



Medway Public Schools

45 Holliston Street
Medway, Massachusetts 02053

OFFICE: 508-533-3222

FAX: 508-533-3226

Armand Pires, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

November 30, 2019

We are pleased to inform you of a recent partnership between the Medway Public Schools and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education through our participation in the *Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy*. The *Seal of Biliteracy* is a distinction that recognizes students who pursue and demonstrate literacy in two or more languages. This partnership serves to honor the district's ongoing commitment to "promote linguistic, cultural, and intercultural proficiency that empowers all students to become global citizens" (Medway Public Schools World Languages Department vision statement).

The *Seal of Biliteracy* aims to encourage the study and mastery of languages, honor the linguistic proficiency of our students, certify attainment of biliteracy skills, and provide evidence of skills that are attractive to future employers and college admissions offices. Students meeting the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education requirements for the *Seal of Biliteracy* will receive this designation in the form of an insignia affixed to their transcript or diploma.

In order to earn the *Seal of Biliteracy*, students must:

1. Demonstrate a high level of proficiency in English by satisfying one of the following:
 - Earn a score of 240 or higher on the grade 10 Legacy ELA MCAS(472 on Next-Gen MCAS)
 - Earn a score of 220 or higher on the grade 10 Legacy ELA MCAS(455 on Next-Gen MCAS) and complete an Educational Proficiency Plan
2. Demonstrate a high level of proficiency in a world language through one of the following:
 - Attaining a minimum score equivalent to an ACTFL* **proficiency level of *Intermediate-High* on a state-approved assessment**
 - For languages that do not have readily available assessments, completing a portfolio demonstrating ***Intermediate-High* proficiency** in speaking, writing, reading, and listening

Students will receive a Google Form in December that will allow them to inform the District of their intent to participate in the *Seal of Biliteracy* and the language(s) for which they would like to assess proficiency. Please note that the *Seal of Biliteracy* includes all languages, and is not limited to languages taught in Medway.

We look forward to honoring the language expertise and diversity in our district through this recognition. If you have any further questions, please contact Dr. Marieangie Ocasio-Varela, Grade 5-12 Coordinator of World Languages at mocasio-varela@medwayschools.org.

*ACTFL stands for American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Abrams
Assistant Superintendent

Dr. John Murray
High School Principal

Dr. Marieangie Ocasio-Varela
World Languages Coordinator

"Excellence for all through learning"

Equal Opportunity Employer