

Hammond MIDDLE SCHOOL

8100 Aladdin Drive • Laurel, MD 20723 • 410-880-5830 • (F) 410-880-5837 • www.hcpss.org/hms

January 15, 2020

Dear Parents / Guardians of Grade 6 Students:

Current Grade 6 students have the **option** of taking French or Spanish in Grade 7. The World Language program is a two-year program that prepares students to take French II or Spanish II in Grade 9 and enables students to pursue World Language study through the Advanced Placement level during high school.

All students with a strong interest in learning a language will need to consider the following information:

- The World Language course is a rigorous academic subject in addition to the four required courses in English, mathematics, science, and social studies. The World Language course will involve regular homework, varied and multiple assessments, and an end of 8th grade course assessment.
- Students and parents should carefully consider the additional rigor of coursework when discussing the World Language option. Students need to be highly motivated, express a strong degree of interest, and be willing to work hard. Students demonstrating academic gaps, especially in reading and mathematics, should carefully consider not taking World Language at this time. It is important to note that the high school schedule provides many options to access World Language at that level.
- Enrollment in the World Language program is a two-year commitment that prepares students for higher levels of World Language in high school. Students will receive high school credit after successfully completing the Middle School course.
- In Grades 7 & 8 World Language is offered every day for a full year, in a daily fifty-minute class period.

If you are interested in your child taking World Language in Grade 7 and 8, please complete and return the attached form by **THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2020**, to the **FRONT OFFICE**. Placement of all interested students into World Language is contingent upon funding, class size, and teacher recruitment. Please do not hesitate to call your school counselor should you need assistance.

Sincerely,

Aaron Dale, Ph.D.
Principal