

An International Baccalaureate World School, Shore Regional High School is committed to supporting and to developing in its students all attributes represented in the IB Learner Profile. Essential to this process is communication, both in English (the language of instruction at the school) and the student's mother tongue. Since all teachers are involved in conveying information and knowledge to their students, all teachers are essentially "language teachers," as they model effective communication in their classrooms daily. Within the education system, then, language is the primary means of communicating, and it is basic to lifelong learning. If students are to succeed fully, they must be able to use language effectively, as it enables them to become inquirers and to develop critical thinking skills. Proficiency in language allows students to acquire knowledge related to all curricular areas of the IB Diploma Programme.

As stated in the school's mission statement, Shore Regional High School seeks to develop lifelong learners who can more successfully meet the demands of a global community. To that end, the school provides curriculum and instruction to support diversity and unity within the school community; and in its curricular offerings, Shore Regional High School encourages all students to enroll in at least one world language class so that they might gain cultural understanding and sensitivity.

The language of instruction at Shore Regional High School is English in all courses except its Language B classes; in those, instruction is delivered in the target language. Currently, Shore Regional High School offers Spanish as a Language B course (HL and SL options) and as an *ab initio* course (SL only). Additionally, students may pursue world language courses in French and Italian, both as *ab initio* courses. Those students who desire to study a classical language may enroll in Latin B, which is taught only as an SL option. As the school continues to expand its IB course offerings, it will offer French and Italian as Language B courses on the SL and HL levels, provided student interest and enrollment numbers support such.

### **Language A**

The only Language A course currently offered at Shore Regional High School is English Literature HL. This course follows the prescribed curriculum as established by IBO in its *Language A: Literature Guide*. In this course students are introduced to various genres and works in translation, as they are taught to value the artistry of literature and to reflect critically on what they read. As they study works in their literary and cultural contexts, students learn to read closely and to respond thoughtfully to their readings. Assessment of student progress occurs as required by IBO; and the assessments are constructed according to the policies described in *Language A: Literature Guide*.

### **Language B**

Shore Regional High School's administration and teacher believe that students should study global cultures so that they might acquire knowledge about societies other than their own and so that they might come to understand that even though other people might have different values and ideals, they can also be right (IBO, "Mission Statement"). Since students learn at different rates and through different learning modalities, Shore Regional High School offers a range of Language B courses to accommodate students' academic needs and learning styles. Through its curricular offerings in the World Language Department, Shore Regional provides differentiated instructional strategies in Spanish, French, Italian, and Latin. As students gain fluency in other languages, their instructors will assess their progress, using the criteria and assessment models provided by IBO.

### **Extra-Curricular Language and Culture Opportunities**

Shore Regional High School hosts these organizations to support students in their world language studies and to foster deeper appreciation of other cultures:

- AIU
- International Culture Club
- French Connection
- Spanish Honor Society

### **Mother-Tongue Instruction and Support for Students with Limited English Proficiency**

The administration and staff of Shore Regional High School recognize the importance of students' connections to their mother tongues. Since the language a person uses is an essential aspect of his or her identity, encouraging students to continue to use their mother tongues is important as this supports their sense of self, maintains their connections to their cultural heritages, and supports them in their academic progress through the state-mandated and IB-mandated curricula. Students have access to free peer tutoring, provided by members of the National Honor Society, to those who are non-native English speakers. If required, the school provides students and parents with translators during conferences and school-wide meetings. If necessary, school-based publications may be translated into a student's mother-tongue language. Shore Regional High School has an "English Language Learner" (ELL) teacher who works closely with students who are learning to speak English. Teachers in other departments work closely with the school's ELL teacher to ensure that instructional techniques and strategies are appropriate for these students. Students who are new to the English language and/or those with limited English proficiency will remain in the ELL program until summative assessments indicate that they have reached a level of fluency in English that will allow them to succeed in courses taught in that language.

### **Communication to Stakeholders**

Shore Regional High School's "language policy" is posted on the school's International Baccalaureate webpage, can be made available if necessary in hard copy form in the main office, and is digitally shared with all Shore Regional IB students and their parents.

### **Language Policy Review**

Annually the IB staff, school administration, and world language teachers will review Shore Regional High School's "IB Diploma Language Policy." Revisions to the policy can be suggested at the time of review and submitted to the school's Board of Education for approval.