



R-P World Language Curriculum

- The Requirement?
- Why Spanish?
- Why Elementary World Language?
- Options?





The Requirement

- The State Board of Education expects all students, beginning with the graduating class of 2016, to complete two credits of a world language other than English prior to graduation, or demonstrate a two-year equivalent proficiency.





MDE/ACTFL Guidelines

- **240 Hours of instruction for a highly motivated learner to meet the 1st level of proficiency.
- **600 Hours of instruction for a highly motivated learner to meet the 2nd level of proficiency.





Why Spanish?

Hours to reach proficiency:

- ❑ Close to English (e.g., Dutch, French, Spanish) – 600 hours
- ❑ Different from English (e.g., Farsi, Russian, Urdu) – 1,300 hours
- ❑ Far from English (e.g., Arabic, Chinese, Japanese) – 2,200 hours





Why Spanish? Cont.

- By 2020, 16% of the US will speak Spanish as their first language.





Scope and Sequence- Projected and Recommended

Hrs. in GL

Cumulative Hrs.

	Hrs. in GL	Cumulative Hrs.
Kindergarten	27	27
1 st Grade	54	81
2 nd Grade	54	135
3 rd Grade	54	189
4 th Grade	54	243
5 th Grade	67.5	310.5
6 th Grade	67.5	378
7 th Grade	82.5	460.5
8 th Grade	82.5	543





Elementary Spanish?

- Prior to puberty is considered the “Critical Period” of language acquisition.
 - Following puberty, this part of the brain actually shifts its’ resources to other parts of the brain.





Consequences of not acting

- ❑ Double the number of WL teachers at the HS.
 - 48% of students meeting this requirement requires 4+ HS teachers. 100% will require 8+ teachers. Four or more teachers in other areas would need to be reduced, thus limiting opportunities for HS students.
- ❑ Delay language requirement to a time in students' lives where research tells us it is not at its' peak capacity.





Questions?

