



**Alaska Association of Student Government**  
**Resolution #6**  
**Increasing Language Options at Tri-Valley School**  
**Submitted by: Tri-Valley Student Council**  
**Submitted: 4/23/2025**

**Be it Resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments That:**

1. **Whereas**, at Tri-Valley School (TVS), there is only one option for foreign language taught in person, which is Spanish, and offers Spanish 1 and Spanish 2;
2. **Whereas**, students can also take a foreign language virtually, either through an online college-level or Acellus curriculum or with a teacher at Anderson School;
3. **Whereas**, immediate in-person feedback is most beneficial for improving one's pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary. In addition, having a structured, guided curriculum forces individuals to learn at a steady pace and improve gradually;<sup>1</sup>
4. **Whereas**, learning different languages helps children develop cognitive skills, and enhances their problem-solving abilities, and fosters empathy and cultural understanding;<sup>2</sup>
5. **Whereas**, it also opens up broader communication opportunities and can lead to better job prospects in the future;<sup>2</sup>
6. **Whereas**, the Denali Borough has a vast summer tourism industry, which includes many visitors from around the world who speak different languages;
7. **Whereas**, various Tri-Valley students have been able to take advantage of their foreign language education and apply it to their summer jobs within the tourism industry;
8. **Whereas**, 75.9% of high school students at TVS have taken at least one year of foreign language, with 100% of those respondents having taken Spanish 1 and/or Spanish 2;<sup>3</sup>
9. **Whereas**, when surveyed, 89.7% of Tri-Valley high schoolers said that they believe more foreign language options should be offered at TVS, with an additional 10.3% saying they were unsure, and 0% in disagreement;<sup>3</sup>

10. **Whereas**, if more foreign language options were offered at TVS, 69% of students said that they would take one, 17.2% said they were not sure, and 13.8% said they would not;<sup>3</sup>
11. **Whereas**, if more foreign language options were offered, 12 students would like to take French, 7 would take ASL, 4 would take German, 3 would take Italian, 2 each would take Portuguese, Japanese, Chinese, Russian, or Mandarin, and 1 each would like to take Norwegian or Spanish 3;<sup>3</sup>
12. **Whereas**, some colleges and universities have different foreign language credit requirements for graduating high school seniors to enroll;
13. **Whereas**, having more foreign language options would be beneficial for students trying to fit the credit requirements;
14. **Whereas**, we have many bilingual community members in the Denali Borough whom we could ask to teach a short elective class, most likely with a small stipend;
15. **Whereas**, we have had several community volunteers who have taught optional elective classes after the end of the school day, such as Welding & Small Engines;
16. **Whereas**, we will also advocate to the Denali Borough School District School Board on expanding bilingual educator recruitment;
17. **Whereas**, we can also help to promote information about the online and virtual foreign language class options that exist already;

**Therefore, be it resolved that the Alaska Association of Student Governments** supports the Tri-Valley Student Council in advocating for the implementation and increased promotion of additional foreign language instruction at Tri-Valley School.

**Action Statement:** If passed by the general assembly of AASG, this resolution will be brought to the Tri-Valley School Principal, as well as the Denali Borough School District School Board for their consideration and further recommendation of expanding bilingual educator recruitment.

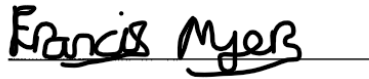
#### Sources:

1. Government of Canada. "Online vs. In-Person Language Learning: Which Works Better? – the Our Languages Blog – Resources of the Language Portal of Canada – Canada.ca." *Www.noslangues-Ourlanguages.gc.ca*, 24 Apr. 2024, [www.noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca/en/blogue-blog/en-ligne-ou-en-personne-online-vs-in-person-eng](http://www.noslangues-ourlanguages.gc.ca/en/blogue-blog/en-ligne-ou-en-personne-online-vs-in-person-eng).
2. European Commission. "Raising Multilingual Children: The Benefits of Early Language Learning | European School Education Platform." *Europa.eu*, 2 Sept. 2024, [school-education.ec.europa.eu/en/discover/news/raising-multilingual-children-benefits-early-language-learning](https://school-education.ec.europa.eu/en/discover/news/raising-multilingual-children-benefits-early-language-learning).

3. Survey of Tri-Valley High School students, March 2025

*Resolution passes with noted opposition*

Passed by the Spring 2025 General Assembly of AASG hosted by Sitka High School and Mt Edgecumbe High School

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis Myers". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

AASG Vice President, Francis Myers

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Navarre". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

AASG Executive Director, Kathleen Navarre