



IB- MYP/DP Language Policy: Smoky Hill High School



Smoky Hill High School's language of instruction is English. All students are required to successfully complete one unit (two semesters) of English each year as mandated by the Colorado Department of Education.

Smoky has a well-established program for second language learners and students new to education in the English language. As their English language acquisition progresses and their skills improve, students in English language learner classes at Smoky Hill increasingly participate in broader, mainstream scholastic programs that enrich both their own educational experiences as well as those of students who are mother-tongue English speakers.

Families from five continents have immigrated to the Smoky Hill feeder community in the last several decades, adding a rich diversity of language and culture that permeates the scholastic climate. On any given day, visitors to our schools can hear English, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Pakistani, and Indian regional dialects spoken among students. Additionally, the languages and cultures of east African nations such as Ghana and Ethiopia and southeast Asian nations such as Laos and Cambodia are also represented.

In addition to the mother-tongue, students at Smoky Hill have the opportunity to choose from three language B programs. Latin, Japanese, and Spanish are offered to students through the twelfth grade. For students who speak Spanish as their first language, Smoky offers Spanish for Native Speakers. Students in grades nine through twelve receive 130 hours of instructional contact in the language B program of their choice.