



RESOLUTION
Support for the
Pathways to Biliteracy

Milpitas Unified School District
RESOLUTION #2017.34

WHEREAS, mastery of two or more languages makes important contributions to a student's cognitive development, understanding of diverse cultures, and economic opportunities

WHEREAS, the study of foreign languages contributes towards our national economy and our national security

WHEREAS, multiple languages are a critical element in enabling our city and state to participate 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, our community is home to speakers from hundreds of different language and cultural groups, and to build trust and understanding across the multiple language and cultural groups in our diverse community requires multilingual skills of communication

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

Therefore, it is the intent of Milpitas Unified School District to promote the development of literacy in two or more languages and to provide recognition of the attainment of those needed and important skills through the establishment of a Pathways to Biliteracy to be awarded to pupils attaining functional proficiency in one or more languages, in addition to English at Kindergarten, Grade 3, Grade 6, and Grade 8. Through the establishment of this Pathways to Biliteracy, the district seeks to:

- encourage pupils to develop biliteracy skills
- provide employers with a method of identifying people with language and biliteracy skills
- revitalize and promote foreign language instruction in our schools
- encourage the development of two way bilingual programs, and world language programs in schools
- recognize and honor our rich and diverse language assets



The Pathways to Biliteracy award shall be awarded by the Superintendent to pupils who complete the requirements.

- Kindergarten Pathways to Biliteracy: Ribbon of Recognition and certificate
- Completion of 3rd Grade Pathways to Biliteracy: Ribbon of Recognition and certificate
- Completion of Elementary School Pathways to Biliteracy at Grade 7: Ribbon of Recognition and certificate
- Completion of Middle School Pathways to Biliteracy at Grade 8: Medal of Recognition and certificate.

In order to receive Pathways to Biliteracy Awards, a student must complete a “Demonstration of Skills” to show proficiency in both English and the target language/s.

If the primary language of a pupil is English, he or she shall:

- (1) Kindergarten: Meet District Benchmarks for Early Literacy Skills
Grades 3, 6, and 8: Meet Level 3 (Standard Met) or 4 (Exceeded Standard) on California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP)

AND

- (2) Complete a Demonstration of Skills in the target language

If the primary language of a pupil is other than English, he or she shall do all of the following:

- (1) Kindergarten: Meet District Benchmarks for Early Literacy Skills
Grades 3, 6, and 8: Meet Level 3 (Standard Met) or 4 (Exceeded Standard) on California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP)

AND

- (2) Attain the English proficiency levels on the California English Language Development Test (CELDT) / English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC)

AND

- (3) Complete a Demonstration of Skills in the target language

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milpitas Unified School District endorses the State Seal of Biliteracy.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Milpitas Unified School District Board of Education at a meeting held on June 13, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTENTION:

Hon Lien, Clerk
Milpitas Unified School District
Board of Education
Milpitas, CA, County of Santa Clara