

June 3, 2019

Karen Fowdy, Co-Chair  
Wisconsin Standards for World Languages

Lynn Neitzel, Co-Chair  
Wisconsin Standards for World Languages

Dear Ms. Fowdy and Ms. Neitzel:

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to high and clear expectations for what students should know and be able to do in the field of world languages. This set of Wisconsin standards will ensure consistency in academic expectations across the districts that adopt them. These standards will establish a consistent way for educators in the field to connect and share resources assisting in our shared goal to ensure every student is a graduate, college and career ready. I commend the work of this writing committee, comprised of representatives from across our state.

I also commend the State Superintendent's Standards Review Council for ensuring the process of writing and adopting new academic standards is open, transparent, and representative of the feedback received through the public process by the people of Wisconsin. The council recommended that I adopt these standards.

Upon review of the standards and the writing and adoption process by my cabinet on May 13, 2019, I conclude:

Whereas, world languages studies can serve as a foundation to ensure every child is graduate ready for the workforce and postsecondary studies; and

Whereas, higher student achievement is driven by rigorous standards, high-quality curriculum, and assessments providing meaningful feedback to improve instruction; and

Whereas, under Article X, Section 1 of the Wisconsin Constitution, the supervision of public instruction shall be vested in the state superintendent; and

Whereas, under Wis. Stat. § 115.28(1), the state superintendent shall spread as widely as possible the means and methods to improve Wisconsin schools.

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Therefore, I, Carolyn Stanford Taylor, state superintendent, exercise my authority under Article X, Section 1 of the Wisconsin Constitution to approve, adopt, and issue the Wisconsin Standards for World Languages as model academic standards that will be used as the basis for curriculum and instruction by the State of Wisconsin.

Thank you again for your service to the students and educators of Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn S. Taylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and 'T'.

Carolyn Stanford Taylor  
State Superintendent

CST/jj

c: John W. Johnson, PhD, Director, Literacy and Mathematics  
State Superintendent's Standards Review Council  
World Languages Standards Writing Committee