

The Bedford Central School District World Language Department
Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the World Language State Assessments

- 1. What changes to the state assessments in World Languages did the Board of Regents make and why?**
Given the State's budgetary conditions, all Checkpoint A Second Language Proficiency Exams and Checkpoint B Comprehensive Regents Exams in languages other than English will not be created nor distributed by the Education Department. The decision was due purely to budgetary constraints and the need for the Department of Education to make drastic cuts. The responsibility of creating, administering, and scoring the Checkpoint A and the Checkpoint B assessments has shifted to the local school district (see question number 5).
- 2. When did the Board of Regents make this decision?**
The Checkpoint A (8th grade) Second Language Proficiency Exams and the Checkpoint B Comprehensive Regents Exams in Latin were eliminated at the end of the 2010 school year. The Checkpoint B Comprehensive Regents Exams in French, Italian, and Spanish were eliminated at the end of the 2011 school year. These exams are given at the end of level 3.
- 3. What other state assessments have been affected?**
Postponement of the development of exams in English Language Arts 9 and the English Language Arts 10 and the elimination of Grades 5 and 8 Social Studies tests (eliminated in 2010-11).
- 4. Have graduation requirements in the study of languages other than English changed?**
No! The State Department of Education continues to require that students complete at least Checkpoint A (which is our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade World Language program at the Middle School and level 1 at the High School). However, in order for students to receive a Regents diploma with advanced designation, students must still successfully complete Checkpoint B (levels 2 and 3 at the High School) and pass the local assessment. Keep in mind that most students continue their study of a World Language at the advanced level upon completing the comprehensive examination.
- 5. Do students still need to take an exam at the end of 8th grade and at the end of level 3 at the High School?**
Yes! The Board of Regents has declared that the development of the local examinations will be the responsibility of the school and these tests will take the place of the Second Language Proficiency Exam and the LOTE Regents exams. The content standards and performance indicators of these locally-developed examinations must be aligned with the State's Learning Standards for Checkpoint A and Checkpoint B.
- 6. What other requirements are necessary for students to meet in order to receive High School credit for their study of a language other than English?**
The regulations that were passed by the Board of Regents require students to successfully complete their 7th and 8th grade LOTE classes and pass the locally developed assessment in order to earn the first unit of High School credit. Students who do not successfully complete their LOTE classes or pass the locally developed assessment will not be able to receive High School credit for Checkpoint A.

In order for students to receive High School credit for Checkpoint B, they must successfully complete their level 3 class. In order for students to earn a Regents diploma with an advanced designation, students must have earned three credits in the language and they must pass the locally developed assessment.
- 7. Where can I find more information about these changes?**
Please feel free to contact your child's World Language teacher or contact Lorraine Minotti, the World Language Coordinator of Bedford Schools at lminotti2809@bcسدny.org. There is also information available on the NYSED website at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/sss/summerschool/regentscut2011.pdf>.