



INTRODUCTION

World Languages can provide a variety of exciting and challenging experiences for students of all grade levels. The element of competition promotes standards of excellence on personal, school, community, district, and state levels. Through the different categories of the academic competition, students demonstrate knowledge of the language and culture they are learning.

This handbook provides teachers a guide to the planning, organization, and procedures for each competitive event. It is designed to guide and support high school students, teachers, and coordinators in their participation at the annual District Level Academic Competition.

It is tantamount to the success of this program that participating teachers attend regular district meetings throughout the year. Additional information will be shared and details finalized through this forum.

Guidelines

Guidelines are developed and enforced in order to conduct a successful and organized event. Please adhere to the following guidelines they have been planned for the benefit of our students. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact hanne.rega@browardschools.com

It is suggested that school based academic competitions be held at each local school prior to District Competition. Participation in the district competition is as follow:

1. **Declamation** – Students **must enter impromptu Speaking if they are entering the declamation category.** (3 students per level, per language taught at each school may participate)
2. **Impromptu Speaking** (**3** per level per language)
3. **Project** (**3** per language per school)
4. **Poster** (**3** per language per school)
5. **New Media** – Pod casting, PowerPoint, IMovie (**3** per language per school)
6. **Live Skit** (**1** per language per school)
7. **Live Talent** (**2** per school). **The entries MUST be from 2 different langauges taught in the school.** Schools **MUST** follow School Board Dress Code. Judges may disqualify a presentation for not following dress code, inappropriate lyrics or movement.

There will be no exceptions to the aforementioned guidelines **Schools who do not adhere to this rule will be disqualified.**

All students performing on the day of the event need to have a completed district media release form on file with their school coordinator. It is the responsibility of the school coordinator to notify Mrs. Hanne Rega, district coordinator, in advance if any student in attendance from his/her school is not authorized to participate in activities to be videotaped for media release and public relations.

- **At the time of pre-registration**, each participating school must provide at least one teacher to accompany the students and assist with competition duties. The school will also be expected to send the name of ***at least*** one **new** judge to the **curriculum supervisor with contact information (email address) at the time of registration.** **All judges need to have clearance from the school district. It is the law.**
- Coordinators are paid a stipend, therefore, they **MUST** attend the orientation meeting and the meeting on the Thursday immediately preceding the competitions.
- Projects, posters, must be submitted on the Thursday immediately preceding the competitions. New Media projects need to be submitted 2 weeks before the day of the competition. **Remember, only three (3) posters, three (3) projects, three (3) new media projects per language will be allowed. NO EXCEPTIONS. Schools that do not follow this rule will have all of their posters, projects or new media projects disqualified.**
- **Incomplete forms or forms submitted without appropriate signatures will not be accepted.** As all required score sheets and entry forms are posted on the World Language Team site, it is the responsibility the each coordinator to supply students with these forms. **There will be no extra copies available during the competition.**

Note:

1. **Use of the wrong score sheet will not be accepted. Coordinators please remember that judges are part of the community and we are all professionals and when wrong forms are used it reflects on the teacher, school and district**
2. It is recommended that students who participate in District Competitions be encouraged to participate in State Competitions.

Categories

I. **Language Mastery** (Students must be present on day of competition.)

A. **Individual**

1. Impromptu Speaking (**All** students participating in the declamation category **MUST** enter this event.)
2. Declamation – **Must be memorized!**
3. Test (Latin students only)
4. Myth Telling (Latin students only)

B. **Group**

1. Skits - live the day of the competition **use props and proper attire.**
2. Plays - live the day of the competition **use props and proper attire.**

II. **Creative Display** (Students do not need to be present on day of competition.)

A. Scrapbooks: **One (1) from each** language club at each school

B. Posters: **Three (3) posters** per language per school,
individual Competition

C. Projects: **Three (3) projects** per language per school (models,
displays, games, mobiles, etc) **Individual Competition**

D. New Media: **Three (3)** per language per school: Podcasting, Power
Points, Imovie. Please observe copyright laws will be
enforce. Must cite the source.

Note: Before submitting an entry teachers need to check for grammar and proper use of vocabulary.

III. **Creative Performing Arts -**

No more than 6 students per group, one entry per language per school. Performance will be live the day of the competition and needs to be related to the target language. Also, they need to use proper attire related to the presentation.

A. Talent Live (2 per school live presentation – please note that the **2 presentations must be from 2 different languages offered at the school)**

1. Dancing
2. Singing
3. Instrumental music

Awards

I. Awards

Participants will receive medals:

First Place ⇒ Gold

Second place ⇒ Silver

Third place ⇒ Bronze

Fourth place will receive a ribbon

Schools coordinators will received the awards for the school in the media center after the competition. Schools are responsible for organizing an award ceremony to honor participating students.

I. Language Mastery

A. Impromptu Speaking (all languages except ASL)

Description: This **mandatory** category is for modern world language students who participate in **Declamation**. The contestant will draw three (3) selections from a group of topics provided and speak extemporaneously on the one of his/her choice.

Conditions: The student will be allowed two minutes for preparation. No dictionaries, notes or other help may be used. The student may not confer with anyone else after he/she has drawn the three topics.

Time Limits: **Level I** students will speak for **30 to 45 seconds**.
Level II students will speak for **1 minute**.
Level III and above as well as all Spanish S and Advanced Placement

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Language usage, vocabulary, structure
- Pronunciation and intonation
- Topic relevancy
- Length, considering level of second language
- Memorized speeches will receive a low score.

Guidelines

- Judges' decisions will be final. The conference chairperson will handle any problems.
- Any presentations exceeding the set time will be stopped by the judges, yet no penalty will be assessed.
- No one may enter or leave during a presentation.

Impromptu

American Sign Language

Description: This category of the competition is mandatory. The student will draw three selections from a group of topics provided and speak extemporaneously on the one of his/her choice.

Conditions: The student will be allowed two minutes for preparation. No dictionaries, notes or other help may be used. The student may not confer with anyone else after he/she has drawn the three topics.

Time Limits: **Level I** students will sign for **30 to 45 seconds**.
Level II students will sign for **1 minute**.
Level III and above will sign entirely in the language without notes for **two minutes**. Memorized speeches will receive a low score.
Memorized speeches will receive a low score.

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Language usage, vocabulary, structure
- Signs formed correctly
- Fluency
- Conceptuality

Guidelines

- Judges' decision will be final.
The conference chairperson will handle any problems.
- Presentations exceeding the set time will be stopped by the judges, yet no penalty will be assessed.
- No one may enter or leave during a presentation.

DECLAMATION

American Sign Language

Description: This activity is the recitation of a poem from memory or a signed song.

Conditions: Each contestant will provide **two typed copies** of the poem to the judge(s) at the time of presentation; **otherwise, the student will be disqualified.** Prompting or use of notes is not allowed. Contestant **must enter Impromptu Speaking** in order to participate in Declamation. Prompting or use of notes is not allowed.

Time Limit:

For **Level I**
45 second minimum and a 60 second maximum time limit.

For **Level II**
One minute minimum to two minute maximum time level.

For **Levels III and above,**
Two minute minimum and three minute maximum time limit.

Note: Contestants will be penalized only if they come short of the time limit.

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Fluency (conveyance of mood/beat)
- Clarity (Sign choices-conceptual)
- Grammar usage (Non-manual markers)
- Memorization
- Presentation (gestures, props, attire, etc.)

GUIDELINES

- Judges' decisions will be final.
- Any poems exceeding the time limit will be stopped by the judges, but no penalty will be assessed.
- Any songs will have to adhere to the minimum time limit for their level.
- No one may enter or leave during a presentation.
- Judges should not be approached concerning the evaluation of students. The conference chairperson will handle any questions or problems.

LATIN

VOCABULARY BEE

Description: The judge will choose randomly a total of 10 words from the list; 4 verbs, 3 nouns, and 3 other words. The students will write the word they hear (first part for verbs, nominative singular for nouns and adjectives) and a correct meaning of the word. Each word will be repeated 2 times. The first time will be at regular speed, and the second at a slower rate.

Conditions: All students must bring their own scoring sheet and pencil. All students (same level) will get the same 10 words and write at the same time. Students in Latin I and Latin II are eligible to participate in a Vocabulary Bee. No notes, books, or other help may be used.

Time Limit: Students have no more than 30 seconds to write down each word after it is said.

Criteria for Evaluation:

- When students finish writing all 10 words in Latin and the definition in English, the judges will collect the sheet and score them individually. Each word is worth 1 point and the definition is worth 1 point.

GUIDELINES

- Students will be stopped at the end of the time given.
- The conference chairperson shall handle any questions or problems.

LATIN MYTH TELLING

Description: The contestant will tell, not act out, myths from Greek or Roman mythology. The contestant will draw three topics from a group of myths provided and will speak on the one of his/her choice.

Conditions: The student will be allowed two minutes for preparation. No notes, books or other help may be used.

The student may not confer with anyone else after he/she has drawn the three topics. Topics will be chosen from the current adopted texts. Students who have not had a turn will wait outside so that they do not hear someone else tell a myth that they might select.

Time Limit: The student will speak without notes for a period between two and four minutes.

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Topic relevancy
- Length
- Transitional unity
- Delivery

GUIDELINES

- No scores will be revealed until the presentation of awards. Judges' decisions will be final. Any presentation exceeding the set time will be stopped by the judges.
- No one may enter or leave during a presentation.
- Judges should not be approached concerning the evaluation of students. The competition chairperson will handle any questions or problems.

Latin Test

Description: **Levels I and II.** Advanced tests will be provided if interest warrants.

Conditions: Students will answer multiple-choice questions based on Latin grammar, culture, vocabulary, literature, and mythology.

No notes, books, or other help may be used. The student may not confer with anyone. Students who do not follow these guidelines shall be immediately disqualified.

Each student must provide two #2 pencils.

No late arrivals will be admitted after the test has begun.

Time Limit: 60 minutes

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Level of accuracy

GUIDELINES

- Students will be stopped at the end of the time given.
- A student may leave the room upon completion of the test, but may not reenter.
- The conference chairperson shall handle any questions or problems.

Original Skits

Description: This category will present original skits in the target language written and presented by students a maximum of 6 students.

Note:

Students participating in the skit can be from different levels of the language.

Conditions: Skits will be live the day of the Academic competition. Two (2) pre-completed scoring sheets per skit need to be submitted before the presentation to the judges. (Names must be included on scoring sheet.) **ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL ADHERE TO SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES CONCERNING DRESS CODE, WEAPONS, DRUGS, AND ALCOHOL, ETC.**

Language and usage must reflect the highest language level attained by the participants. Costumes and props are encouraged, Points will be taken for skits that do not follow these guidelines

Note: No scripts or prompting will be allowed.

Time Limit:

Levels I and II

3 to 5 minutes.

Levels III and above, Spanish S, and Advanced Placement

5 to 8 minutes

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Originality, level of language (vocabulary and grammatical accuracy)
- Memorization, pronunciation, intonation, fluency
- Acting and staging

Note: Skits will be judged based on group performance and judges' decisions will be final.

Plays

Description: Students from all levels will present an abridged presentation of a **published play** written by a native speaker of the target language. **A photocopy of the cover or title page showing the author's name must be submitted.**

Conditions: Plays will be live the day of the competition. Two (2) pre-completed scoring sheets per act. (Names must be included on scoring sheet.) **ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL ADHERE TO SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES CONCERNING DRESS CODE, WEAPONS, DRUGS, AND ALCOHOL, ETC.** A minimum of 2 students and a maximum of **twelve students** may participate.

Time Limit: Plays should be between seven (7) and fifteen (15) minutes.

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Memorization, pronunciation, intonation, and fluency.
- Acting and staging.
- Props and costumes.

PLAY GUIDELINES

- No prompting is allowed.
- Use of English that is not an integral part of the published play will constitute immediate disqualification.
- Judges will be provided with a list of students participating in the play, along with their language levels. Judges may take the levels of the students participating as well as the difficulty of the play into consideration during the evaluation. **Students who do not actively participate in the dialog of the play will not receive awards**
- Plays will be judged based on group performance.
- Judges should not be approached concerning the evaluation of students.
- The competition chairperson will handle any questions or problems.
- In the event a sponsor or any other person prompts the actors in a play, that play will be disqualified.
- Reading lines will constitute immediate disqualification.
- Narrators must recite their lines from memory.
- Props and costumes are encouraged.
- Judges' decisions will be final.

Scrapbooks

Description: World languages clubs may submit a scrapbook depicting club activities for the present school year.

Conditions: One scrapbook per language club per school may be entered.

Entries will be submitted, at the coordinator's meeting the Thursday before the competition. To be included in the school's submission are two (2) pre-completed scoring sheets per scrapbook. **ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL ADHERE TO SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES CONCERNING DRESS CODE, WEAPONS, DRUGS, AND ALCOHOL, ETC.**

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Neatness
- Creativity
- Scope of Activities

GUIDELINES

- Judges should not be approached concerning the evaluation of students.
- Any questions or problems will be handled by the conference chairperson.

Talent

Description: The talent competition shall consist of dancing, singing, playing a musical instrument or a monologue by an individual or a group (**no more than 6 students in a group**). The performance must reflect the target culture. **Two (2) live performances per school, using proper attire related to the performance and target language. The two performances must be from different languages taught at the school.**

Conditions: Students will perform live the day of the competition. To be included in the school's submission are two (2) pre-completed scoring sheets. (Names must be included here.) **ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL ADHERE TO SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES CONCERNING DRESS CODE, WEAPONS, DRUGS, AND ALCOHOL, ETC.**

Time Limit: Each group shall perform for a maximum of five minutes.

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Stage Presence: target culture, attire related to the presentation
- Artistic interpretation
- Artistic overall impression
- Adherence to time limitation

GUIDELINES

- Judges should not be approached concerning the evaluation of students.
- The conference chairperson will handle any questions or problems.

Posters

Description: Posters must reflect the current theme for the District Academic Competitions.

Conditions: **Up to (3) three posters per language per school** may be entered. The size of the posters shall be 22" X 28". (If the poster does not follow the guidelines of the competition the poster will be disqualified) **Only one student** must complete each poster.

The student's name, language studied, and the school name will appear in ink on the **back** of each poster (using the form provided).

TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SCHOOL'S SUBMISSION ARE 2 PRE-COMPLETED SCORING SHEETS PER POSTER.

ALL SUBMISSIONS WILL ADHERE TO SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES CONCERNING DRESS CODE, WEAPONS, DRUGS, AND ALCOHOL, ETC.

Entries will be submitted on the **Thursday prior to the competition** at the coordinator's meeting.

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Creativity
- Artistic Value
- Adherence to Theme

GUIDELINES

- Judges' decisions will be final.
- Judges should not be approached concerning the evaluation of students.
- The conference chairperson will handle any questions or problems.
- Posters **must be removed** at the conclusion of the day of competition.
- Posters selected to be displayed at the school board building must have student's authorization.

Projects

Description: Projects may include, but are not limited to, artwork, models, maps, and crafts.

Conditions: **Up to three projects per language per school** may be submitted. These projects may not be **made of edible or prefabricated materials**. **Only 1 student** may work the project. **Please make sure that the student name is on the score sheet.**

Entries will be submitted on the **Thursday prior to the competition**, at the coordinator's meeting. To be included with the school's submission are 2 pre-completed score sheets per project.

The project must relate to the language the student(s) is (are) studying and **MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH A WRITTEN EXPLANATION OF AT LEAST 50 WORDS, IN ENGLISH.**

Student name, school, and language(s) studied shall appear on the **back** of the written explanation. The written explanation must be attached to the **front or side** of the project. All projects will be student made.

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Creativity
- Artistic Value
- Relevance to Target Language

GUIDELINES

- Judges should not be approached concerning the evaluation of students.
- The conference chairperson will handle questions or problems.
- Projects without a written explanation/report **IN ENGLISH** will be disqualified.
- Project selected to be displayed at the school board building must have student's authorization

Original New Media

Description:

- **Podcasting** - Podcasting is a new type of online media delivery. You publish selected audio files via the Internet and allow your users to subscribe via an RSS feed to automatically receive new files. Podcasting lets you create your own syndicated online talkshow or radio program, with content of your choosing.
- **Power Point** – Students create an original power point in the target language.
- **Imovie** – Students create an original Imovie in the target language

Conditions: **Up to three projects per language per school may be submitted. Only one student may work on the project. Please make sure that student’s name is on the score sheet.**

Entries will be sent to the **District Coordinator 2 weeks prior to the competition, in a CD/USB.** All entries need to have project identification sheet and 2 score sheets. The project must relate to the language the student(s) is (are) studying.

All new media must be original. **Be sure to avoid plagiarism. Exact copy from Internet will be disqualified. Students MUST to cite the sources if applicable.**

Criteria for Evaluation:

- Creativity
- Artistic Value
- Relevance to Target Language

GUIDELINES

- Judges should not be approached concerning the evaluation of students.
- The conference chairperson will handle questions or problems.