



Monterey High School Language Policy *International Baccalaureate: Middle Years Program*

MPUSD & MHS Language Philosophy

Monterey High School and Monterey Peninsula Unified School District recognize the critical need to teach students English and mother tongue instructional support. Monterey High School believes that all teachers are responsible for teaching language. MHS considers language development to be transdisciplinary, authentic, and inquiry-based and believes that language learning is not limited to the classroom. We believe that all members of our school community have a responsibility to encourage language development whenever possible to maximize learning.

Language Profile

- English is the primary language used at Monterey High School .
- A variety of world languages are represented as home languages at MHS.
- In order to remain fully aware of its current language profile, MHS administers a home language survey as part of each student’s initial enrollment in MPUSD.

English Language and Literature Instruction

MHS creates a language-rich environment by promoting language development according to the [Common Core State Standards](#), [California English Language Development Standards](#), and the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program aims and objectives as assessed by the MYP Years 4-5 Language and Literature four Criteria.

Targeted Language Acquisition Skills:

- Reading: Literature
- Reading: Informational Texts
- Speaking & Listening
- Comprehension and Collaboration
- Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas
- Writing

English Acquisition Instructional Support Services



- Language learners are placed with content teachers that are trained in Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP)
- California requires an English Learner Authorization for all credentialed teachers
- Students struggling with English language proficiency are enrolled in an English Language Development course for long term English Learners: [Dr. Kate Kinsella English 3D](#).
- MHS teachers attend a series of professional development to embed researched-based, high leverage supports for English learners on a regular basis given the high population of language learners in the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District.

Language Acquisition Instruction

- In order for students to succeed in our 21st century society, they must develop academic knowledge, linguistic, and cultural literacy in several of the world's languages and cultures. The targeted standards below reflect a blueprint for acquiring the skills needed for success in an interconnected world through effective use of language and cross-cultural communication. The standards below are taken from the [World Language Content Standards for California Public Schools K-12](#).
- MHS utilizes MYP years 4-5 Language Acquisition assessment criteria and phases of language acquisition.
- MHS offers phases 1-4 of the below languages.
- Monterey High School offers Spanish, Spanish for Spanish Speakers, and French.

Phases of Language Acquisition

In all phases, students acquire information, recognize distinctive viewpoints, and further their knowledge of other disciplines.

Phase 1 - Students address discrete elements of daily life.

Phase 2 - Students address topics related to self and the immediate environment.

Phase 3 Students address concrete and factual topics related to the immediate and external environment.

Phase 4, students address complex, concrete, factual, and abstract topics related to the immediate and external environment.



Student Placement

- **English Language Learners** take the California Language Proficiency Exam (ELPAC) and the Northwest Evaluation Association Exam (NWEA) to assess language proficiency; in addition, teacher and parent input also determines student placement.
- **Language Acquisition:** students are assessed by CA world language standards and MYP years 4-5 language acquisition rubrics that determine student grades, progress through phases of language acquisition to determine if the student is eligible to proceed to the next phase of language acquisition.
 - MHS counselors, administration, and teachers collaborate utilizing a variety of assessments to determine whether a student is ready to transfer from one phase to the next.

Mother Tongue Support

Monterey High School supports mother tongue development through the following avenues:

- Monterey High School continues to expand access to texts in all represented languages within the student body in partnership with the Monterey Public Library.
- ELAC - English Learner Advisory Committee
 - A committee dedicated to the success of language learners meets quarterly to strategize and oversee accountability measurements.
- Spanish for Spanish Speakers
 - This is course for native Spanish speakers, students in the MYP who choose to take this class will be assessed against the Years 4-5 MYP Language Acquisition assessment criteria.
- Since Spanish is the most prominent non-English mother tongue spoken by students and their families, MHS translates key materials into Spanish and offers front-office interpretation for Spanish-speaking families.
- MHS students and teachers participate in monthly intercultural student activities, daily lessons, and collaborations to share their own cultures and learn about others.
- Student mother tongues are supported and celebrated through cultural activities, celebrations, discussions, explorations, media, and speakers within the classroom and for the ISM and broader community.
- International Club Presentations
 - MHS' International Club holds weekly Friday student presentations that teach other students about their own cultural backgrounds and practices.