

DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ESL/Bilingual & World Languages Department

Dear Families,

We are excited to announce that the State Board of Education, in conjunction with the state legislature, has approved **Connecticut's Seal of Biliteracy**. This newly established seal is in line with nearly 40 other states across the country. The designation associated with the seal attests to a student's language ability in both English and a second language. **The Seal of Biliteracy will be affixed to a student's diploma and will also be noted on his/her final transcript, which will be sent to colleges/universities.**

What is the Seal of Biliteracy?

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award given in recognition of students who have attained proficiency in two or more languages by high school graduation. Appearing on a diploma, the Seal of Biliteracy is a statement of accomplishment for gaining competency in two or more languages and is viewed as an asset when applying for a job or for college admission. It is a statement of accomplishment that helps to signal evidence of a student's readiness for career and college, and for engagement as a global citizen.

In order to receive the Seal of Biliteracy students must:

- Be in 10th grade or higher AND
- Complete the English language requirements for graduation from a Connecticut high school AND
- Attain an Intermediate Mid proficiency* rating in a second language.

**Typically, speakers and writers at the Intermediate-Mid level are able to handle a variety of tasks in everyday social situations. Conversation and writers at this level is generally focused on exchanges necessary for survival in the target culture. These topics may include personal information related to self, family, home, daily activities, interests and personal preferences, as well as physical and social needs, such as food, shopping, travel, and lodging.*

Eligibility:

All students in levels 4 and higher are eligible for testing, which will take place during the month of April in language classes.

ALL "Heritage Language" speakers and World Language, level 4 or above students, are encouraged to participate. If successful, the official Seal of Biliteracy will be added to their transcripts.

For more information, contact your child's language teacher, Danbury High School Administration, or the ESL/Bilingual & World Language Department.

Sincerely,

Augusto Gomes, District Administrator