

Grades 9-12
Bristol Warren Regional School District, Rhode Island

Address: 199 Chestnut Street , Bristol, RI 02809

Grades: 9-12

Contact: **Antonio A. Teixeira**
Dean of Students

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Languages/Dialects taught: Portuguese, Spanish, Italian, French

Program Description

Purposes and goals of the program: To teach the languages as electives or college requirements

Type of program: Foreign language program and extracurricular club

Mission statement: To provide the opportunity for students to learn about other cultures and languages

Program Origins: The program was founded approximately in 1967 with school district funds

Parents' expectations for the program: For students to familiarize themselves with other languages and cultures, with the hope as means of communication in the future

Staff's expectations for the program: To provide opportunities for students to broaden their experiences with other cultures and languages and fulfill a requirement for college

Students

- First-generation immigrants
- Second-generation immigrants
- Children of interethnic marriages
- Non-ethnic background

Countries of origin: Portugal, Cape Verde, some Spanish-speaking countries

Total student enrollment: 1,200

Identification of Heritage Speakers: The program does not differentiate heritage speakers from foreign language learners.

Reasons for not completing the program: Students find the learning of foreign languages very difficult and ask parents to drop them from the program.

Students' attitudes toward the language varieties they speak: They enjoy it.

Teachers/Administrators/Staff

Number of staff in program: 8

Languages in which staff members are proficient: in all languages level 4.

Credentials: Teacher certification in the languages taught from RI and some from both RI & MA. BA and MA.

Professional development opportunities teachers have: Through the district and state association

Instruction

Hours per week students receive instruction: 3 hrs and 45 minutes

Language Skills

English skills

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing

Heritage Skills

- Listening
- Speaking
- Writing

Levels of language proficiency students reach by the end of the program: 3rd to 4th levels

Culture

- History
- Festivals
- Customs

- Traditions/beliefs
- Religion
- Folktales
- Social and cultural norms
- Cultural appropriateness
- Literature

Kind of student identity the program foster: It encourages them to maintain their heritage.

Methodologies

Methodologies and instructional strategies used in the program vary.

Assessment

- Weekly quizzes
- Chapter tests
- Mid-term tests
- Final exams
- Teacher's observations
- Portfolios

Articulation

Our students continue their study at various colleges and universities to which we have connections.

- The program develops home-school connections and promotes parent involvement using open houses.
- Annual foreign language evening
- Foreign Language Honor Society reception

Opportunities students have for using the language: With the community through employment and services

The program is part of the local/state government.