



Carbondale Community High School
Carbondale, IL 62901



Department of World Languages



World Languages

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UNA NOTA DEL SEÑOR TAYLOR...

Once again I am happy to report improvements and updates in the World Languages Department. One update is the re-branding of our department to the *World Languages Department* to align with the current trend—after all, once a language is learned, it is no longer foreign.

The Spanish teachers in our department met on several occasions to review and discuss implementation of a new textbook. After some research, I invited the top three publishers (Santillana, Vista Higher Learning, and EMC) to give a presentation to our teachers. One of them (EMC Publishers) was invited a second time in order for us to get more insight on the best approach for implementation. We want to be sure to get the best product on the market that aligns with our high standards at CCHS. Textbooks are renewed on a rotating basis (by language) in our department.

Our department was able to meet the excellent marks of student growth in relation to the evaluation model—although we are never quite satisfied until everyone succeeds. This is part of our continuous improvement plan. Although teachers do not meet excellent marks overall, our student growth component is excellent nevertheless.

The seal of biliteracy is advertised on our website, in our handbook, and was announced through the *daily announcements* to students. This is the first year CCHS is offering the seal of biliteracy. We anticipate a successful outcome for the students, who will be scheduled to test on March 28.

Our trophy case is now prominently displayed in the main foyer where more visitors are able to recognize the accomplishments of our students. We were looking forward to adding another round of trophies to that case, but due to the situation at SIU, the Foreign Language scholar bowl at SIU was suspended for this year. There are plans, however, that the Foreign Language Day at SIUC will be back for 2018. We intend to research alternate venues of competition just in case.

We are happy to be able to select a deserving senior for the Pat Kowalewski Memorial Scholarship award this year. This is year two for the award that was initiated by Robin Gross a former CCHS World Language Teacher. We are working to continue this tradition for many years to come as we honor Madame Kowalewski for her dedication and service to CCHS. Anyone wishing to contribute to this fund should contact the CCHS Administration Office.

All World Languages offered at CCHS were represented in the 2017 Multicultural Festival. All of our teachers were engaged in different culture activities. This annual event is arguably the most fun time of the year for all of the teachers in our department. Throughout the evening the air was filled with the sound of several different languages and the rich aroma of coffee, tea, and Asian cuisine. Many took advantage of the opportunity of being immersed (literally tasting, speaking, seeing, communicating, hearing, smiling, etc.) across the variety of cultures represented on this special evening.

All testing for ELL's has been successfully completed. As I take on more responsibility of screening, testing, and reporting throughout the year, we are also adjusting to the new processes that become available to us such as the on-line testing venue for screening ELL's.

Enjoy the newsletter articles that teachers have provided and if you have any questions or comments about the department of World Languages, please let me know.



French this year has been taught through the Illinois Virtual School (IVS). We started with many new things to get used to in the fall such as new method, a new software and the new expectations of an online class. Students are now comfortable with IVS and are able to manage their online assignments. The IVS class is supplemented in the classroom by additional lessons and activities with a focus on communication.

French 3 and French 4 Honor students presented in French about various Francophone countries and various French artists. We enjoyed the presentations and learned a lot of interesting facts.

We celebrated French National Week in November with daily Trivia Question contests. Students enjoyed delicious treat prizes from Francophone countries and learned facts about francophone culture. During this week, some students made special francophone dishes to share in class and posters about French scientists and Geography of francophone countries.

In French Club this year, we have watched *le Petit Nicolas*.

We have also worked on designing the French Club T-shirt we are currently selling to fundraise for other activities. Esther Hughes was the winner of our t-shirt design contest. *Félicitations et merci Esther!*

One of our most fun French Club activities this year was to bake crêpes in Ms. Jordan's kitchen. *Merci Madame Jordan!*

_by Madame Lahlou



Las Vegas

Students in Mrs. Germann's Spanish classes were recently given a chance to try their luck and "place bets" on their ability to conjugate! Beginning students recently learned to conjugate stem changing verbs—those whose root vowel changes when conjugated. Level II students participated in the same activity to review past tense verb endings, which are especially challenging and have tricky spelling changes.

Play began with a PowerPoint detailing the rules and stakes of the game. Students were randomized into groups by number, to add to the feel of the "unknown". Once in groups, the PowerPoint reveals 6 strategically chosen verbs. Students then collaborate to place their "apuesto—bet". All bets are recorded on a board for all to see. The next step of the PowerPoint reveals the subjects by which each verb is to be conjugated—chosen by the *house*. Students had two minutes or less to correctly conjugate as many verbs as desired onto their team boards. Points were tallied as follows:

Correctly conjugated verbs= 1 point value
Correct conjugations equal to bet placed= DOUBLE points!!!

In other words, a group who wagered 4 and got 5 correct received 5 points in the round. However, a group who wagered 4 and actually got 4 correct received 8 points. Winners were tallied after three rounds of play. Winning groups received ONE point of extra credit in their ***extra credit bank*** on Tyler.

Feedback from the students themselves was that this activity was helpful in mastery of verb endings, spelling changes, and, ultimately in helping them to score higher on the chapter test. While this game primarily focuses on conjugation alone, several other activities were used in class to add to their communicative mastery of conjugation and synthesis of vocabulary with grammar.



En casa con la familia

Sra. Rendón

Spanish 1 students are currently learning to talk about their homes and families. The first thematic unit concentrates on describing family relationships and family members. In this unit the students have been challenged to increase their writing skills by writing a paragraph describing their family, including extended family members. Their descriptions included physical traits, including hair and eye color, as well as personality. This is a big step for level 1 students and Sra. Rendón is very pleased with their progress!



We are currently in the second thematic unit which equips students to describe where they live and also describe their home and the specific rooms of the house. Students drew a house floor plan, labeling room and furnishings in Spanish. An integration exercise, designed to integrate vocabulary and grammar concepts from all five chapters of study covered to date, will wrap up the unit. Students will act as realtors, creating advertisements for real estate listings. They will then read descriptions of what clients are looking for in a property and match the best home to each client based on specified needs and preferences.



¡HOLA! FROM J 107



Mrs. Taylor's Classroom is home to The Hispanic Honor Society, The Spanish Club, three hours of Spanish II students, Honors Spanish IV and AP Spanish IV.

This year nine Spanish IV are getting inducted to the SHH.

The SHH is an honor society for high school students enrolled in Spanish, sponsored by The American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. (AATSP).

The SHH was formally organized in 1953. Currently there are more than 2000 national and international chapters.

The mission of the Society is to recognize high achievement of students in Spanish or Portuguese .

Our 9 students have a WGPA above 4.0 and are very deserving of this recognition.

The Spanish Club is always actively participating in activities to help Terrier Giving in December, community events as the celebration of National Hispanic Month, the Multicultural Festival and currently they are planning to teach Salsa dancing in March.



Spanish two and four classes are given time to work in groups to help one another during practice or reading activities. 6th Hour has been working on ideas to decorate the hallway for World Languages Week.



Students learning a new language **need** many modes of presentation and in this classroom students love to play Kahoot, learn songs to remember conjugations and are challenged with Conjugarte which puts together Grammar and famous Spanish art in a picture puzzle to be solve. Of course the practice activities using our textbook are also part of the learning as is the seven words per day learning at home.

Spanish 4 students were asked to think and write about their experiences learning Spanish the past 4 years. The majority of students were very happy learning the way they did but admit that they would have appreciated some more challenges or a tracking system as in Math and English. Overall, our program has prepared them to become conversational speakers of a Second Language.





□ One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way. □
–Frank Smith

□ If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart. □
–Nelson Mandela

□ The limits of my language are the limits of my world. □
–Ludwig Wittgenstein

**Kindness is the language which
the deaf can hear and the blind
can see.**

Mark Twain