



# World Language Program

A Report to the Darien Board of Education, November 24, 2015  
Dr. Susie Da Silva, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

## Understanding Language Learning

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*Research on second language acquisition indicates the earlier a child begins to learn a language, the easier they acquire that language. Research also identifies frequency is a critical component in growing a student's language proficiency.*

## Program Review- Articulation, K-12

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Articulation between all 3 levels (elementary teacher rep, curriculum monitor~middle school, curriculum coordinator~high school) creating a shared vision for World Language at all levels

- bi-weekly meetings
- study and articulation of curriculum
- study of assessments
- joint professional development

## Program Review- Professional Development

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- Inter-visitation within Darien
- Visits with other school-districts
- ACTFL professional development sessions
- Collaborative discussions and calibration across all levels

## Program Review- Teaching and Learning

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- Review/Revision of 5th and/or 6th grade curriculum as result of the elementary world language program
- Implementation of assessments of performance toward language learning in grades 5 and 6

## Current Elementary and Middle School Program

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**Grades, K-2**

45 minutes, every 6 days (Total of 45 minutes)

**Grades, 3-5**

45 minutes, 2x every 6 days (Total of 90 minutes)

**Grade 6**

42 minutes, 3x in a 5 day week (126 minutes)

**Grade 7**

42 minutes, 5x in a 5 day week (210 minutes)

**Grade 8**

42 minutes, 5x in a 5 day week (210 minutes)

## Possible Recommendations for the 2016-2017 school year:

Grade-level Changes	2015-2016	2016-2017	Budget and/or other Implications
Grade 6	42 minutes, 3x in a 5 day week (126 minutes)	42 minutes, 5x in a 5 day week (210 minutes)increase of 84 minutes per 5 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• .4 staffing increase</li></ul>

# Future Consideration and Discussion:

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- Curriculum recommendations; and,
- Review of elementary schedule and frequency.