

THE ROLE OF THE FOREIGN / SECOND LANGUAGE SUPERVISOR NADSFL POSITION PAPER

The citizen of the twenty-first century will find language proficiency a vital life skill. In recognition of this, foreign language is included as a core subject in the Goals 2000 Educate America Act, and the foreign language profession has developed national standards for foreign / second language education. To provide a high-quality program that implements the national standards and serves the needs of students and the nation, local school districts must have specialists with subject-specific expertise to effect needed change.

The district foreign/second language supervisor provides the following services:

1. Provides leadership in the ongoing design and implementation of the foreign / second language program that meet the needs of all students as well as the critical language needs of the United States.
2. Provides professional development for instructional improvement based on current research, trends in language teaching, and district needs.
3. Stays knowledgeable about the development of learning materials by publishers and others, as well as supervising the selection and acquisition of appropriate textbooks, ancillary materials, and technology.
4. Provides leadership in developing and carrying out district-wide co-curricular and extracurricular foreign / second language activities for students.
5. Serves as a resource on effective language instruction, national issues, and related legislation for all district staff and the community.
6. Stays abreast of trends and issues in language education and brings innovation and renewal to instruction.
7. Collaborates with teachers to promote instructional consistency and a shared direction and with colleagues in other content areas on interdisciplinary curriculum and staff development.
8. Develops appropriate budget, seeks additional funding, and manages grants to bring innovative programs, courses, and techniques to the district.
9. Serves as a liaison with appropriate district, state, and national agencies and universities.
10. Stays actively involved in foreign / second language organizations and provides up-to-date knowledge to the district.
11. Explains the district's language program to parents and community leaders.
12. Serves as a source of specialized information on language teachers and learning for district staff, board members, and the community.

In collaboration with and based on work done by the Texas Association for Language Supervision and the Southwest Partners for Leadership in Language Education.

Approved by NADSFL, 1995 at the Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA.