



Nebraska Department of Education

301 Centennial Mall South ♦ Lincoln, Nebraska ♦ 68509

World Language Review

August 2018

World Language Standards Revision

Charting a Course for Standards Revision

Eighteen participants from around the state met as the World Language Standards Advisory Council June 4-5 in Lincoln to determine the priorities of world language learning and the course of standards revision.

Participants were asked to define their “essential ingredients” for the world language standards.

Groups responded that standards should address effective and culturally appropriate communication, global competency, a growth mindset, and a focus on the application of skills to a variety of settings. The gathering reviewed policies from other states and agencies not specific to language study. Using this information, each small group refined their contributing essential ingredients until a standard became evident. These ideas will go forward to the standards writing team to be used as the guideline for the world language standards.



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Charlamos: From Past to Present



This is actually my third Lincoln life. I lived in Lincoln as a child, return to Lincoln as a college student, and have recently moved back as an adult.

My experience with the World Language Standards has been similar. The standards were adopted in 1997 just as I was leaving to take my first teaching position in Oregon. I have returned to Nebraska at a time when the world language standards are scheduled for their first revision. Twenty

years is a long time.

While time has changed some of the practices and beliefs of second language teaching, our core values have not altered. The 2017 World Language Teacher Survey results, the conversation at the Colloquium, and the conversation at the Standards Advisory Council reveal that we are still committed to effective communication, cultural competence, interdisciplinary connections, and language use within the community and using the second language to investigate, explain and reflect on the nature of language. I am inspired by how the Standards Advisory Committee was able, in two short and swelteringly hot days, to synthesize these core values with a clearer and higher level of expectation for student skill, an understanding of strategic thinking skills, and a reflection on the hyper connected world around us. Moving forward, I feel that these standards will reflect a stronger second language acquisition practice.

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World Language Societies and Clubs

Alliance Française d'Omaha:

Articles, events, classes, and community activities for French and Francophones.

<http://www.afomaha.org/>

German-American Society of Nebraska

Activities, clubs, community events, language classes, and student exchange.

<http://www.germanamericansociety.org/>

Japan America Society of Iowa

Community events, presentations, language school

<https://www.japaniowa.org/>

Asian Community and Cultural Center

Community events, English language support, presentations

<http://www.lincolnasiancenter.org/>

Events

♦
Children's China:
Celebrating Culture,
Character and
Confucius
Omaha Children's
Museum
May 26-August 19

♦
Color and Contour:
Provencal Quilts and
Domestic Objects
Lois Gottsch Gallery
International Quilt Study
Center & Museum
Lincoln
June 15-October 28

♦
Nebraska Asian Festival
Lewis and Clark Landing
Omaha
July 28

♦
Middle East Forum
CEC OPPD Community
Dialogue Room
UNO
September 20 and
October 18

♦
Chinese Warriors of
Peking
Lied Center
Lincoln
October 21

♦
Ballet Folklórico de
México
Lied Center
Lincoln
October 30

♦
If you would like to share
your event, please email
stephanie.call@nebraska.gov
with the information to
add.

Cultural Encounter Kits

Humanities Nebraska offers encounter kits that include videos, CDs, books, clothing, cultural items, and curriculum materials to public or private schools in Nebraska. Reserve kits for up to three weeks. Humanities Nebraska pays for UPS ground shipping to and from your school. Cultural Encounter Kits are targeted to youth grades 4-8. Topics include "A Treasured Heritage: Mexican Americans in Nebraska" and "Home in the Heartland: Nebraska Sudanese Cultures" among others. For more information, go to: <http://humanitiesnebraska.org/programs/resources.html>

Where to Start: Resources for 2018-2019

Classroom Grants

Target Field Trip Grants

Target Foundation offers field trip grants of up to \$700 for K-12 schools nationwide. Consider a trip to Joslyn, the Lied, or another performance venue for an artistic exposition of the target culture.

<https://corporate.target.com/corporate-responsibility/community/philanthropy/field-trip-grants>

Shopko Foundation Community Grants

Shopko Foundation offers grants of up to \$2,500 for K-12 private and public schools within 25 miles of a Shopko location.

<https://www.shopko.com/content.jsp?pageName=Education>

Monsanto Fund Education Grants

Monsanto benefits programs in K-12 education. Although the program is primarily for STEM focused programs, Monsanto will

consider other content areas. Consider using world language as it applies to agricultural vocabulary, technical training, or biological research.

<https://www.monsantofund.org/grant/2016/7/1/education>

Teacher Created Materials Classroom Supplies

Win up to \$250 in teaching supplies for your classroom from Teacher Created Materials.

<https://www.weareteachers.com/contest/back-to-school-shopping-spreel/>

Dremel DigiLab 3D Printer Giveaway

WeAreTeachers and Dremel are giving away a 3D printer. Imagine creating your own "authentic resources".

<https://www.weareteachers.com/contest/win-a-3d-printer/>

Free Posters

Vista Higher Learning

Celebrate world language learning with Spanish, French, German, and Italian posters to download.

<https://www.weareteachers.com/free-posters-quotes-about-language-learning/>

Language Learning By The Numbers

Middlebury Interactive Languages offers three posters detailing world language studies in the U.S. and abroad.

<https://www.weareteachers.com/posters-language-learning-by-the-numbers/>

