



Redford Union Schools
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Middle Years Program Language Policy

Philosophy

- All teachers are language teachers.
- Language is a primary means of learning and communicating.
- Language acquisition is to be promoted as a partnership between all members of our community including parents, students, teachers and staff.
- Mother tongue languages help form cultural and personal identity and should be respected.
- The shared experience of learning language creates cohesion among students from diverse backgrounds and promotes international-mindedness.
- Learning world languages is an integral part of becoming a global citizen
- American Standard English is the primary language of instruction

Aims

All MYP teachers, staff, parents and students work to:

- Enable students to learn and use language confidently in a variety of contexts.
- Increase students' powers of written and oral communication through intentional assessment.
- Promote student understanding and enjoyment of literature.
- Allow students to explore different perspectives through language.
- Encourage students to have fun and express themselves through language.

Language Acquisition Instruction

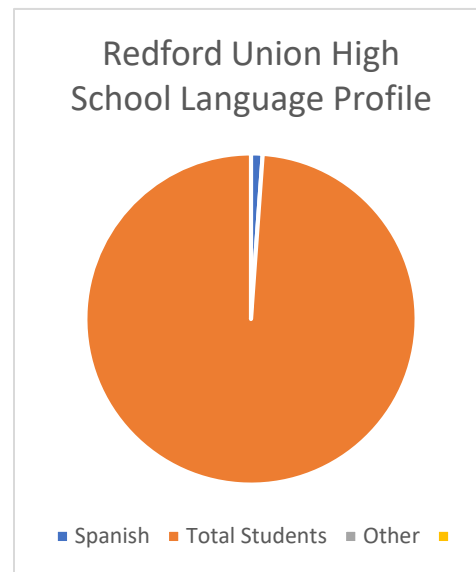
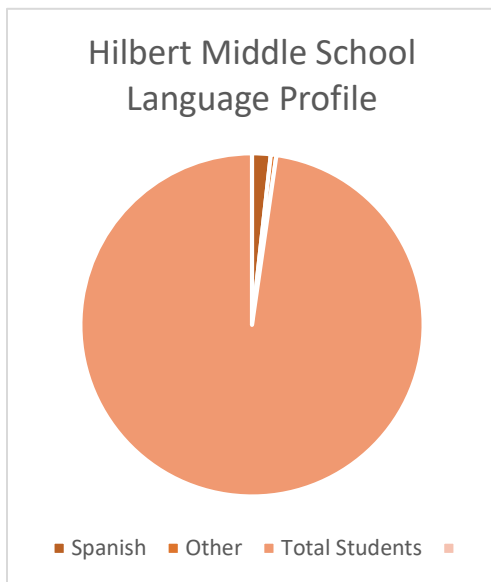
The importance of students becoming culturally and linguistically proficient in a second language is recognized in our partnership, and all students receive instruction in language acquisition. Our students are engaged in the development of the Spanish language throughout the MYP partnership continuum. Additionally, students are offered the opportunity to develop

language skills in the Spanish language in years 1-5. The mastery of essential language skills – reading, writing, listening, and speaking– is a vital part of our language acquisition curriculum. Students develop the fluency and literacy skills necessary to ensure their ability to communicate effectively. Realizing that not every student will progress through the six phases of language acquisition at a similar pace, we offer a continuum of language acquisition courses designed to meet both the academic and social needs of our students.

Support of Mother Tongues

In Redford Union we support our families whose native language is not English. We encourage parents and student to speak and develop their mother-tongue at home. This strengthens the child’s language skills while instilling a sense of importance about his/her culture. Wayne RESA provides students that are English Learners additional support. ESL teachers provide additional support to students that have a native language other than English and who experience sufficient difficulty understanding, speaking, reading or writing English.

Language Profile



English Learner Support

A child must meet ONE of the following conditions to be considered an English Learner:

- Born in a non-English speaking country outside of the United States
- Have a native language other than English;
- Come from a home in which a language other than English is spoken;
- Be a Native American or Alaskan Native who comes from an environment in which a language other than English has had a significant impact on the child’s level of English proficiency.

- Secondly, the child must have sufficient difficulty understanding, speaking, reading or writing English.

Entrance and exit criteria is set by MDE Special Population Unit for Michigan students. Wayne County Consortia follows the established and approved protocol.

Support for Students in Language Classes

English is our primary language of instruction. English is taught through Language and Literature, Reading and, for qualifying students, in our English as a Second Language ESL support program. Regardless of the level that they have been placed, students encounter reading that is at their independent and instructional levels.