

Friis, John

From: Laurie Barry [Laurie.Barry@eastlymeschools.org]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2009 9:06 AM
To: Friis, John
Cc: jaya.vijayasekar@vernonct.org
Subject: World Language requirement for high school graduation

Dear Mr. Friis,

My name is Laurie Barry and I am the department head/curriculum and instructional leader for the Global Languages department at East Lyme High School.

Our high school has a 2 year language requirement for graduation, and I believe that this requirement is one of the reasons that our high school is ranked highly in the state and in the country for academic achievement.

Research shows that the process of studying a second language has a positive effect on all other academic subjects studied, and also improves SAT scores. Studying a second language also exposes our students to a different culture and helps our students to become responsible global citizens.

I highly recommend that the state implement the minimum of two years of study of world languages in the high school graduation requirement for the state of Connecticut.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

Laurie Barry

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