



Supporting Our Students' Success

Committee on Learning

February 2025

Ensuring Coherent Programming through Collaboration, Communication and Careful Planning



Guiding Our Work

Tonight's conversation emphasizes our:

- District Goal - Student Support and Success
 - Support PK-12 students to meet their academic and social/emotional growth targets
- Board of Education Goal -Student Achievement:
 - Increase the achievement of every student through high quality curriculum, instruction, assessment, and programming

Tonight's Topics

For Discussion and Approval

- ECE Course Proposals

Items of Information

- Pilot Course at SMS -
Cultural Connection





Early College Experience

At
New Milford High School
[Link to Presentation](#)





Cultural Connections

A Course Pilot

For the 2025-2026 School Year



Why are we offering this pilot course?

- Some students in grade 8 need more support in foundational ELA skills.
- Even among proficient readers, not all 8th graders are ready to study a world language at a HS pace.
- The current model for 8th graders requires students to take either:
 - Reading Comprehension
 - French or Spanish

Who is this pilot course intended to serve?

- This course is intended to serve students that are not meeting benchmark standards as measured by the iReady diagnostic, SBA, and the DIBELS. Grades in SMS ELA classes and teacher input will also be factored into placement.
- This course is also intended to serve those students that are not ready to study a world language at the middle school level.
- This course will also be open to students that would prefer not to study a world language in grade 8.

What will this course address?

- The course is designed to expose students to culture and basic language (greetings, numbers, colors, etc.) for Spanish, French, and German.
 - Exposing students to all three languages in Cultural Connections will help them be better prepared to choose a language for more in depth study at the high school level.
- The course focus heavily on informational texts. It is intended to be research and projected based. It will build on skills from the 7th grade Communication Arts class, as well as the Claim-Evidence-Reasoning structure often associated with Science classes.

THANK
YOU



Questions

