January 27, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

During the spring semester we will once again be administering the STAMP assessment to our world language and immersion students in grades 2-12. STAMP (Standards-based Measurement of Proficiency), a product of Avant Assessment, provides district-wide data on how well our students are progressing in their study of a second language. **This year the STAMP testing window will be February 18-March 20, 2020.**

STAMP is a web-based adaptive assessment that is used to determine levels of Novice to Advanced, at any point along the learning path, based upon the national ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) proficiency levels. STAMP is unique in that it is a nationally-normed assessment that measures the four skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking that uses real-world questions, scenarios, or prompts that engage students to actively determine their individual proficiency levels in each of the skills. STAMP assesses how well students understand and are able to use the language.

STAMP is a tool used to determine proficiency, not just another standardized test. Students could potentially use their results to help with their placement and/or credit at the college or university level. Results could also be shared with potential employers as proficiency levels are based on national standards. Furthermore, students who are seniors and who meet the criteria will qualify for the Anchorage School District's Seal of Biliteracy. For more information about this, please visit: http://www.asdk12.org/worldlanguages/sealofbiliteracy/

You can also learn more about STAMP and even take a practice test on their website at: https://avantassessment.com

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Brandon Locke
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Educating All Students for Success in Life

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