

**Friis, John**

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**From:** lahaiehaha@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, February 23, 2009 11:13 AM  
**To:** Friis, John; Jaya.Vijayasekar@vernonct.org  
**Subject:** Foreign Language Requiements in CT

Dear Mr. Friis,

Foreign Language requirements in our school systems are not only important for my family but for us as Americans to be able to compete in the world in education, business, finance, etc. While visiting four foreign countries, I have realized America has one of the lowest requirements for studying foreign languages. If our standards are lowered any further, it will impact our lives in every way.

My oldest daughter, Lindsay studied Spanish at Rockville High School. It was very important for her then and now as a student at Central Connecticut State College. She is presently Studying Abroad in Porto Alegre, Brazil. Since she already has studied Spanish it made it much easier for her to learn Portuguese the language spoken in Brazil.

My younger daughter, Lacey, is also studying abroad in Paris, France. She is a Secondary French Education Major at the University of Connecticut. Her passion for languages developed in her Freshman year at Rockville High school and she is pleased with her fluency while presently living in France, having completed four higher level French language classes her French language classes she has taken at University of Connecticut.

My daughter's might not have had the opportunity to Study Abroad had they not studied foreign languages in the middle school and High school. Please consider our voice in this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Deborah LaHaie  
40 Maxwell Drive  
Vernon, CT  
06066

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