

Friday, September 7, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

¡Bienvenidos a Idiomas del Mundo! Welcome to World Languages! I am Mr. de Meij, one of the teachers of World Languages, at Hartford Public High School. It is an honor and a privilege to be part of a team of teachers, highly qualified, and highly committed to your child and to his/her excellence in education! I too believe in *success for all children*, and therefore spare no efforts in guiding your child and every child to achieve excellence!

A native of Aruba (a multicultural and multilingual island-state of The Netherlands), and having lived in multiple countries, I have been trained in, and presently speak 8 languages fluently. This background, along with my academic training and professional experiences, has provided me with a wealth of knowledge and skills which will be shared and used to give your child the greatest opportunity to become proficient in another world language. I have posted a copy of my Résumé in my classroom as a way to share some of my background and experiences with my students, and inspire them to make similar or greater achievements in their future.



Why study foreign languages? In keeping with the National Standards, and as nations become increasingly interdependent, the need for citizens with *world-readiness skills*, inclusive of effective communication and sensitivity to other cultures, also becomes *increasingly* more important! Today's generation must be *culturally* and *linguistically* prepared to understand, participate in, collaborate with, benefit from and contribute to a global society, and therefore, becoming proficient in *more than just one language* is essential to meeting this need!

All students *do benefit* from foreign language learning, recognizing, however, that not all students learn at the *same rate* or in the *same manner*. Nevertheless, *all* students **should have the opportunity** to acquire language proficiency to a degree equal with their individual abilities, in order to be prepared to meet the challenges of competitive global economies in the 21st century!

Furthermore, studying and becoming a proficient speaker of multiple world languages will ensure that your child's education is truly *complete*; an education that *is truly* considered a **WORLD CLASS education!** Increasing your *awareness* and deliberate *efforts* in the area of multiple language learning (and multiculturalism), for every American, will help us as a nation catch up with the education in other developed countries, and provide the excellent, **COMPLETE, WORLD CLASS** education that *your child, and every American child, deserves!* So, in this effort to **leave no child behind**, I request your **continued encouragement** and **every effort**, in partnership with mine, to ensure your child's long term study of one or more *world languages* in order to achieve this goal and much more! Please feel free to **communicate with me regularly**, via cell phone: (860) 922-9238 (*between 4:00 pm and 9:00 pm*). I look forward to a *great* year for your child, and hope to **meet you soon, and speak to you on a regular basis!**

Sincerely,



Richard de Meij, Educator

Linguist, & Speech-Language Pathologist • Founder of www.celebratelanguages.com
Visit YOUR Parent Portal for my class, at: www.celebratelanguages.com/parents