| **Virginia Board of Education Agenda Item** | **Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia** |
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# Agenda Item: F

## Date: March 18, 2021

### Title: Final Review of Proposed Revisions to the *World Language Standards of Learning*

#### Presenter: Dr. Lisa A. Harris, Specialist for World Languages and International Education

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## Purpose of Presentation:

Action required by state or federal law or regulation.

**Executive Summary:**The proposed revisions to the *World Language Standards of Learning* were drafted in consultation with a wide variety of constituents. The various concerns and priorities of those constituents have been incorporated whenever possible within the proposed draft of the 2021 *World Language Standards of Learning.* A strikethrough version of the 2014 *World Language Standards of Learning* is presented in Attachment A. The proposed revised Standards are shown in Attachment B, with a single underline or strikethrough indicating changes since the first review.

Public comment on the proposed revised *World Language Standards of Learning* was open from December 18, 2020 through January 31, 2021. During the public comment period on the proposed revised Standards, 17 comments were received electronically. The public comment was primarily supportive of the proposed changes. There were a few comments requesting follow up documents to support implementation. There were a few comments requesting additional detail and clarity on the implementation of the Standards for classical languages. The comments and requests will be addressed in the Standards rollout, support documents, and professional development plan.

There are no substantive changes in the proposed revisions from the first review. A few edits were made to correct typographical or grammatical errors. A few additional edits were made to sample progress indicators to provide clarity or to better align with the associated standard.

**Summary of the Proposed Revised *World Language Standards of Learning***

The major elements of the attached proposed revised *World Language Standards of Learning* include:

* Alignment with proficiency bands for novice, intermediate, and advanced with sub-levels of low, mid, and high within each major level.
* Inclusive standards for all languages within three major language families:
  + Modern World Languages,
  + Classical Languages (Latin, Ancient Greek), and
  + Visual Languages (American Sign Language).
* Standards organized in strands by the three modes of communication with an added strand for communicative literacy.
* Progress indicators for the three major language families, as well as elementary, dual language, and heritage language programs.
* Correlations of the world language progress indicators to the Virginia 5 Cs and explicit connections to the Profile of a Graduate.
* Sample exit proficiency levels at various time points.

**Action Requested:**

Final review: Action requested at this meeting.

## Superintendent’s Recommendation: The Superintendent of Public Instruction recommends the Board of Education approve the proposed revisions to the *World Language Standards of Learning* and authorize the Department of Education to make clarifying and/or technical edits.

## Rationale for Action:

The *Code of Virginia* requires a review of Virginia’s Standards of Learning every seven years.

## Previous Review or Action:

Previous review and action. Specify date and action taken below:

**Date:** January 23, 2020

**Action:** Report on the *Timeline for the Review and Approval of the Revised World Language Standards of Learning.*

**Date:** November 19, 2020

**Action:** First Review

**Date:** January 5, 2021

**Action:** Public hearing held on the *Proposed Revised World Language Standards of Learning.*

**Background Information and Statutory Authority:**   
*Code of Virginia*, Section 22.1-253.13:1-B… “The Board of Education shall establish a regular schedule, in a manner it deems appropriate, for the review, and revision as may be necessary of the Standards of Learning in all subject areas. Such review of each subject area shall occur at least once every seven years. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the Board from conducting such review and revision on a more frequent basis…”

**Timetable for Further Review/Action:**  
Following Board approval of the proposed revisions to the *World Language Standards of Learning*, the official documents will be posted on the VDOE website. Information about the updated Standards will be shared through VDOE communication channels. A rollout plan will include communication to the field and stakeholder groups, professional development activities, and the development of support documents.

## Impact on Fiscal and Human Resources:

The Department of Education administers the state standards review process. The agency’s existing resources can absorb this responsibility at this time.