



**Marcellus Central School District  
2 Reed Parkway  
Marcellus, New York 13108  
(315) 673-6000**

November 3, 2021

Dear Seal of Biliteracy Candidate:

Congratulations! You have decided to embark upon an exciting journey this year in pursuit of New York State's Seal of Biliteracy. The Seal of Biliteracy is a formal recognition of a student's high level of proficiency (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) in English and a second language. The Seal of Biliteracy distinction on a high school transcript specifically:

- Shows a student's commitment to world languages and cultural awareness
- Provides universities with a method to recognize and give credit for attainment of high level skills in multiple languages
- Demonstrates to colleges and future employers that a student is proficient in English and another world language
- Prepares a student with 21st century skills that will set them apart in the labor market and global society
- Recognizes the value of language diversity and honors the multiple cultures, heritages, and languages in the community

The support of family and teachers in this endeavor is critical to your success in achieving the Seal of Biliteracy. Please be sure to discuss this commitment with your parents or guardian. The Seal of Biliteracy is an outstanding recognition. It is awarded by the Commissioner to students who meet criteria established by the Board of Regents in districts that voluntarily agree to participate in the program. Students who complete the requirements successfully receive an official seal on their diplomas, as well as a recognition medal.

Each candidate for the Seal of Biliteracy must complete an application, meet assessment requirements, and complete a summative project which includes an essay, interview, and presentation and will be reviewed by the school's NYSSB Committee. The application declaring your intent to pursue the Seal of Biliteracy is due to your school counselor no later than December 1, 2021.

If you have any questions, please be sure to reach out to me anytime.

Sincerely,

*Jean M. Sharlow*

Jean M. Sharlow  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, and Data

