



Hunt Middle School Language Policy

Philosophy- Hunt Middle School believes that all teachers are language teachers as the study of language is the foundation for all learners. The focus in all classrooms includes the study and practice of communication, listening, comprehension, and collaboration. Incorporating the study of a second language provides students the opportunity to develop respect and understanding of international cultures.

Language of Instruction- The language of instruction at Hunt Middle School is English. The majority of the student body speak English as their primary language. Translated closed captioning is available on PowerPoint and use of other technology as available. Additional support provided for the mother tongue on request.

Language A Resources – Language A is offered to students as part of their eight-subject A/B schedule. The Hunt Middle School staff includes literacy specialists, including literacy and language teachers, teacher librarians, an ML teacher, special education teachers, and teachers in all subject areas.

Second Language Course Offerings - Hunt Middle School offers world languages including Exploratory and French courses to students as part of their eight-subject A/B schedule. Students read, write, speak and listen in the second languages. Tacoma Public Schools is also reintroducing the local Puyallup tribe's Twulshootseed language to our community.

Waiving Language B- Based on the students' individual IEP goals, some students with IEPs may waive a Language B course. Students who are ML language learners will be supported with English language acquisition in place of the Language B program.

Diversity of our English Language Learners –Hunt Middle School has Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian, Samoan, Marshallese, Arabic, Mandarin, Portuguese, Cambodian, Swahili, Thai, ASL, Bulgarian, French, and Ukrainian. English language learners will be supported by an ML educational staff and school-wide GLAD (Guided Language Acquisition by Design) and SIOP strategies. In addition, Hunt staff provides materials in mother tongue as needed to students and families.

Interpreters –Families whose first language is not English will have access to all areas of their students' education. Tacoma Public Schools uses Language Link Interpreting Service. There are teachers on staff who speak Spanish, French and Chinese (Mandarin). Parent updates will be delivered weekly via emails that can be translated into a variety of languages. Newsletters may also be translated for families.

Review and Update Plan- The Hunt Language Policy will be updated at least once a year. Once enrollment is stabilized, the language policy will be reviewed every year by the MYP Coordinator and SCDM.

*Please return to Hunt's School Website for links to all Hunt IB policies

**Policy is reviewed yearly by all staff through SCDM