

**Single Plan for Student Achievement
World Language Department Tasks
2009-2015**

Goal A: Diversity and choice

To acknowledge and honor the diversity of the Gunn community and provide students with effective choices.

- A1. Explore introduction of new courses and programs based on student needs.
- *Implement the Chinese Mandarin 4 course and explore the possibility of a native speakers Chinese course.*
 - *Implement the French Civilization and Culture Honors course that replaced the French AP Lit course eliminated by College Board.*
 - *Explore the possibility of the International Baccalaureate program at Gunn and the way it would impact currently existing world language programs*
 - *Explore new ways to collaborate across disciplines.*
 - *Continue to provide students with a global perspective to their learning and provide them with the means to compare and contrast cultures and traditions.*
- A2. Provide support for students to be successful in existing and new programs.
- *Examine ways to support the needs of ELL students, Special Ed students and students who typically do not perform well at Gunn.*
 - *Examine the effectiveness of the Spanish for Native Speakers program and the Pathways to College program.*
 - *Examine the retention rate of students in all languages.*
 - *Examine the effectiveness of the French and Spanish Civilization and Culture courses.*
- A3. Involve and educate parents of students needing support.
- *Continue to support language minority parents through translation at meetings and translation of documents to be sent home.*
 - *Encourage language minority parents' involvement in the department as teachers' helpers, tutors, or conversational partners.*
 - *Continue to communicate with parents through emails and phone calls.*

Goal B: Instructional practices

To maintain and encourage instructional practices that ensure student success.

- B1. Encourage teacher collaboration and sharing of best practices.
- *Continue to collaborate within languages and across languages to bring continuity to the world language program.*
 - *Facilitate language level collaboration to ensure consistency in content and workload within all sections of the same course.*
 - *Examine the scope and sequence of all language courses based on the new World Language Content Standards to be released in spring, 2009.*

B2: Increase variety of instructional techniques.

- *Continue to learn how to use the new LangLab software program in the language lab.*
- *Facilitate staff development and collaboration for world language teachers to share best practices..*
- *Continue to use a variety of technology tools to enhance learning*

Goal C: Community and communication

To maintain a sense of community by streamlining communications, facilitating transitions, and reaching out to those not yet connected.

C1: Streamline communication with students, parents, faculty and community

- *Develop and explore ways to use InClass as a successful tool for communication and learning.*

C2: Improve transitions from middle to high school, between grades in high school, and post high school.

- *Continue to work with middle school teachers to ensure proper placement of incoming 9th grade students.*
- *Continue to promote collaboration and articulation among teachers of the same language to ensure smooth transitions between lower and upper levels of language.*
- *Continue to produce flyers and documents explaining the sequence of courses in the World Language Department.*

C3: Maintain a sense of community and connections for students, teachers and parents as Gunn grows.

- *Continue to organize world language club activities, excursions, and trips to build a sense of community for Gunn World Language students.*

C4: Improve delivery of counseling and college/career services

- *Work with counselors to ensure proper placement of new and incoming students.*
- *Collaborate with counselors regarding student retention in foreign language and language selection.*

Goal D: Excellence with growth

To maintain academic excellence and a sense of community during a period of growth.

D1: Work with DLM architects and DO to develop a site plan using bond money that will better meet Gunn's needs.

- *Give input to the architects regarding needs for more classrooms, more storage space in the existing classrooms, and improved office space.*

D2: As we continue to grow, we will maintain a sense of community and connectedness.

- *(See C3).*

D3: Attract, retain and develop highly qualified staff to main academic excellence and support new and existing programs.

- *Encourage and provide opportunities for staff members to develop themselves as teachers and learners.*
- *Celebrate accomplishments of department members.*

Goal E: Student performance and assessment

To use data to inform instruction and improve student performance.

E1: Use data more effectively.

- *Participate in training to help teachers analyze data to inform instruction.*

E2: Provide multiple pathways for students to demonstrate content mastery in all subjects and to reflect on their growth and progress as learners.

- *Continue to use and expand portfolio assessment projects.*
- *Continue to have students reflect upon each portfolio project.*
- *Continue to have students reflect upon their entire portfolio at the end of the year.*
- *Encourage students to give teachers feedback on assignments, classroom activities, and instructional techniques.*