

# Sturgis Charter Public School

*An International Baccalaureate World School*

*A 2023 National Blue Ribbon School*



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Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are pleased to inform you of Sturgis Charter Public School's participation in the Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy for the 2025-2026 School Year. The Seal of Biliteracy is for any student who demonstrates proficiency in English and any other language, whether they speak the language other than English at home, learned it at school, or studied independently. It takes the form of a seal that appears on the high school diploma of the graduating 12th grader. The Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy is separate from the IB Bilingual Diploma. Information specific to the IB is communicated to 10th grade students and families each spring.

The MA State Seal of Biliteracy aims to:

- (a) Encourage students to study and master languages;
- (b) Certify attainment of biliteracy skills;
- (c) Recognize the value of language diversity;
- (d) Provide employers with a method of identifying people with language and biliteracy skills;
- (e) Provide universities with a method to recognize and give credit to applicants for attainment of high-level skills in languages;
- (f) Prepare students with skills that will benefit them in the labor market and the global society; and
- (g) Strengthen intergroup communication and honor the multiple cultures and languages in a community.

In order to earn the Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy, students must:

- (a) Demonstrate a high level of proficiency in English by earning a score of 472 or higher on the Grade 10 ELA MCAS,
- (b) Demonstrate a high level of proficiency in a world language by attaining a minimum score equivalent to Intermediate-High on an assessment approved by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and
- (c) Satisfy all other graduation requirements.

***The ELA MCAS is scheduled to be administered to all 10th grade students on March 24-25. We will be administering the ACTFL Assessment of Performance Towards Proficiency in Language (AAPPL) to 12th grade students interested in earning the Seal of Biliteracy on November 5-7.***

**If your student is in 12th grade and interested in receiving the Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy, they should fill out this [Google Form](#) (using their Sturgis email).** Sturgis will cover the cost of the first AAPPL assessment for any student interested in taking it.

We look forward to honoring the language expertise and diversity in our district through this initiative. If you have any further questions, please contact Emily Masil at [emasil@sturgischarterschool.org](mailto:emasil@sturgischarterschool.org).

Best,

Paul Marble

Executive Director

Sturgis Charter Public School

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