PHILOSOPHY
To relate in a meaningful way to another human being one must be able to communicate. Studying world languages, whether modern, classical or Native American, enormously increases one’s ability to understand culture and to see connections. Language learning should be offered in grades K-12 and be a sequential process leading to enjoyable lifelong learning. The earlier a student begins language learning, the more proficient the learner becomes. To study another language and culture gives one the powerful key to successful communication: Knowing how, when, and why to say what to whom. (From Standards for Foreign Language Learning: Preparing for the 21st Century, EMC Publishing, 1996.) Classical languages and some American Indian languages will often have a different communication focus than modern languages. Oral proficiency is not the major outcome of studying a classical language nor are reading and writing primary outcomes in learning all American Indian languages.

STATE STANDARDS
I. Students engage in conversation, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
II. Students understand and interpret spoken and written language on a variety of topics.
III. Students convey information, concepts, and ideas to listeners and readers for a variety of purposes.
IV. Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the perspectives, practices, and product/contributions of cultures studied, and use this knowledge to interact effectively in cultural contexts.
V. Students reinforce and increase his/her knowledge of other disciplines through world languages.
VI. Students acquire information and perspectives through authentic materials on world languages and within cultures.
VII. Students recognize that different languages use different patterns and can apply this knowledge to his/her own language.
VIII. Students demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the culture studied and his/her own.
IX. Students apply language skills and cultural knowledge in daily life.
I. **Students engage in conversation, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.**

The students will:
1. Communicate in a form of speech readily understandable to a native speaker of French.
2. Discuss various topics using hypotheses and conjecture.
3. Narrate, describe, and explain using past, present, and future tenses correctly.
4. Demonstrate a good command of grammatical forms and syntactic patterns.
5. Collaborate and compromise to develop, propose, and negotiate solutions.
6. Readily recall a fairly broad range of vocabulary items in order to speak with fluency and accuracy.
7. Speak with an accent that is not so markedly foreign that it interferes with comprehension.

II. **Students understand and interpret spoken and written language on a variety of topics.**

The student will:
1. Follow the essentials of conversation between native speakers who may occasionally use colloquial expressions.
2. Follow with general understanding oral and written reports on non-technical subjects.
3. Understand standard French from recorded sources.
4. Read expository and narrative French prose with good overall comprehension.
5. Read and comprehend literary texts, novels, essays, poetry, and short stories in their original form.
6. Will be able to separate main ideas from subordinate ones and recognize hypotheses, opinions, and documented facts.
7. Comprehend frequently used idiomatic expressions and develop strategies for successfully interpreting unfamiliar words, idioms, or structures.

III. **Students convey information, concepts, and ideas to listeners and readers for a variety of purposes.**

The student will:
1. Demonstrate a good command of grammatical forms and syntactic patterns.
2. Be able to present and develop ideas in a clear, logical manner.
3. Be able to use language appropriate to the purpose of the communication, the topic, and the audience.
4. Develop sufficient vocabulary to communicate effectively.
5. Be able to write a well-organized essay, developing a theme and incorporating supporting details.