

Franklin High School State Seal of Biliteracy

School Committee Presentation

September 10, 2019



"Monolingualism is the illiteracy of the 21st century."
(Gregg Roberts, Utah State Office of Education)



Seal of Biliteracy

Recognition or certification of an individual's language proficiency in 2 or more languages.



State Seal of Biliteracy Languages of Current and Incoming FHS Students

American Sign Language (ASL)	French-Creole	Polish
Arabic	*Gujarati	Portuguese
Bengali	*Hausa	Russian
Chinese (Mandarin/Cantonese)	Hindi	*Telugu
English	*Malayalam	
French	*Nepali	



***Portfolio or Alternative Assessments**

Low-incidence languages without appropriate or available assessment tool
Languages not characterized by the use of listening, speaking, reading or for which there is no writing system



State Seal of Biliteracy Legislation

How do students earn the Seal?

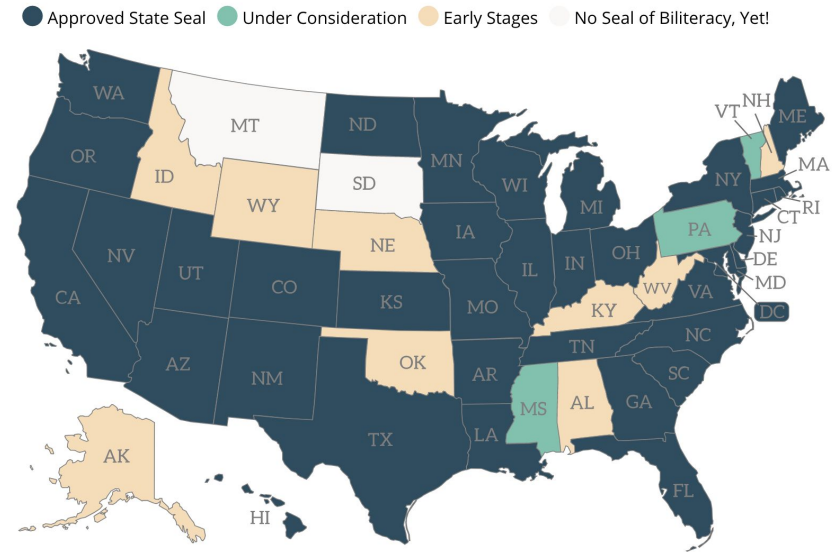
1. English Criteria

- Proficiency on ELA MCAS or ACCESS

2. 2nd Language Criteria

- Proficiency in a 2nd language through state approved assessment

State Laws Regarding the Seal of Biliteracy





State Seal of Biliteracy Who qualifies for the Seal?



Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy	Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy w/ Distinction
Demonstrate an intermediate-high level of proficiency in a language other than English and proficiency in English	Demonstrate an advanced-low level of proficiency in a language other than English and proficiency in English



State Seal of Biliteracy Legislation

What are the implications for FHS and FPS?

- 1.FPS will foster well-rounded students and prepare them to be global citizens in part by promoting proficiency in multiple languages.
- 2.Schools/Districts will maintain a record of students who earn the Seal along with the assessment results and report this information annually to the DESE (per MA State Guidelines)
- 3.Schools will ensure that low-income students must have access to assessments **at no cost** (per MA State Guidelines)



State Seal of Biliteracy Next Steps ... Beginning in 2019-20

Informing the school:

- World Language and EL teachers inform students
- Morning announcements
- Article in the school newspaper
- Faculty meeting

Informing families:

- A letter explaining the Seal of Biliteracy
- Parent meeting

Informing the community:

- District press-release
- Social media
- Local newspapers
- FPS Seal of Biliteracy Website

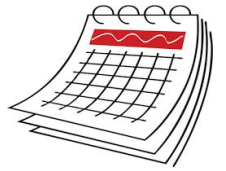


Franklin's Seal of Biliteracy Website

<https://franklinsealofbiliteracy.weebly.com/>



State Seal of Biliteracy Proposed Timeline for 2020-21



September-October

- Identify eligible students
- Community Outreach

February-March

- Students register for L2 proficiency tests

April

- L2 Proficiency Testing
- Review portfolios

May-June

- Awards night
- Seal on diploma & transcript





Many Thanks!

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Questions?