

# World Languages at the Pierce Middle School



The study of languages is integral to a well-rounded education in today's global society. The Pierce Middle School World Language Program aims to give students strong language instruction, along with insight into the cultures of one of the three languages offered: French Immersion, Latin and Spanish. World Language instruction builds listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, and promotes understanding and appreciation of cultural differences. Learning a world language supports academic achievement, promotes understanding of other cultures and peoples, and opens opportunities for employment. Because World Language instruction teaches understanding and appreciation of cultural differences, it promotes and celebrates diversity and tolerance.

In French Immersion and Spanish, sixth graders begin the school year with a review of the fundamentals of the fifth grade curriculum. Because of the cumulative nature of language, new lessons build upon and expand on these foundations throughout grades seven and eight. Pierce students also have the opportunity to begin, without prior knowledge, the study of Latin at the Pierce Middle School.

French, Spanish, and Latin instruction continues at the High School up to Advanced Placement level. High School students have the opportunity to begin the study of an additional or new language at the High School where non-immersion French, as well as French immersion, Spanish, and Latin are offered.