

Los Altos School District

Resolution #20/21-09

Junior High School Pursuit of Biliteracy Award

Rationale:

The Los Altos School District Board of Trustees is committed to providing the foundations to learn, lead, and innovate in high school and beyond. Students will have the knowledge and skills to participate fully in the 21st century: communication, collaboration, character, critical thinking, creativity, and citizenship. The Board of Trustees upholds that the pursuit of mastery of two or more languages makes important contributions to a student's cognitive development, understanding of diverse cultures, and economic opportunities. Achieving high levels of competency in two or more languages is an integral part of making the vision of student success a reality.

WHEREAS, pursuit of literacy in two or more languages represents a challenging academic standard;

WHEREAS working towards biliteracy builds trust and understanding across languages and cultural groups in our community;

WHEREAS, the study of world languages prepares students to communicate and collaborate effectively in a global political, social, and economic context;

WHEREAS the demand for employees to be fluent in more than one language is increasing both in California and throughout the world;

WHEREAS the California K-16 Master Plan for Education calls for pupils to graduate from high school literate in two or more languages;

The Los Altos School District hereby adopts a Junior High School Pursuit of Biliteracy Award to be placed on junior high school diplomas of pupils who are pursuing high levels of proficiency in English and one other language. Through the implementation of this Junior High School Pursuit of Biliteracy Award, the district seeks to:

- encourage pupils to develop biliteracy skills;
- revitalize and promote world language instruction in our junior high schools;
- recognize and honor our rich and diverse language assets;
- develop students prepared to thrive in our complex world.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Trustees of the Los Altos School District, Santa Clara County, California, approved the Junior High School Pursuit of Biliteracy Award, effective immediately.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on March 8, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true, and correct resolution duly adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Los Altos School District.

Vaishali Sirkay
President
Board of Trustees

Attest:

Jeffrey Baier
Secretary to the Board of Trustees