

Curriculum Adoption World Languages 2026-2027 Committee Meeting

Monday, September 14th, 2026
Mohave Middle School Room 144

Roll Call



The World Language Committee Members

- ❑ Wendy Diozzi - Teacher
- ❑ Ivan Chango - Teacher
- ❑ Chance Hamblin - Teacher
- ❑ Susanna Lelli - Teacher
- ❑ Judith Zubia - Teacher
- ❑ Zosha Darnell - Teacher
- ❑ Luz Angela Schullo - Teacher
- ❑ Maribelle Salazar - Teacher
- ❑ Blanca Caballero - Teacher
- ❑ Elodie Clement - Teacher
- ❑ Mei Hsiu Chan - Teacher
- ❑ Zhongyi Yuan - Teacher
- ❑ Chelsea Miller - Teacher
- ❑ Huei-Ling Chen - Teacher

Sign In Sheets

Please record arrival time on the sign-in sheet as you arrive. Record departure time if you are leaving before the meeting officially adjourns.

Agenda

Agenda for Monday, September 14th, 2026

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

Information, Discussion, and Possible Action

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda for September 14th, 2026 - **Action Item**
4. Welcome and Introduction Activity
5. Committee Goals
6. Committee Norms and Expectations
7. Open Meeting Laws
8. Curriculum Adoption Process
9. Guidelines Rubric Development
10. Subgroup Breakout Activity: What We Have and What We Want
11. Committee Timeline and Future Meetings
12. Adjournment



Scottsdale *Unified* School District
Engaging all students in world-class, future-focused learning

**NOTICE and AGENDA
CURRICULUM ADOPTION COMMITTEE:
WORLD LANGUAGE
SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48**

Date: September 14, 2026 Time: 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the World Language Curriculum Adoption Committee and to the general public that on September 14, 2026, at 4:00 - 6:00 pm, at Mohave Middle School Room 144, 8490 E Jackrabbit Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85250, the Curriculum Adoption Committee will hold a meeting. One or more members of the Committee and non-member participants will participate in the meeting in-person.

The Agenda for the meeting is:

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

Information, Discussion, and Possible Action

3. Approval of Meeting Agenda for September 14th, 2026 - Action Item
4. Welcome and Introduction Activity
5. Committee Goals
6. Committee Norms and Expectations
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CURRICULUM ADOPTION COMMITTEE: WORLD LANGUAGE MATERIALS WILL BE AVAILABLE TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING, AT THE SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, MOHAVE DISTRICT ANNEX, 8500 E. JACKRABBIT ROAD, SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85250-6768.

Date Posted: September 11, 2026.

Action Item

Discussion and Approval of Meeting
Agenda for September 14th, 2026

Welcome & Introductions

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.”

Frank Smith

- ❑ Your name and school
- ❑ What language(s) you teach
- ❑ Complete this sentence:
“Learning another language gives students the opportunity to _____.”

Committee Goals

SUSD Strategic Plan

GOAL 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Challenge and inspire students to reach high levels of achievement so they thrive as confident, dynamic, future-ready learners equipped to pursue their passions and ambitions.
Commitments:

1.1: Provide learning opportunities that ensure all students graduate prepared for relevant and viable postsecondary higher learning and careers.

1.2: Cultivate critical and creative thinking by integrating problem-based learning opportunities throughout the curriculum.

GOAL 5: OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

Generate and utilize resources to maximize educational opportunities in order to ensure organizational health.

5.3 *Ensure equitable distribution of resources to meet the needs of our students.*

Committee Purpose and Objective

Purpose

The purpose of the Elective Adoption Committee is to review, evaluate, and recommend quality and appropriate textbooks and instructional resources for approval by the district Governing Board.

Objective

The committee will:

- Learn about current best practices in instruction for each sub group area
- Learn about each sub group standards and the progression through grade levels.
- Review rubric criteria to be used to evaluate textbooks and resources.
- Review and evaluate textbooks and instructional resources.
- Recommend textbooks and instructional resources to the Governing Board for formal approval and adoption.

Committee Norms and Expectations

Committee Norms

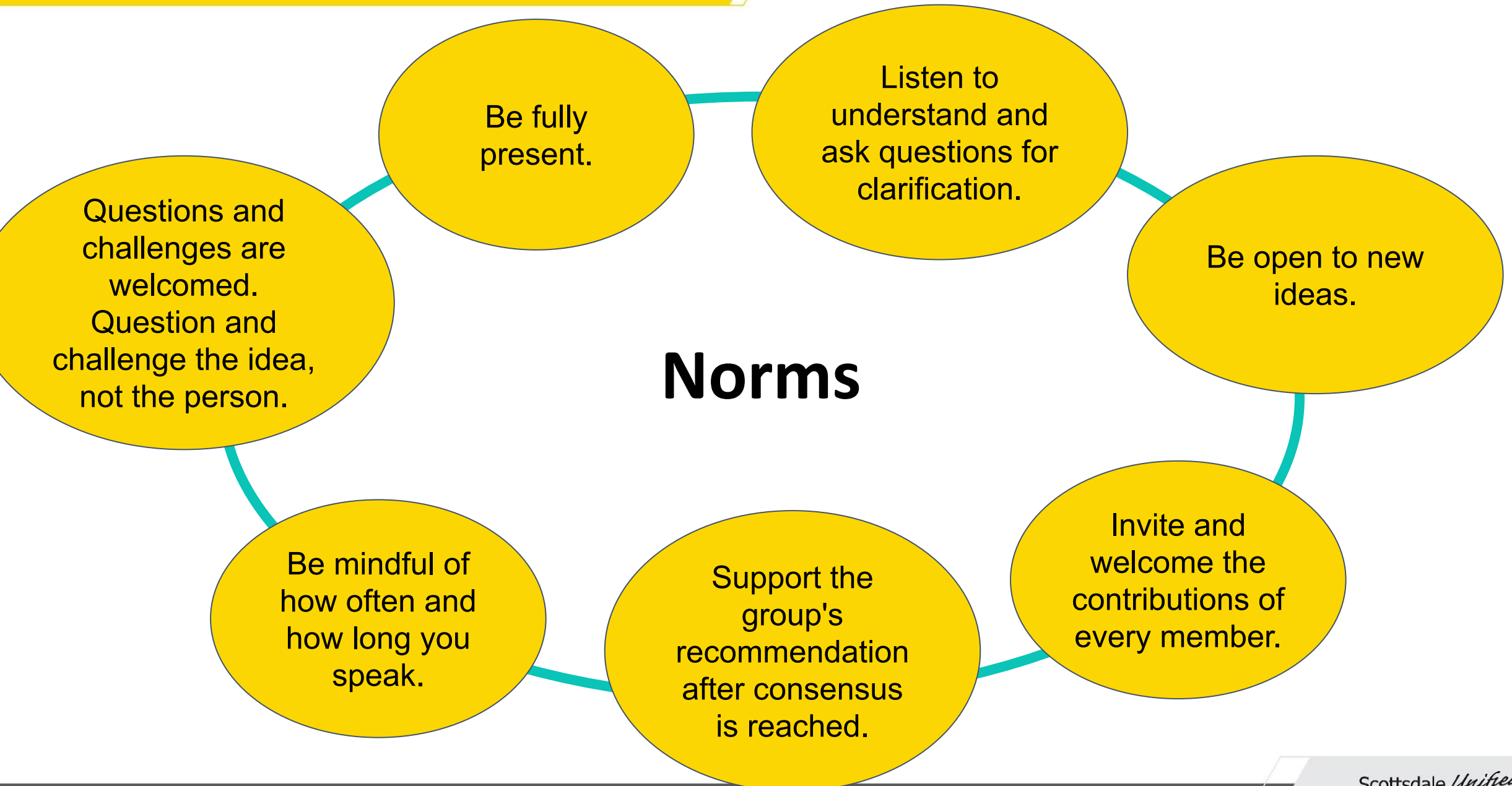
Establishing norms:

- **Encourages behaviors that allow groups to work together successfully.**
- **Allows groups to dialogue, engage productively in conflict, discuss and decide, invent and problem solve.**
- **Make it safe to examine one's practice and talk about difficult to discuss topics.**



Key Question:

How must we conduct ourselves to allow us to work together most successfully to accomplish our goals?



Clarifying Decision-Making Process

Defining Consensus

Defours et al - Definition of Consensus:

All points of view have been heard.

The will of the group is evident even to those who most oppose it.

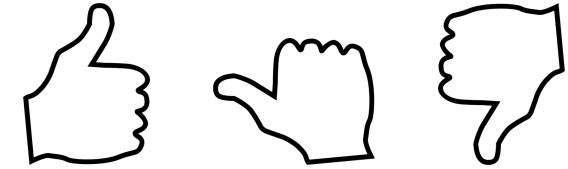
If all members of a committee/group must agree - or if every member of a committee can veto taking action - groups will be subjected to constant inaction... a state of perpetual status quo.

Without a shared understanding of consensus, persons determine their own standards.

Consensus decision making is a group decision making process that seeks consent of all participants where everyone's opinions are heard and understood. It is an acceptable resolution; one that can be supported, even if it is not the "first choice" or "favorite" of each individual.

Clarifying Decision-Making Process

Defining Consensus



Consensus is...

- Consenting to a proposal because **group members choose to cooperate** with the direction of the **group rather than insist on their personal preference.**
- ***“Is this proposal something you can live with?”*** While group members may be willing to go along with a proposal, **they do not actually need to favor it above another choice.**
- To ***“consent”***. This means that even if group members disagree, **there is still overall consent to move forward** in order to settle the issue.

Open Meeting Laws

What is Open Meeting Law

Arizona's Open Meeting Law is a law that ensures the work of public bodies is conducted openly and transparently. It requires meetings, discussions, deliberations, and decisions of public bodies and advisory committees to occur in public meetings that have been properly noticed, allowing community members to observe the process and understand how recommendations are developed.

- AZOCA.GOV

Why are we discussing Open Meeting Law?

As members of a Curriculum Adoption Committee, we are acting as an advisory committee to the district. Arizona law requires that our work be conducted openly and transparently so the public can observe the process and understand how recommendations are developed. Arizona Open Meeting Law applies to advisory committees appointed by a public body, including curriculum adoption committees.

SUSD Governing Board Policy and State Statute

Policy IJJ – Textbook/Supplementary Materials Selection and Adoption. According to the policy, the Superintendent establishes textbook selection procedures and committees, and recommendations from those committees are forwarded through the adoption process for Governing Board consideration.

Open Meeting Law requirement itself comes from Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S. §§ 38-431 through 38-431.09)

Our Guiding Principles

The purpose of Open Meeting Law is to:

- Ensure decisions are not made in private
- Allow the public to observe the process
- Promote trust and accountability
- Protect both committee members and the district from allegations of improper decision-making

What is a Meeting

A meeting occurs when a quorum of committee members discusses, deliberates, proposes, or takes action on committee business.

A **quorum** is the minimum number of committee members who must be present for the committee to conduct official business. In most cases, a quorum is a majority (half + 1) of the committee's membership.

For example = If your committee has 12 members, a quorum is 7 members.

Things you may NOT do:

1. Do Not "Reply All"

Avoid group emails discussing curriculum options, scoring, recommendations, or opinions.

Appropriate:

- Logistical questions
- Meeting reminders
- Sharing publicly distributed materials

Things you may NOT do:

2. Do Not Discuss Adoption Business Outside a Posted Meeting

This includes:

- Hallway conversations
- Parking lot discussions
- Lunch conversations
- Side conversations before or after meetings

If discussion begins drifting into committee business, politely stop and wait until the next meeting.

Things you may NOT do:

3. Do Not Poll Committee Members

No individual should contact members separately to determine:

- How they will vote
- Which resource they support
- Where consensus may exist

The committee's deliberations must happen in public.

Things you may NOT do:

4. Do Not Use a "Middleman"

Avoid communicating opinions through another person.

Example:

"Can you ask the other committee members what they think about Publisher X?"

This can create an illegal serial discussion

Things you MAY do:

- Review materials independently
- Take personal notes
- Ask questions during posted meetings
- Discuss resources during posted meetings
- Complete scoring rubrics as directed
- Share perspectives and experiences during committee meetings
- Ask district staff logistical questions

Public Records Reminder

Anything related to committee business may be subject to public records requests, including:

- Emails
- Notes shared with the committee
- Scoring documents
- Committee communications

Always communicate professionally and assume materials could become public.

During Any Meeting

Please remember:

- One person speaks at a time.
- Ensure every voice is heard.
- Base recommendations on the established evaluation criteria.
- Keep discussions focused on evidence and rubric indicators.
- Respect differing viewpoints.
- All recommendations must be developed during public meetings.

When in Doubt...

If you are unsure whether a communication or action may violate Open Meeting Law:

Stop. Don't send the email, text, or message. Contact district administration or legal counsel for guidance before proceeding.

Curriculum Adoption Process

What Are The Goals

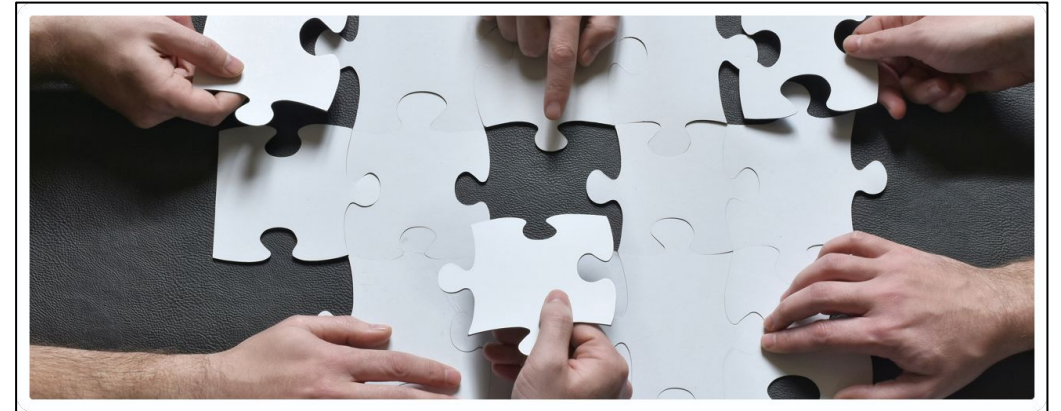


***“Building the
Future of
Learning”***

- ❑ Understand the Adoption Process
- ❑ Ensure Standards
- ❑ Support High-Quality Instruction
- ❑ Meet the Needs of All Learners

- ❑ Align with Arizona Academic Standards
- ❑ Support the SUSD Strategic Plan
- ❑ Promote equitable access to high-quality instructional materials
- ❑ Meet the needs of diverse learners, including Special Education, Gifted, and Multilingual Learners
- ❑ Encourage critical thinking, problem solving, and student engagement
- ❑ Provide sufficient instructional supports for teachers and students
- ❑ Demonstrate fiscal responsibility and long-term sustainability

Adoption Recommendations



Guiding Principles

“Your voice matters”

Review current
materials

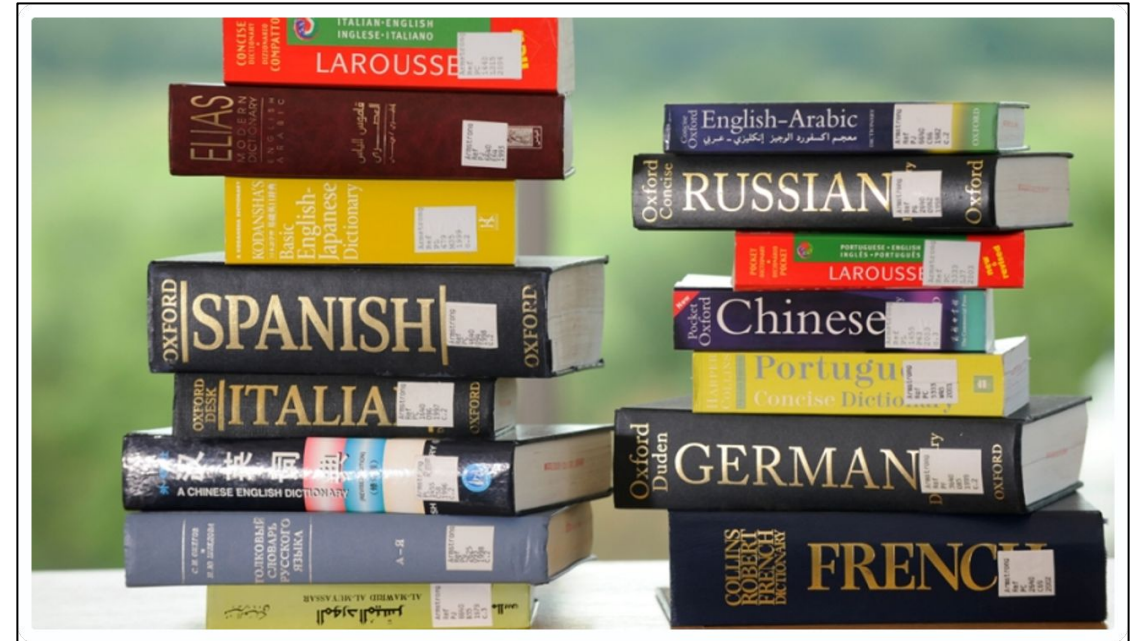
Identify instructional
gaps

Review student
achievement data

Gather stakeholder
input on what the
committee is looking
for in a new
curriculum.

PHASE 1

Needs Assessment



PHASE 2

Resource Evaluation



Review publisher
submissions

Evaluate materials using the
created rubric

Offer personalized services
and loyalty rewards.

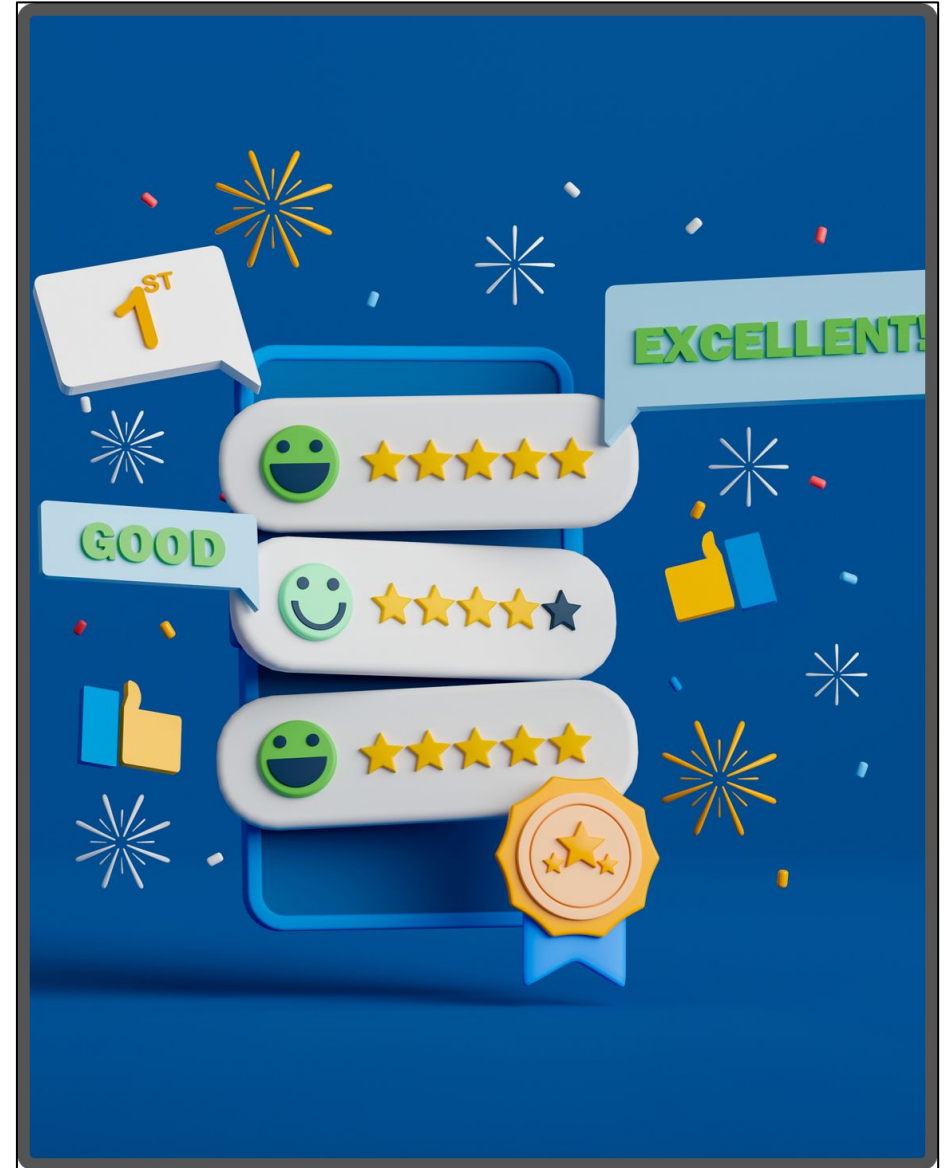
PHASE 3

Public Review

Gather classroom
feedback

Gather public feedback

Collect teacher and
student experiences



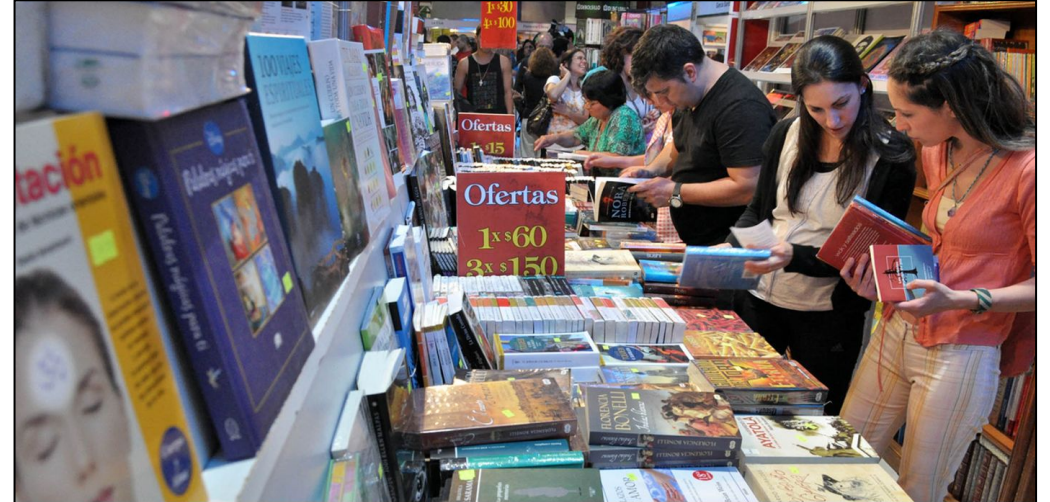
PHASE 4

Vendor Presentation

Participate in vendor presentations

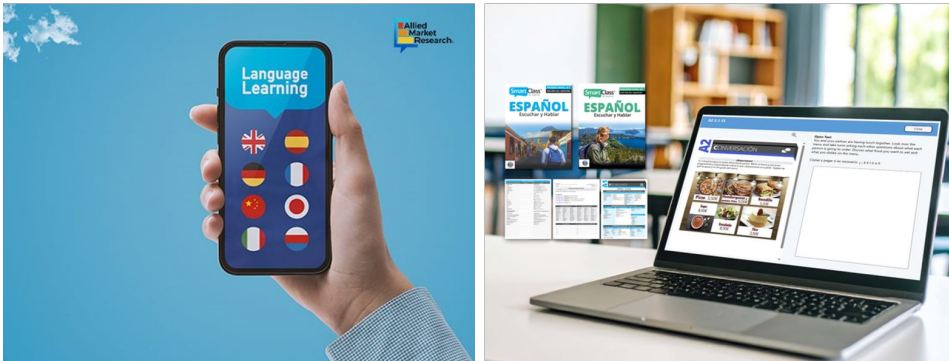
Finalist curriculums only

Gather stakeholder feedback



PHASE 5

Scoring and Consensus Building



Review aggregated scores

Discuss strengths and concerns

Work toward consensus recommendations

Recommendations should be evidence-based and tied directly to evaluation criteria.

PHASE 6

Scoring and Consensus Building

Submit all required deliverables

Review aggregated scores

Contribute to the Governing Board presentation



Guidelines Rubric Development

Guidelines for Rubric

- ❑ Review of standards and core practices
- ❑ World Language Evaluation Instrument
- ❑ Review of World **Languages** Highly Desired Criteria created by committee
- ❑ Create the rubric to be used for scoring materials

Key Considerations

- ❑ ACTFL, standards & course alignment
- ❑ Proficiency growth across levels
- ❑ Listening, speaking, reading & writing
- ❑ Grammar and vocabulary in context
- ❑ Clear objectives & essential questions
- ❑ Logical lesson sequence & progression
- ❑ Authentic target-language opportunities
- ❑ Relevant cultural content & perspectives
- ❑ Engaging, diverse & age-appropriate activities
- ❑ Real-world & community connections
- ❑ Projects, IPAs & performance-based learning
- ❑ Differentiation, scaffolds & accessibility
- ❑ Practice, review & student reflection
- ❑ Meaningful assessments & clear rubrics
- ❑ Assessment data to inform instruction
- ❑ Strong teacher resources & instructional support
- ❑ Quality print, digital & interactive resources
- ❑ High-quality authentic audio & media
- ❑ Accurate, accessible & user-friendly materials
- ❑ AP alignment & preparation, when applicable

**What we have.
What we want.**

Category	Courses
Elementary/DLI	Spanish Language Mandarin Language
Middle School	Exploratory Languages Multicultural Studies
High School	Spanish Spanish HL French Mandarin Japanese Italian (Levels 1-AP) IB and Capstone Courses IB Computer Science

Language Group Work

Subgroup Work

- ☐ Work with your assigned language group.
- ☐ Discuss what vendors should include in their submissions.
- ☐ Create a rubric for evaluating curriculum.
- ☐ Define evaluation criteria and expectations.
- ☐ Create a vendor statement that aligns with the rubric.

Reconvene

- ☐ Where is your subgroup in the process?
- ☐ Is your subgroup ready to submit the request to vendors?
- ☐ Are there any concerns about the rubric or vendor statement?
- ☐ Did your subgroup reach consensus?
- ☐ If not, what should happen next?

Committee Timeline

Timeline - Important Dates

Date	Description
Tuesday, August 25, 2026	Whole Group Meeting #1
TBD	Vendor Presentations
Friday, January 8, 2027	Deadline for all materials to be on public display
Tuesday, February 9, 2027	Board Meeting, First Read, Information Item
Tuesday, March 9, 2027	Board Meeting, Action Item

Future Meetings

Meetings will be held from 4:00 - 6:00 at Mohave Middle School

Date	Description
Monday, September 14th, 2026	World Languages Meeting #1
Monday, September 28th, 2026	World Languages Meeting #2 (Rubric Creation)
Monday, November 2nd, 2026	Review submitted materials
Monday, November 16th, 2026	Review submitted materials
Monday, January 11th, 2027	Vendor presentations

Questions / Comments?

Meeting
adjourned!

