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**NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF  
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To: North Dakota Educators  
From: Lodee Arnold, Assistant Director, Office of Indian/Multicultural Education  
Date: February 19, 2019  
RE: North Dakota Seal of Biliteracy

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The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) is proud to announce the implementation of the North Dakota Seal of Biliteracy (NDSB) award program. The NDSB is an award presented to graduating students who have demonstrated proficiency in a language in addition to English.

North Dakota joins more than half of the nation in awarding a Seal of Biliteracy. The NDSB is established to recognize students and provide an identifier of this accomplishment for employers and post-secondary institutions. The NDSB serves to inspire the implementation of biliteracy programs and pathways of language development in districts across the state and help districts demonstrate value in diversity/culture.

The NDSB is awarded by the NDDPI according to the specific criteria presented in the attached guidance document. Each student will receive a physical foil seal on their high school diploma, a certificate from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and an identifier on the student's eTranscript. School district participation in the program is completely voluntary.

Please review the attached documents and determine how this program could be implemented in the district. Additional information is available on the [NDDPI website](#).