

## **World Language FAQs**

### **What is “World Language”?**

World Language (WL) usually refers to languages other than English that are studied in elementary, middle, high school, and college. In some places it is still referred to as “foreign language.” but that is changing across the country because “world” denotes inclusiveness and acknowledges that persons who speak languages other than English are not “foreign.” District 97 and District 200 (OPRFHS) embrace the use of the term “world.”

### **What kinds/models of instruction are there?**

World Language instruction can be a formal part of the school day (**in-curricular**), or before/after school or at lunch (**extra-curricular**). District 97 supports four **in-curricular** programs: Sequential FLES (all elementary schools), Partial Spanish Immersion (Lincoln, PSIP), Exploratory (middle schools – grade 6), Elective (middle schools – grade 7-8.) Many elementary school PTOs support **extra-curricular** WL programs.

### **What languages are offered?**

District 97 in-curricular languages are Spanish at the elementary level (both FLES & PSIP) and Spanish(6th exploratory) and Spanish & French (elective) at the middle school. Oak Park-River Forest High School offers six languages: French, German, Italian, Japanese, Latin, and Spanish.

D97 extra-curricular offerings differ from school to school and include French, German, Mandarin and Spanish. These are fee-based programs, usually run through individual school PTOs.

### **How can I find out more?**

Contact the language staff at your school for in-curricular information and your school office or PTO for more information on extra-curricular programs.