

Tewksbury Public Schools

Christopher J. Malone, C.A.G.S.
Superintendent (978) 640-7800
cmalone@tewksbury.k12.ma.us

Brenda Theriault-Regan, C.A.G.S.
Assistant Superintendent (978) 640-7800
bregan@tewksbury.k12.ma.us



Celebrating Excellence



Dear Parent or Guardian,

Is your child **FLUENT** and **LITERATE** in **English** and their own home language (or **another language**)?

An important goal of the Tewksbury Public School District is to adopt the principles of proficiency in World Languages as well as in English for EL students (English Learners). This is a progressive philosophy that is spreading across the nation with the advancement of the **Seal of Biliteracy**: a movement in which Tewksbury has been proudly participating in since 2018.

By offering the **Seal of Biliteracy** to our students, we hope to honor the bilingual students in our community as well as to encourage more students to pursue world language proficiency. The **Seal of Biliteracy** provides nationally recognized evidence to universities and businesses that TMHS students have attained this critical 21st-century skill. This not only involves learning another language but learning *how* to communicate effectively with people from other cultures. **This skill is an asset that students can highlight in both college and job applications.**

In April-May, students in level 4 of a world language course (juniors and/or seniors) or in level 4 of ELE (English Language Education) will have the opportunity to take DESE-approved exams such as the STAMP (STANDARD-based Measurement of Proficiency), AAPPL (ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages) or ALIRA (ACTFL Latin Interpretive Reading Assessment) exams. These exams are proficiency benchmarks aligned to ACTFL (American Council on The Teaching of Foreign Languages) levels: Novice (low, mid, high), Intermediate (low, mid, high) and Advanced (low, mid, high). **The rating provided by these assessments will determine which students will be recipients of the Seal of Biliteracy.**

Those interested must complete an application form and hand it into Sra. Dudley - Room B-308 of TMHS' World Language Department. Please check our website: <https://tpssealofbiliteracy.weebly.com/> for more information about the **Seal of Biliteracy**, and to see our award recipients this year and past years (under the section marked "[MORE](#)").

Thank You, Gracias, Merci, Shokran, Dhanyavaad, Xiè xie, Cảm ơn, Grazie, Obrigado, Arigato...

Brenda Theriault-Regan
Assistant Superintendent

For more information regarding the Massachusetts DESE (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education)

Seal of Biliteracy: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/scholarships/biliteracy/default.html>



TPS District Strategy

The Tewksbury Public Schools community believes that our educational program will encompass a current, research-based teaching, learning, and assessment approach that promotes consistent growth among our students and staff to achieve academic, social, and emotional success for all students.