



Dear 8th grade students and parents,

The CMS World Languages Department would like to wish all rising freshmen the best of luck during the transition from middle school to public or private high schools. We understand the level of anxiety that comes along with going to a new school, taking placement tests, meeting new teachers, and rigorous coursework.

The curriculum may be different at a private institution, which could affect the placement of your child in their world language study. To review the course work that your child was exposed to, please follow the links below.

French		Spanish	
Novice A	Curriculum Can Dos	Novice A	Curriculum Can Dos
Novice B	Curriculum Can Dos	Novice B	Curriculum Can Dos
Intermediate	Curriculum Can Dos	Intermediate	Curriculum Can Dos

BCPS offers language learning through **comprehensible input (CI)** in order for students to achieve proficiency in their language of study. BCPS provides a curriculum that aligns with [ACTFL](#)'s (American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages) guidelines for language proficiency with our ultimate goal of having our students achieve Intermediate High proficiency and earn the [Maryland Seal of Biliteracy](#) upon completion of High School.

ACTFL's evaluation system is the instrument used to evaluate language proficiency across the globe in academics and in the workplace. The evaluation is of one's functional language ability. Our curriculum focuses on functional language ability. **Grammar will show up in context, at the appropriate time, in context, as indicated by its placement in [ACTFL's guiding principles for language learning](#).**

In April 2022, all CMS 7th grade students who were enrolled in a language course participated in [AAPPL](#) (Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages) testing. This test assesses student language proficiency in reading, listening, and writing. Each student received their official proficiency scores at the end of last school year. *If you need an additional copy, please reach out to your student's current WL teacher.*

World language acquisition has evolved greatly over the years and BCPS has adapted to these changes. Verb conjugation exams assess students' ability to fill in specific, isolated answers instead of highlighting a student's full capability to control and communicate with the target language. In BCPS we aim to provide our students with a rich language experience filled with authentic materials and room for spontaneous use of the target language so that our student's language proficiency develops naturally and meaningfully.

We wish nothing but success for your students' future; personally, educationally, and linguistically.

Sincerely,
CMS World Language Department

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