



Alliance Française
Oklahoma City

Dr. Cathleen Skinner
Director of World Languages
Oklahoma State Department of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard, Suite 316
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

January 27, 2022

Dr. Skinner,

The Board of Directors of Alliance Française d'Oklahoma City is pleased to endorse the proposed Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages.

Learning a new language provides children many cognitive and social benefits that will last a lifetime. These cognitive benefits have a direct impact on a child's academic achievement including improved reading, writing, and math skills, and generally higher scores on standardized tests.

Older student's world language skills will improve chances for college admission and scholarships, boost career prospects in an already competitive job market and give an advantage to those interested in military and government positions.

Learning another language not only, broadens a student's perspective, improves the student's understanding of their own native language, but also introduces children to a world outside of Oklahoma in ways they might otherwise have never experienced.

The Board enthusiastically supports the proposed plan for high standards of learning of world languages in Oklahoma's educational system.

With Sincere Thanks,

Board of Directors,
Alliance Française d'Oklahoma City

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Barbara Thompson, Vice President
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Franco-American Fellows Chair
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Outstanding Students Program
Ginny Harrison, Director at Large





January 28, 2022
Oklahoma State Board of Education
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Honorable Members of the Oklahoma State Board of Education:

As a faculty and on behalf of Langston University School of Business comprising of both undergraduate and graduate schools, I am pleased to support the adoption of the Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages Other Than English. The content of the standards is thorough, exhaustive, and accurate. It requires for students to engage in critical analysis, creativity, innovation, and synthesis, which is at par with activities of recognized colleges and universities.

Langston University is confident that the application of these standards would enable students to be well prepared for workplace competency and higher learning. Proficiency in communication skills is highly encouraged across all schools and departments.

The faculty and students in the school of Business at Langston University are engaged with a number of international activities, which includes teaching, research, travel abroad programs, and exchange programs. The Academic Standards for World Languages Other Than English would, therefore, support the fact that we are providing quality instruction and learning of high standards, both at home and abroad, across different cross-border cultures and languages, at Langston University School of Business.

We shall continue to improve our standards along the guidelines of the Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages Other Than English.

Thank you for giving Langston University School of Business the opportunity to review the standards document. We appreciate the process of involving our community in the development of standards, through a wide-reaching review process.

Sincerely,

CJ Mambula J

Charles J. Mambula, I
Assoc. Professor of Business & Entrepreneurship,
School of Business at Langston University.



Oklahoma Chinese Teachers' Association

Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building,
2500 N Lincoln Blvd,
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear honorable members of the Oklahoma State Department of Education,

The Oklahoma Chinese Teachers' Association (OKCLTA) is writing to support Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages. The OKCLTA aims to enhance the quality of the Chinese language teaching at all education levels, to conduct professional development for Chinese teachers in both language teaching and cultural awareness, and to provide a base for common pedagogical improvement and individual career development. The newly revised Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages provides a thorough and clear guideline for all the Chinese learners to achieve high levels of proficiency in the Chinese language and culture. And these standards are notably in alignment with the mission of OKCLTA. OKCLTA will continuously conduct profound and inspiring professional development activities to prepare Chinese educators to assist the Chinese learners to meet these expectations.

OKCLTA highly admires and fully supports the efforts of the writing and reviewing team of Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages. We sincerely hope that these standards will be adopted at the earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

Xinying Edens 张新颖

Dr. Xinying Edens
President

Dongmei Tsay
Vice President

Oklahoma Chinese Teachers' Association



Monday, January 24, 2022

Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Dear Colleagues,

I write to express my strong support for the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages.

These standards, developed by the Office of World Languages in consultation with language teachers across the state, provide an exceptionally lucid and impressively comprehensive framework for transformative teaching and learning, consistent with best practices in the field of language acquisition and pedagogy, in world languages.

Facility in more than one language is essential for both high school and college graduates in the twenty-first century as they enter a rapidly changing global workforce and assume leadership roles in an increasingly diverse and multilingual society.

The work that students do in the area of world languages at the intermediate and secondary levels provides an essential foundation for the work that they will do in college-level world language classes, and these standards will ensure students' readiness to excel in their study of world languages at colleges and universities across the state.

The new Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages will help both common and higher education to achieve their shared goal of educating creative and collaborative, adaptable and engaged critical thinkers who are receptive to new ideas, who celebrate diversity, and who lead fulfilling lives.

Yours, truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. David Macey'.

J. David Macey, Ph.D.
Interim Dean and Professor of English
College of Liberal Arts



January 26, 2022

Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Colleagues,

This letter is in support of the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages. As a Professor of Spanish at the University of Central Oklahoma, my research is literature of the Spanish-speaking world. As one who has been taking students abroad on experiential trips, I am in complete support of language learning and teaching.

The importance of language learning is primarily evident during travel to countries where English is not the spoken language. When I take students abroad on study tours to Spanish-speaking countries, students realize the significance of knowing another language. Some have felt inept because of their inability to communicate at a preferred level. However, when they returned home to the university classes, I noticed them more serious-minded about learning the language. In one semester, I have noticed a boost from intermediate low-level to an advanced low-level.

I have confidence in the State Department of Education to create and uphold standards that will prepare students for successful entry into the workforce, career technology institutes, higher education, and global situations. Importantly, the educators involved in this process have determined that the proposed standards will benefit the students of Oklahoma. It is without hesitation that I support the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Diana Pardo', is written over the printed name.

Diana Pardo, Ph.D
Chair and Professor of Spanish

**College of Liberal Arts, Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and
Cultural Studies**

100 North University Drive • Edmond, Oklahoma 73034 • Phone (405) 974-5540
• Phone 974-5647 • www.libarts.uco.edu/modern_languages

Grant Moak

Honorary Consul of France for Oklahoma

February 4, 2021

Superintendent Joy Hofmeister
State Superintendent of Education
Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building
2500 N. Lincoln Blvd
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Superintendent Hofmeister,

I am writing in support of the Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages. Learning a second language is an incredibly important part of a student's education. Studying a foreign language not only opens students' horizons, but also helps students understand their own native language better.

Learning another language provides students with a new way of interacting with others and a new way of understanding the world. A student does not learn a French, Spanish or German version of English. Instead, a student acquires a new prism through which the student experiences the world. As the logician Ludwig Wittgenstein observed, a language is a way of life.

Learning another language and experiencing life through another culture is not only an act of discovery, but also an act of self-discovery. By learning another culture through its language, one discovers aspects of one's own cultural and national identity that one would never have otherwise known.

Learning another language also improves a student's skills in the student's native language. Learning a second language allows one to view language at arm's length and see its structure. We all speak our native language without giving it a second thought. However, learning another language forces us to see how language is structured. I didn't really learn grammar until I studied French. I was then able to revisit my grammar lessons in English with a new understanding of the subject matter. Learning French actually improved my English!

I wholeheartedly endorse the Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages and encourage their approval.

Sincerely,

Grant Moak

Grant Moak
Honorary Consul of France

P.O. BOX 54384
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73154
PHONE: 405-627-0611



COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Department of Languages and Literatures

102 Gundersen
Stillwater, Oklahoma 74078-1054
405-744-5826
<http://languages.okstate.edu>

28 January 2022

State Superintendent Joy Hofmeister
State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building
2500 N. Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Superintendent Hofmeister:

I am delighted to be counted among those who are able to write in support of the proposed Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages.

While I am unable to judge how well each can be used in measuring teacher effectiveness, I am certain that, as a guiding principle, these will be of great benefit for Oklahoma foreign language students at the K–12 levels. These Standards will help to ensure that our students are prepared for 1) working toward the Seal of Biliteracy, 2) engaging with their peers internationally in the target language, and 3) continuing their study of foreign languages at the university level. Overall, these Standards will position our students to learn and use foreign languages actively now and in their futures, as they enter a global workforce.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jonathan Z. Ludwig
Teaching Associate Professor of Russian
Vice Chair, Less Commonly Taught Language Special Interest Group, ACTFL



January 28th, 2022

Superintendent Joy Hofmeister
Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Oklahoma State Board of Education,

I am writing this letter in support of the proposed Oklahoma State Standards for World Languages. I currently serve as the president for the Oklahoma Foreign Language Teachers' Association and an associate professor of foreign language education at Oklahoma State University.

As an active participant in the field of world languages and a colleague in touch with many teachers and university faculty throughout the state, I respect and appreciate the efforts made to incorporate multiple perspectives as the working group developed the new standards. In particular, the emphasis on developing students' global competence, a much-needed skill in our ever-increasing globalized society, through language learning is admirable. Also, the alignment of communication modes with proficiency levels, combined with concrete goals and objectives, allows teachers, students, and other stakeholders to understand the observable behaviors that we expect from students, while also encouraging students to consider their language use and how it may transfer to the real world. These standards are well written and poised to aid in developing globally competent and lifelong language learners.

In summary, I am happy to recommend that these proposed standards be accepted. If I can provide additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Joe Terantino

Joe Terantino, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Foreign Language Education
President, Oklahoma Foreign Language Teachers' Association
joe.terantino@okstate.edu



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA.

Department of Classics and Letters

January 27, 2022

State Board of Education
Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building
2500 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Board Members:

As a lifetime member of the American Classical League (the national organization of Latin teachers) and as the University of Oklahoma contact faculty member for K12 Latin teachers in our state, I am glad to write in support of the recently revised Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages. My colleague Briana Titus (Casady School) and I have served on committees to review and update this document in 2014 and again in 2021. She and I agree that these Standards are greatly helpful to the Oklahoma K12 students learning to communicate with World Language speakers both here and across the globe, as well as to the teachers guiding them on that journey.

Although national standards (in particular, those of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) have informed the ones in this document, Oklahoma teachers have developed and expanded them according to their own knowledge and experience. These Standards reflect the complexities of language, which can be expressed in variety of ways (speech, the written word, physical signs) and used for so many purposes through time and around the world. They take as their focus immediate Communication in real world situations, yet they also encourage the growth of increasingly complex discourse. In a serious way the Standards address Culture, apart from which no human language can exist. Most important to my Classics colleagues, the Standards meet the needs of modern World Language teachers and students without compromising the goals of 'library languages' such as Latin and ancient Greek, which emphasize reading comprehension, historical knowledge, and an increased understanding of English. The generosity with which Dr. Cathleen Skinner and her predecessor Dr. Desa Dawson have invited the inclusion of our 'Notes for Classical Languages' have been a tremendous help in this.

The 2021 Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Language provide clear and thorough assistance to our students and teachers. I encourage you to adopt them! This revision features many improvements, such as more concrete and descriptive terminology, thanks in large part to Dr. Skinner's diligent work. I am very grateful to her and to the rest of the teaching professionals that have given their attention to this important document.

Yours truly,

John H. Hansen, Jr.
Director of Latin Education, University of Oklahoma
State Vice-President, CAMWS
State Legate, Society for Classical Studies





OKLAHOMA
Commerce

900 N. Stiles Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73104, USA
405-815-5251 | Toll Free 800-588-5959
OKCOMMERCE.GOV

January 27, 2022

Superintendent Joy Hofmeister
State Superintendent of Education
Oklahoma State Board of Education
Oliver Hodge Education Building
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Superintendent Hofmeister and Members of the Oklahoma State Board of Education,

I am writing this letter in support of the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages. At the Department of Commerce, our mission is to strengthen and diversify the Oklahoma economy to ensure a prosperous future for our citizens. Growing Foreign Direct Investment and International Trade is an important part of my strategic plan to do so. I believe it is important to increase commerce not only inside the United States but with our Global partners as well to ensure that our goals are accomplished.

In order for us to be successful in these efforts, it is essential that we are able to show companies that they will find a talent pipeline that can support and grow their operations. I believe if we aim to create a more global Oklahoma, it is important that we prepare our workforce for that future. By setting standards for world languages, we are creating a foundation for a multilingual and globally conscious workforce that will be better equipped to meet the needs of international businesses in Oklahoma.

I look forward to seeing the implementation of these new Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages, as I firmly believe it will result in strengthening students' ability to succeed both in the classroom and in their careers.

Sincerely,

Brent Kisling
Executive Director
Oklahoma Department of Commerce



Mustang Public Schools

February 1, 2022

Superintendent Joy Hofmeister
Oklahoma State Board of Education
2500 N. Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Dear Superintendent Hofmeister and Honorable Board Members,

Please accept this letter of support by Mustang Public Schools for the newly revised Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages. These standards are a strong set of guiding principles that will help districts across Oklahoma build robust world language programs.

This final draft of the Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Language provides research-based, rigorous, vertically aligned standards to allow for in-depth learning by students across all grade levels. These world language standards exceed in their goal of ensuring high levels of proficiency for students in a second language and culture that are required to communicate with speakers/signers of the target language(s) and promote mutual respect and understanding across cultures.

The vast number of educators and world language specialists involved in the drafting and revision process is to be commended as well as the countless hours spent to arrive at this set of standards. We know world language programs are a vital part of public education because learning languages provides connections to other bodies of knowledge unavailable to monolingual English speakers. In addition, students develop greater insight into their language and culture and realize that multiple ways of viewing the world exist.

Respectfully,

Dr. Robbyn Glinsmann
Director of Secondary Curriculum & Instruction
Mustang Public Schools



Janet Gorton
Director, English Learner Programs
and World Languages

Norman Public Schools
131 South Flood Avenue
Norman, Oklahoma 73069
janetg@norman.k12.ok.us

January 22, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write a letter of support for the Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages, revised by Oklahoma World Language teachers and developed for Oklahoma students. I believe these standards provide a roadmap for teachers to move students towards a high level of language proficiency and create understanding of what it means to be a global citizen.

The continuum for language learning is clear and maintains the focus on the 5 C's as outlined in the World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages developed by the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages. The 5 C's of Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities are holistic and promote the application of language learning beyond the instructional setting. The focus on language use in context supports the end goal of language learning for functional purposes rather than discrete knowledge, i.e. what students can do WITH the language rather than what they KNOW ABOUT the language.

The special notes regarding Classical and Native American languages are beneficial and acknowledge the unique nature of the teaching and learning of those languages. Appendix C: Oral Proficiency Levels in the Work World serves as a meaningful reference to the application of language proficiency in occupations and careers.

In adopting the Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages both teachers and students will benefit with strong target goals and long-term outcomes. Students will be well-prepared to be global citizens as they move forward on their future pathways.

Sincerely,

Janet Gorton

OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR'S INTERNATIONAL TEAM

DEDICATED TO A STRONGER OKLAHOMA IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY



26 January 2022

Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building
2500 N. Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Gentlepeople,

On behalf of the Oklahoma Governor's International Team (GIT), I am writing to lend our support for the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages.

The new standards, developed with the participation of world language instructors from across the state, support the very best practices for pedagogy in language acquisition and offer excellent guidelines for educators.

The GIT membership values language learning. When an individual learns a new language it enhances their ability to communicate in a target language with international guests, business partners, government representatives, and others. Just as importantly, preparation in world languages offers the opportunity to learn cultural awareness – including protocol, etiquette and social norms – that can make or break a relationship.

To create a workforce that is truly ready to move Oklahoma to “Top Ten” status, preparation in world languages is essential. These new standards will assist our state by doing just that.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Webster

Catherine Webster, Ph.D, GIT Chair

Governor's International Team Executive Director
Jared Scism | (918) 269-7662 | info@okgit.com
www.OKGIT.com

Oklahoma Governor's International Team
PO Box 1836
Oklahoma City, OK 73101



SCHOOL OF
**GLOBAL STUDIES
AND PARTNERSHIPS**

107 Wes Watkins Center
Stillwater, OK 74078
(405) 744-6606 | 

January 28, 2022

Superintendent Joy Hofmeister
State Superintendent of Education
Oklahoma State Department of Education
Oliver Hodge Building
2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

In Re: Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages

Dear Members of the Oklahoma State Board of Education,

On behalf of the School of Global Studies and Partnerships at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma, I would like to offer my support for the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages.

In this day in age, where the global society is more interconnected than ever, it has become extremely relevant to be able to read, communicate and understand more than just your native language. The need for language skills to effectively communicate in cross-cultural settings has grown tremendously not only for individuals, but across states and nations. With the goal to equip and empower all Oklahoma students, I believe the new standard will certainly increase students' competences, both interculturally and communicatively, which will have a positive effect on our state.

Proficiency in world languages not only benefits students in their preparation for college, postsecondary studies and careers, but it is a positive influence on their roles as citizens in their communities and beyond. The knowledge and skills students acquire in world language classes will help them develop linguistic skills and necessary cultural insight. This will further benefit the state of Oklahoma and beyond with both domestic and international interests in terms of diplomacy, trade, economic collaboration and military and intelligence services that heavily rely on individuals with multilingual skills. Therefore, it is with full confidence that our college endorses the new Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages.

I would like to extend my appreciation to the highly respected Oklahoma educators for their remarkable work drafting the new state standard. In addition, I would like to thank the Oklahoma State Department of Education for involving multiple community groups, government agencies and educators throughout the process of developing this new standard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Randy Kluver'.

Randy Kluver
Associate Provost and Dean



The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA.

*Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education
Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum*

23. January 2022

Dear Superintendent Hofmeister,

We are writing this letter in support of the proposed Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages. As faculty in the world languages education program at the University of Oklahoma, our work involves preparing teacher candidates to become effective world language teachers for the diverse learners of Oklahoma. In addition, our research examines how world language teachers' pedagogical and curricular decision-making processes influence the development of target language proficiency, intercultural competence, and well-being of their students. We believe it is crucial that we align our practice, as world language teacher educators and researchers, with the recommendations set forth by the state regarding the expectations for world language learners during their important time in K-12 schools in Oklahoma. After a thorough review, it is evident that the proposed OAS for World Languages are not only much needed by world language teachers and teacher educators in the state, but also well-aligned with the research-based recommendations from our national world languages organization, the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

The proposed world language standards place substantial emphasis on centering the role of target language communication in defining effective world language teaching and learning. Through this focus, the standards promote consistent, sustained, and authentic communication in the interpersonal (i.e., conversational), presentational, and interpretive modes in world language classrooms around the state, thus assisting teachers in designing immersive and linguistically rich language learning environments. The standards also encourage students to make connections with and strengthen their learning in their other subject area classes through the integration of the Connections and Comparisons goal areas. Of particular applicability are the "learner targets" for each goal area that offer concrete criteria for assessing how students are developing in their target language proficiency across proficiency levels (i.e., Novice, Intermediate, Advanced).

The proposed standards set forth a pathway for Oklahoma students to demonstrate continual growth in their ability to engage in effective intercultural communication with others in local, national, and international contexts. For these reasons, we endorse their official adoption. We would be happy to speak further about our assessment and provide empirical support for our claims.

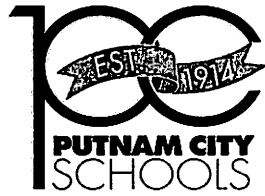
Sincerely,

Dr. William S. Davis

Dr. Rebecca S. Borden

Assistant Professors of World Languages Education
Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum
Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education, University of Oklahoma
wsdavis@ou.edu rborden@ou.edu (405) 325-1498





PUTNAM CITY SCHOOLS

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION & ASSESSMENT

5401 N.W. 40th ♦ Oklahoma City, OK 73122-3398 405.495.5200 Fax 405.491.7514

January 24, 2022

Oklahoma State Board of Education
Oliver Hodge Building 2500 North Lincoln Boulevard
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

Dear Honorable Members of the Oklahoma State Board of Education,

We are writing to express our support for the proposed Oklahoma Academic Standards for World Languages. Throughout the revisions process, we have had the opportunity to provide professional feedback that has significantly contributed to the quality of the proposed World Languages Standards. As a result, we can ascertain that they meet the academic rigor and relevance for authentic language and culture acquisition.

In Oklahoma, we continue making significant progress toward improving our public schools. For this reason, we applaud the leadership and commitment from Superintendent Joy Hofmeister, other staff members from the Oklahoma State Department of Education, and the Oklahoma State Board of Education for advancing meaningful and relevant school reform.

We support the approval of the proposed Oklahoma World Languages Academic Standards and encourage swift action because we will need sufficient time to implement the new standards for the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

Thank you very much for your consideration and your service to the great State of Oklahoma!

Respectfully,

Dr. Keely Frayser
Executive Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Dr. Jean R. Lainé
Coordinator of World Languages