The New York State Seal of Biliteracy

West Seneca Central Schools





What is the Seal of Biliteracy?

The Seal of Biliteracy is ...

- an **award** given by a school, school district or county office of education
- a formal recognition for students who have attained a high level of proficiency in two or more world languages (one of which must be English) by high school graduation
- affixed to the student's diploma, is noted on the student's official high school transcript, and is highlighted on the graduation program





Why does NYS offer the Seal?

- The Seal acknowledges the importance of being bilingual in today's global society
- highlights the hard work and achievement of students
- encourages students to pursue language study while in school
- to highlight the accomplishment of biliteracy for future employers and for college admission (this is noted on both the high school transcript and diploma)

Why is West Seneca offering the Seal?

- Encourages students to study languages;
- Recognizes the value of language diversity;
- Provides employers with a method of identifying people with language and skills;
- Provides universities with a method to recognize and give credit to applicants for attainment of high level skills in multiple languages;



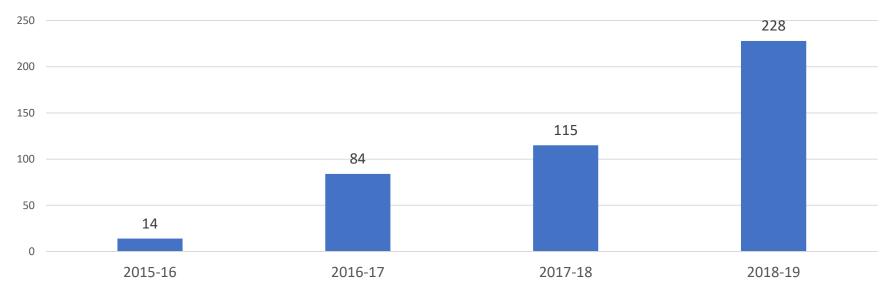
- Prepares students with 21st century skills;
- Honors the multiple cultures and languages in a community.

How many schools offer the Seal?

17% of all NYS public schools offer the NYSSB (approximately 1 in every 6 schools)



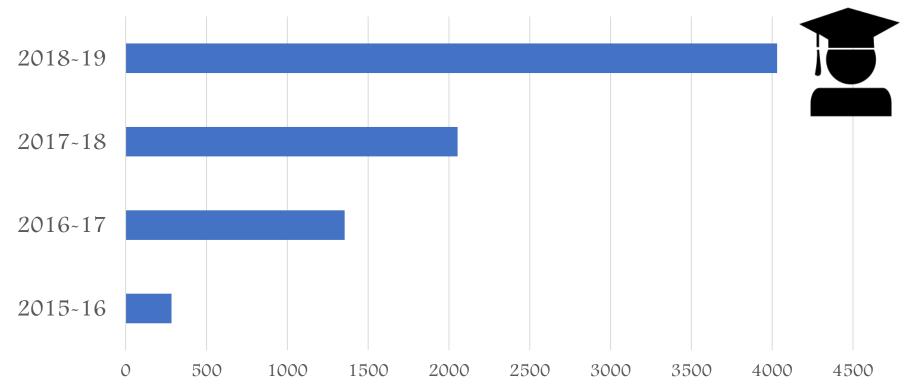
Growth in the number of schools offering the NYSSB



How many students have earned the Seal?

4,031 students earned the NYSSB in 2018-19.

of students who were awarded the Seal



How does a student earn the Seal?

- 1. Complete all of the requirements to graduate with a Regents diploma
- 2. Earn 3 points in English and 3 points in a World Language from the grid below

J1	English	J2	World Language
	Score 80 or better on the NYS Comprehensive English Regents Exam or English Language Learners (ELLs) score 75 or above on two Regents exams other than English, without translation (1 point)		Complete a Checkpoint C level World Language course, with a grade of 85 or higher, or a comparable score using another scoring system set by the district and approved by the Commissioner, for both the coursework and final examination consistent with Checkpoint C standards (1 point)
	ELLs score at the Commanding level on two modalities on the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) as demonstrated by an overall scale score of 290 (1 point)		Provide transcripts from a school in a country outside of the U.S. showing at least three years of instruction in the student's home/native language in Grade 8 or beyond, with an equivalent grade average of B or higher (1 point)
	Complete all 11th and 12th grade ELA courses with an average of 85 or higher or a comparable score using another scoring system set by the district and approved by the Commissioner (1 point)		For students enrolled in a Bilingual Education program, complete all required Home Language Arts (HLA) coursework <u>AND</u> the district HLA exam with an 85 or higher or a comparable score using another scoring system set by the district and approved by the Commissioner (1 point)
	Score 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement (AP) English Language or English Literature examination or Score 80 or higher on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) - (1 point)		Score at a proficient level on an accredited Checkpoint C World Language assessment (1 point) J3. Please specify the approved Checkpoint C World Language Assessment(s):
	Present a culminating project, scholarly essay or portfolio that meets the criteria for speaking, listening, reading, and writing established by the district's NYS SBC to a panel of reviewers with proficiency in English (2 points)		Present a culminating project, scholarly essay, or portfolio that meets the criteria for speaking, listening, reading, and writing established by the district's NYS Seal of Biliteracy Committee and that is aligned to the NYS Checkpoint C Learning Standards to a panel of reviewers with proficiency in the target language (2 points)

How does a student earn the Seal?

Criteria for Demonstrating Proficiency in a <u>World Language</u>	Point Value
Complete a Checkpoint C level World Language course, with a grade of 85 or higher or a comparable score using another scoring system set by the district and approved by the commissioner for both the coursework <u>and</u> final examination consistent with Checkpoint C standards.	1
Provide transcripts from a school in a foreign country showing at least three years of instruction in the student's home/native language, with equivalent grade average of B or higher.	1
For students enrolled in a bilingual education program, complete all required Home Language Arts (HLA) coursework and district HLA exam with an 85 or higher or a comparable score using another scoring system set by the district and approved by the commissioner.	1
Score at a proficient level on an accredited Checkpoint C World Language assessment.	1
Present a culminating project, scholarly essay, or portfolio that meets the criteria for speaking, listening, reading, and writing established by the district's Seal of Biliteracy Committee and that is aligned to the NYS Checkpoint C Learning Standards to a panel of reviewers with proficiency in the target language.	2

*A <u>culminating project</u> must demonstrate language proficiency in a presentation that includes speaking, listening, reading and writing. It must be presented to a panel of reviewers proficient in that target language.

How does a student earn the Seal?

Criteria for Demonstrating Proficiency in <u>English</u>	Point value
Score 80 or higher on the NYS Regents Examination in English Language Arts (Common Core), or ELLs can score 75 or above on two Regents exams other than English, without translation.	1
ELLs score at the Commanding level on two modalities on the NYS English as a Second Language Achievement Test.	1
Complete all 11 th and 12 th grade ELA courses with an average of 85 or higher or a comparable score using another scoring system set by the district and approved by the commissioner.	1
 Achieve the following scores on the examinations listed below: - 3 or higher on an Advanced Placement (AP) English Language or English Literature examination. - 80 or higher on all components of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). 	1
Present a * <u>culminating project</u> , scholarly essay or portfolio that meets the criteria for speaking, listening, reading, and writing established by the district's Seal of Biliteracy Committee to a panel of reviewers with proficiency in English.	2

General Timeline

- 1. Fall 2019 Identify eligible students for 2020
- Fall 2019– Winter 2020 ~ Inform stakeholders (faculty, staff, BOE, students, parents, community) about the Seal
- 3. Winter 2020 ~ Promote the Seal among eligible student cohorts
- Winter Spring 2020 Eligible students submit letter of intent to pursue the Seal for the 2020-21 school year
- 5. Fall 2020 Repeat the process

World Languages...Gateway to YOUR Future!

Language isn't a "credit for graduation to check off," but a skill that "checks you in" to future opportunity!





