



## NJDOE News

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### **DOE Schedules Fourth Annual Teacher Recruitment Event for World Languages Teachers**

The New Jersey Department of Education will host a statewide recruitment event in March to help local school districts hire qualified World Languages teachers. This is the fourth year the DOE will sponsor the event.

**World Languages Teacher Recruitment Day will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, at East Brunswick High School in East Brunswick, Middlesex County. Directions are available at: [www.hs.ebruns.k12.nj.us/hs/Directions.html](http://www.hs.ebruns.k12.nj.us/hs/Directions.html) or by calling (732) 613-6900 and pressing "1."**

"Emphasis on teaching another language beginning in the elementary grades conforms to research that says younger students learn new languages faster and more effectively," said Commissioner of Education William L. Librera. "We know that schools are working hard to hire staff to teach world languages in order to meet their responsibilities under the Core Curriculum Content Standards. Through this event, we hope to link world languages teacher candidates with school districts."

The World Languages event seeks to attract both college graduates who speak a language other than English, and native speakers of a non-English language who enjoy working with children. Candidates may either hold or be eligible to hold New Jersey teacher certification through New Jersey's alternate route or new conditional certification.

To be eligible for a conditional certificate, candidates must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5.

Candidates must also possess oral linguistic competency in a language as demonstrated by receiving a minimum score of "Advanced-Low" on the *Oral Proficiency Interview*, a nationally recognized test developed by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

For renewal of the certificate, candidates must complete a three-semester hour course in world languages methodology within 12 months of obtaining the initial certificate. They must also demonstrate progress towards meeting all state requirements for standard licensure within a five-year period.

World Languages Teacher Recruitment Day is hosted by the Office of Academic and Professional Standards and supported by the department's teacher recruitment efforts in the Office of Innovative Programs. The initiative was first established in 2000 to help recruit new talent to the teaching profession, especially in areas of teacher shortage, such as world languages.

The World Languages program is one of the many initiatives Governor James E. McGreevey, Commissioner of Education William L. Librera and the Department of Education encourage and support for both teacher growth and innovative lessons for students in the state.

Specifically, the program is an example of the DOE mission statement: "The New Jersey Department of Education will provide leadership for a superior education by utilizing multiple and diverse paths to success for all children in New Jersey.

On Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, 2002, the Governor and Commissioner hosted an Educational Summit in Trenton, where they outlined the Administration's [21-point plan](#) for educational reform. The 21-point plan is available on the Department of Education's website: [www.state.nj.us/education](http://www.state.nj.us/education).

The four key components of the 21-point plan are: involving teachers at all levels of decision making; creating a more professional environment for teachers; better preparing teachers and administrators for the challenges they face in their classroom and in their schools and supporting them once they begin their work; and continued emphasis on recognizing and celebrating excellence.

For more information, please contact the Department of Education Public Information Office at (609) 292-1126.