well as the rubrics used to grade these sections. This section of the exam meets ACTFL standards regarding presentational communication and both culture standards. Because Latin is a classical language the analytical essay part of the AP exam is attached, along with its rubric. This meets the ACTFL standards for language and content connections.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	100% of teachers participate in professional development.
Membership in professional organizations	100% of teachers have memberships to several professional organizations.
Provide special program features	Through our Global Studies program, students are encouraged to participate in and propose travel experiences, including to regions where the languages taught are spoken. The Asian Culture Club and French & Italian Cultures Club promote the celebrations of those cultures and languages outside of the classroom.



Strath Haven High School
Wallingford-Swarthmore School District
Wallingford , PA
2022 – 2023

Gino Miraglia, gmiraglia@wssd.org Phone: 610- 892- 3470

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	SHHS has a 4-semester requirement for WL, the only school in the area with such a requirement. 85 % of the total school population is enrolled in WL courses, but subtracting the IEP population of 209 students, 100% of the student body is enrolled in a WL course.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	SHHS offers 5 languages: Chinese 1-4, AP Chinese Language and Culture, French 1-4, AP French Language and Culture, Advanced French Studies, German 1-4, AP German Language and Culture, Advanced German Studies, Latin 1-4, AP Latin Literature, Spanish 1-4, AP Spanish Language and Culture, AP Spanish Literature.
Retain students at higher levels	In 9th grade, there are 212 WL students. In level 4, we have 199 WL students. There is a retention rate of 94 %
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	Students are currently enrolled in AP Chinese, AP French, AP German, AP Latin, and AP Spanish. In addition, we offer AP Spanish Literature, Advanced French Studies and Advanced German.
Classes are one level per period	There aren't any mixed level courses in commonly taught languages. Latin IV and AP Latin are combined, but exempt as a less commonly taught language.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	Students choose Chinese, French, German or Spanish in 6th grade. Students may start Latin beginning at the high school. In Chinese and Latin, we offer 5 levels (1-AP) and in French, German and Spanish we offer 6 levels (1-AP Lit/Advanced Studies).
Implement Key Instructional Practices	Through classroom observations based on the criteria it was determined that 75% of the time, teachers grades 9-12 use the key instructional practices on a daily basis since in level 1 and some CP classes, the TL is used 75% of the block.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	It is our department curricular objective to assess the 3 modes of communication using the common rubric tied to the ACTFL proficiency scale. In addition, we administer AP oral and written assessments tied to the national
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	70% (7/10) of World Language teachers completed at least 5 hours of outside professional development. 100% (10/10) of World Language teachers completed at least 5 hours of in-house professional development.
Current Membership in professional organizations	90% World Language teachers belong to at least one professional organization
Provide special program features	We offer national language exam contests in Chinese, French, German, Latin and Spanish. We celebrate National Foreign Language Week with a variety of activities.



Titusville Area High School

Titusville Area School District

Titusville, PA

2022 – 2023

Sandree Kozlowski, skozlowski@gorockets.org, 814-827-2715 x1224

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	37% of the students who currently attend Titusville High School are enrolled in a World Language class.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	French, Spanish and German courses are offered and taught at Titusville High School, which has a student population of 550.
Retain students at higher levels	50% of Spanish students are retained in Spanish (16/32)
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	AP Spanish is taught currently at Titusville High School.
Classes are one level per period	There is only one multi-level World Language Class of French 3&4 this year at Titusville High School.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	The Spanish Program of study spans five years beginning in 8th Grade.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	90% of the World Language Teachers follow key instructional practices as described.
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	A District-Wide standards-based assessment IPA is administered in Level 1 French and Spanish.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	One teacher attended two World Language conferences and all teachers attended In-House (In-Service) Professional Activities for ACT 48 Credit.
Current Membership in professional organizations	Two of the three High School Teachers are current members of professional world language organizations: PSMLA and ACTFL / AATG / AATF.
Provide special program features	Students in all French and German classes communicate frequently with their Pen pals in France and Germany. Both French and Spanish students practiced their French and Spanish at local restaurants. Our school also welcomes foreign visitors.



Upper St. Clair High School

Upper St. Clair School District

Upper St. Clair, PA

2023 – 2024

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	The total high school enrollment is 1296. The number of students enrolled in Career and Technical school is 36. The total number of high school students enrolled in a World Language class is 972. These totals do not reflect the option of students precluded due to IEPs or 504s. 77.1% of students are enrolled in World Languages courses.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	A variety of languages are provided in a 4-year high school sequence including level 5, IB and AP courses in French, German, and Spanish. Latin and Chinese are provided in a 4-year sequence. Japanese is provided in a 3 year sequence which will be expanded to a 4-year sequence in 2023-2024.
Retain students at higher levels	95.6% of students continue to level 4 and above in our World Language classes. $267 \div 279 = 95.6$
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	We provide at least one AP, IB and level 5 class for every traditional language.
Classes are one level per period	There are no multi-level classes in commonly taught languages.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	We provide an extended sequence of instruction in the commonly taught languages. Spanish is taught in grades I through 12. In addition, students begin an exploratory learning opportunity with French and German along with Spanish in fifth grade. Students may select any language of study in grade six. Sequences of language continues through grade 12.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	90% of our World Language teachers follow Key Instructional practices
Administer Standards-based , performance assessment(s)	We administer district-wide, standards-based assessments in all traditional languages taught at two language levels.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	Post Covid, we participate in professional development opportunities for World Languages. We attend seminars, travel abroad, and regularly meet to discuss world language topics.
Current Membership in professional organizations	100% of our World Language teachers maintain membership in a professional organization.
Provide special program features	We provide special program features to connect to outside resources and to the World:



Upper Merion Area High School

Upper Merion School District

King of Prussia, PA

2022 – 2023

Ms. Jennifer Sharp, jsharp@umasd.org, 610-205-6400

Maintain high percentage of world language enrollment	58% of the total school enrollment (674 of 1,159 students) is enrolled in a world language class at Upper Merion Area High School.
Provide a variety of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	Spanish, French, and German are offered through AP/Level 5 in our high school of 1,159 students.
Retain students at higher levels	188 students are enrolled in level 4 or higher. 239 ninth graders are enrolled in world language classes. This equates to a .79 ratio of level 4 or higher students to ninth grade students in world language courses.
Participate in AP, IB, level 5, and/or CIS program	Upper Merion has Advanced Placement courses in Spanish, French, and German.
Classes are one level per period	There are no multi-level (split) world language classes taught at Upper Merion.
Provide an extended sequence in at least one commonly taught language	6 years (sequential program begins in grade 7) are offered in Spanish, French, and German. All language classes (grades 7-12) meet every school day.
Implement Key Instructional Practices	Based on classroom observations, 90% or more of modern language instruction is in line with the Four Key Instructional Practices.
Administer Standards-based performance assessment(s)	We use an interview protocol and associated rubric, correlated to ACTFL standards, across all 3 languages in levels 1-4. We use an AP rubric at level 5.
Engage in yearly staff development on world language topics	Five of seven teachers (71%) have evidence of professional development outside and inside the district related to the teaching of foreign languages.
Current Membership in professional organizations	Five of seven teachers (71%) are members of professional organizations related to the teaching of foreign languages.
Provide special program features	Our HS world language teachers organize and chaperone a biennial trip to a Spanish-speaking country, sponsor a trip to Quebec, and host a German exchange. We have honor societies for students in our Spanish, French, and German programs.

Indicators	RATIONALE
1. Maintain high percentage enrollment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Standards are for all students, not just the academic/economic elite. All students should attain world language standards.
2. Provide choice of languages in a 4 year high school sequence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● U.S. society is diverse. Programs should reflect this diversity within reason. ● Students may be more motivated to attain standards with a language of their choosing.
3. Retain students at higher levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exemplary programs maintain student interest to continue their study ● Schools with high academic expectations for students will arrange student schedules to avoid conflicts that otherwise might prevent them from taking higher level classes.
4. AP, IB, level 5 classes, and/or College in the High School programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Exemplary programs challenge students to reach higher levels of proficiency and encourage students to continue language study K-16
5. Schedule classes that are one level per period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Time on task is critical for attainment of standards. Multi-level (or split) classes often result in students receiving a half a period.
6. Offer an extended sequence of instruction in at least one commonly taught language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A minimum of 3 -5 five years are needed (in a 5 period per week standards-based program) for most students to attain an Intermediate Low level of speaking proficiency (ACTFL Scale)
7. Implement key practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● use the target language 90% in most classes in a comprehensible way ● engage students in pair and small group communicative activities ● encourage/require students to express their own meanings ● integrate culture into daily instruction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Time on task is critical. Students must be immersed in the target language as much as possible in every class period. ● Teachers must speak the target language—but it is critical that students comprehend what is said. ● Without pair and small group activities in the target language, students have insufficient speaking practice to attain the Communication Standard ● Students will not attain proficiency if the main emphasis of instruction is grammar and if the only speaking that occurs is memorized. ● Cultural knowledge is essential to effective communication. ● Although there are many other best practices for effective world language instruction, we believe that these are key.
8. Administer standards-based, performance assessment that cuts across languages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There can be no standards-based program without a valid, reliable assessment that cuts across languages to determine student progress in attaining standards. ● To be valid and reliable, have outside verification of results using a common measurement tool such as the ACTFL Scale.
9. Engage in yearly staff development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As professionals, teachers must maintain and improve their knowledge and skills. Educators must model the concept of “life-long learning”.
10. Maintain membership in professional organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As professionals, teachers must stay abreast of the research in the field, standards implementation, new materials, etc. ● Through their membership, teachers support the work of their professional organizations.
11. Provide special program features beyond the classroom environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● These special program features may support the national standards areas: Communications, Cultures, Connections , and Communities ● Special programs/projects/activities tend to increase student motivation and participation in world language programs

Note To Parents

Studies have shown that many people in the general public believe that schools, in general, are in trouble but that the school their children attend is ok—what is the basis for this perception? Parents have more and more choices about the schools their children will attend (public, private, parochial, charter) – how can they best make informed decisions? One indicator of a strong academic school is a strong world language program!

PEP criteria gives parents and students 11 concrete program indicators that may be used to evaluate any high school foreign language program. PSMLA hopes that parents will work with school administrators, board members, and teachers to establish and maintain high quality, standards-based foreign language programs. **All students deserve high quality world language programs**—not just those who live in affluent neighborhoods or those who are sometimes referred to as the “academic elite”.

Note to School Administrators, Board Members, Department Chairs, and Community Members

PSMLA hopes that all high schools across Pennsylvania will be eligible to receive one of the four levels of PEP awards. Unfortunately, many schools do not meet the criteria. We hope that the 11 PEP program indicators will provide a blueprint for improvement in the coming years. While some of the program indicators may have some cost associated with them, many do not. Instead, they are indications of a strong academic program that focuses on best instructional practices (pedagogy) and national world language standards for all students. The No Child Left Behind legislation lists world language education as a “core subject”. PSMLA believes that **we all have a responsibility to make sure that no child is left behind when it comes to learning –and becoming proficient in—a foreign language.**

Disclaimer:

PSMLA is not responsible for any discrepancies that may appear between what is written here and the actual programs in the schools. Any questions about individual school programs should be addressed to the school.

An award is made for a period of two years, at which time a school may reapply. If school personnel believe they can attain a higher award, they may reapply after one year.