



World Languages Program Update October 2011

Supt. Dorn Supports World Languages and International Education

On September 20, 2011, Bridget Yaden, WAFLT President, and Barbara Mondloch, ACTFL President, met with State Superintendent of Public Instruction Randy Dorn to thank him for OSPI's support of World Languages. At that meeting, Bridget and Barbara reviewed highlights of HR 1994, the Excellence and Innovation in Language Learning bill in Congress, and the impact that the bill would have on Washington state. Supt. Dorn agreed to incorporate elements of the bill into his talking points in support of ESEA.

As Congress moves forward on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), we must transform our country's support of education to prepare our students to become true global citizens, ready to participate and thrive in this era of global interconnectedness. HR 1994 proposes a framework that would support national and state leadership, as well as local innovation and implementation. The Washington State Superintendent of Public Instruction **supports** this systemic approach to addressing 21st century U.S. national security and global leadership challenges.

Specific elements of the proposed legislation that would benefit Washington State:

- State leadership and coordination through the establishment of a new Foreign (World) Language and International Education Advisory Council and funding for the positions of State World Languages Program Supervisor and International Education Program Supervisor
- Expansion of learning opportunities through innovative language immersion programs and online learning
- Support for implementing our K-12 World Languages Learning Standards, which are aligned to the national standards, and expanding access to nationally recognized proficiency assessments
- Funding for local districts to create model articulation programs K-12 to increase the number of students reaching advanced level proficiency in at least one language besides English
- Expanded opportunities for study abroad for high school teachers and students
- Access to a web-based clearinghouse of research on best practices and data on effective professional development and program models

Full Text of the bill: <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/bill.xpd?bill=h112-1994>

Upcoming Events in International Education supported by OSPI

October 29, 2011 Seattle – Council on Standards in International Educational Travel (CSIET) Conference "Building Generations of Youth Exchange" <http://www.csiet.org/meetings-activities/NationalSchoolConference/>

November 18, 2011 Seattle – Summit on Global Education in Washington State, convened by Global WA; sponsored by Seattle University, Boeing, Microsoft, Confucius Institute of the State of Washington <http://globalwa.org/our-work/global-education-initiative/summit-on-global-education-in-washington-state/>

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World Languages Competency-Based Credits & WA World Language Assessment Days

In July 2010, the Washington State Board of Education (SBE) approved a model policy and procedure for districts to offer competency-based credits for world languages (i.e. based on a student's demonstrated proficiency in a language). Currently, the OSPI World Languages program supports districts as they adopt the model policy and procedure. To date, at least three districts (Mt. Adams, North Thurston, and Seattle) have already adopted the policy and procedure for Competency-Based Credits and begun implementing them.

OSPI and the SBE recognize that one challenge for districts is to provide appropriate technology and a secure testing site for students to take the recommended assessments. To meet this challenge and support students who want to take world language assessments, the Washington Association for Language Teaching (WAFLT), OSPI, and the SBE began collaborating on a series of "Washington World Language Assessment Days" in spring 2011. Our goal is to make testing accessible to students who do not have a testing site in their district.

For latest updates, visit: <http://www.k12.wa.us/WorldLanguages/CompetencyBasedCredits.aspx>

LinguaFolio™ Pilot and LinguaFolio Online Professional Learning Community

OSPI is a partner state with the Center for Applied Second Language Studies (CASLS) at the University of Oregon to make available LinguaFolio Online (<https://linguafolio.uoregon.edu/>) to teachers and students in our state. Several hundred teachers have attended LinguaFolio™ workshops in recent months and been invited to join Washington's LinguaFolio Online Professional Learning Community (PLC).

To register for the PLC, go to <http://tinyurl.com/linguafolioWA>.

Recent workshop resources are available at: <https://sites.google.com/site/worldlanguageswashington/workshops-2011/assessing-language-proficiency-with-linguafolio>



OSPI is a state-level partner of the Confucius Institute of the State of Washington, which celebrated its first anniversary in April 2011. The Confucius Institute works with OSPI to support a variety of programs for teachers and students that promote Chinese language and culture, but also support good language teaching and learning practices, in general.

In June 2011, Supt. Randy Dorn traveled to China on the Chinese Bridge Delegation under the sponsorship of the Confucius Institute and Hanban.

For more information, visit <http://confucius.washington.edu>.