LAKE ELKHORN MIDDLE SCHOOL

6680 Cradlerock Way • Columbia, MD 21045 • 410-313-6600 • (F) 410-313-7633 • lems.hcpss.org



WORLD LANGUAGE OPTIONS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

February 3, 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians of Current Grade 6 Students:

Current Grade 6 students have the **option** of taking French or Spanish in Grade 7. The World Language program is a two-year program that prepares students to take French II or Spanish II in Grade 9 and enables students to pursue World Language study through the Advanced Placement level during high school.

All students with a strong interest in learning a language will need to consider the following information:

- The World Language course is a rigorous academic subject in addition to the four required courses in English, mathematics, science, and social studies. The World Language course will involve regular homework, varied and multiple assessments, and an end of 8th grade course assessment.
- In Grades 7 & 8, World Language is offered every day for a full year, in a daily 50-minute class.
- Enrollment in the World Language program is a two-year commitment that prepares students for higher levels of World Language in high school. Students will receive high school credit after successfully completing the middle school World Language course. The student's final grade for the course in 8th grade will appear on their high school transcript.
- Providing World Language for all interested students requires staffing based on student enrollment. Funding and the availability of highly qualified teachers are also critical factors. If additional staff is not available and/or if more students express an interest in taking a World Language than space allows, students will be scheduled using a lottery process. Students submitting forms past the deadline, or those not chosen in a lottery, will be placed on a waiting list.
- Students who take a World Language may be limited in their exposure of other related arts courses. Related arts classes include: art, technology education, family and consumer science, general music, health education and physical education. All students will still be required to take PE, health and a fine arts course each year.
- Students and parents should carefully consider the additional rigor of coursework when discussing the
 World Language option. Students need to be highly motivated, express a strong degree of interest, and
 be willing to work hard. Students demonstrating academic gaps, especially in reading and mathematics,
 should carefully consider not taking World Language at this time. It is important to note that the high
 school schedule provides many options to access World Language at that level.

Every Parent/Guardian and student needs to complete and return the attached form by **Thursday**, **February 13**, **2020**, to your child's **PERIOD 5** teacher. As a reminder, placement of all interested students into World Language is contingent upon funding, class size, and teacher recruitment. Please do not hesitate to call your school counselor should you need assistance.

Sincerely,

Melissa Shindel

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Principal

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World Language Interest Form 2020 – 2021 School Year

Child's Name:	Current	Grade:6	_
Please return this entire form	to your student's <u>Period 5</u> teacher by Thursi	DAY, FEBRUARY 13, 20	<i>920</i> .
Please check all that apply regard Middle School.	ing your child's choices for taking a World	l Language at Lake	e Elkhorn
1. I request that my student be enregrade:	olled in the following 'first choice' World La	anguage class for 7 ^t	h and 8th
☐ French (please also a	nswer question 2 below)		
☐ Spanish (please also d	answer question 2 below)		
☐ I DO NOT wish for	my student to participate in world language	at this time.	
2. If my child's 'first choice' class	is not available, he/she		
☐ Will accept enrollme	ent in a 'second choice' language		
☐ Will not accept enro	Ilment in a 'second choice' language		
Student's Name:	Period 5 Teacher:_		_
Your signature below indicates that information contained in the enclosed	you have read and understand the informat letter about World Language options.	ion above, in additi	ion to the
Parent/Guardian's Name	Parent/Guardian's Signature	Date	
Questions / Comments:			
*********	TO YOUR STUDENT'S Period 5 Teacher by Thurs ************************************		
LEMS USE : Date Received:	Received by:		
	in forms after the deadline will be placed or		