

LANGUAGE LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

Language is key component to a successful exchange. We are committed to front loading our youth exchange students with the tools necessary to have some rudimentary language and vocabulary when they arrive in their host country so that they are able to adequately express their wants and needs to their host family immediately.

Past exchange students say how their lack of vocabulary and their ability to form simple sentences to communicate with their families and schoolmates was a huge disadvantage in the beginning.

District 5470 requires all Outbound students to participate in our online Rosetta Stone or Pimmsleur language software courses. Once you have agreed to your country assignment, our Language Coordinator Cynthia Blancke will enroll you in your language program.

The Language Course is mandatory. We expect each student to complete two hours of language course work a week. Cynthia monitors completion of levels, as well as the time it takes to complete each class. If you are doing other language-based learning, such private tutoring, AP Spanish, other software language programs, etc- you are still expected to complete the 2 hours per week threshold. If completed by student, the \$200 Language Deposit will be refunded at time of Departure.

Applicant...Are you prepared to devote two hours a week to learning a new language so that when you arrive in your host country you can communicate basic needs and wants to your host family?

Parents... We are looking for your total support in our belief that we want our student ambassadors to arrive with all the tools necessary to have an outstanding year abroad. Are you prepared to support D5470 in stressing the importance of your child spending three hours per week in this endeavor?

I _____ understand that I will be required to work at least 2 hours per week within the assigned language program, learning my new language in preparation for my exchange until I depart for my assigned country.

Student signature

Date

As parents of _____ we support D5470 emphasis on our child learning the language of her host country. We will encourage and support her need to devote time and priority to this endeavor.

Parent Signature

Date