



## Pine-Richland Middle School Parental Override for Student Placement: Academic Reading to World Language

*PRMS carefully assesses all students to ensure appropriate academic placement. However, some parents choose to override the school's placement decision. Completion of this form will initiate this process.*

### **Academic Reading to World Language**

**Explanation of Academic Reading:** This course extends the instructional design of Reading 7. The course is taken in place of a full year of a foreign language. It is designed to cultivate critical literacy skills so that students reach their maximum potential in all areas of learning. The breadth of genre includes short stories, novels, articles, poems, and essays. There is a targeted focus on the application of comprehension skills that can be applied in other content areas. Examples of comprehension skills include literary analysis, specific reading strategies, listening skills, critical thinking skills, and higher-level questioning. Direct instruction of vocabulary strategies and a structured written response is incorporated through whole class and individualized reading experiences. A reading technology program is utilized to provide a wide choice of independent reading opportunities and measure individual student's academic growth.

#### **Explanation of World Language:**

**French I** French 1 class meets every day of the year. It is an academic course that has a midterm and final exam. The French Level 1 curriculum includes reading, writing, listening to and speaking French. Most of the class is conducted in the French language. Culture is used as a foundation for each lesson. Students are encouraged to engage in a variety of functional and practical activities to help practice speaking and to reinforce grammatical concepts. Through the course of the year, students begin to experience the benefits of learning French. There is a strong emphasis on writing and speaking in this course.

**German I** In this full-year course, 8th grade students begin developing the basic language learning skills of speaking, writing, listening and reading in German. Emphasis is placed in basic language functions, grammar and structure such as verb conjugations, word order of statements and questions, case understanding and noun groupings. Vocabulary development focuses on topics such as personal introductions and descriptions, family, hobbies and school. Additional topics such as geography of German-speaking Europe, regional language variations and cultural, and holiday celebrations are also highlighted.

**Spanish I** Spanish I is a class that meets every day for the entire 8th grade year. It provides the learner with an exciting introduction to the Spanish language by focusing on the beginning stages of communication. Reading, writing, speaking and listening skills are developed through the study of

relevant thematic units such as hobbies, the school day, family and food. Grammatical concepts include genders of nouns, adjective agreement, subject pronouns, verb conjugations, and sentence structure. These units of study are infused with vocabulary, history, and culture, thus providing students with a well-rounded, meaningful exposure to the Spanish-speaking world.

**I am requesting that my son/daughter \_\_\_\_\_ not be enrolled in the Academic Reading class for which he/she has been recommended. I am aware that my son/daughter was screened for the program and that the screening indicated a need for the intervention. I acknowledge that my request to not enroll my student in the Reading course is contrary to the recommendation of the school district. I would like to enroll my son/daughter in the following World Language course: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please give a rationale concerning why you want your son/daughter to not participate in the district's recommended course:**

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