

SHHS Language Philosophy

Science Hill High School understands that thoroughly developed language skills are crucial to all students' personal, professional, and social progress. Moreover, the school understands that 'language skills' encompass diverse subskills, registers, etc. Therefore, Science Hill students develop their ability to communicate in a wide variety of modes and for a wide variety of purposes. These modes and purposes extend to languages other than students' mother tongues.

SHHS Language Profile

Languages	Number	% (of 2193 total)
English	2193	100%
Spanish	102	4.7%
Chinese	9	0.4%
Arabic	8	0.4%
Bassa	5	0.2%
Filipino	3	0.1%
Vai	3	0.1%
Swahili	3	0.1%
Bosnian	3	0.1%
German	3	0.1%
Russian	3	0.1%
Vietnamese	2	0.1%
Kpelle	2	0.1%
Gujarati	2	0.1%
Hindi	2	0.1%
Japanese	2	0.1%
Amharic	2	0.1%
Oromo	1	0.05%
Wolof	1	0.05%
Fanti	1	0.05%
Urdu	1	0.05%
Malay	1	0.05%
Korean	1	0.05%
Danish	1	0.05%
Tamil	1	0.05%
Punjabi	1	0.05%
French	1	0.05%
Portuguese	1	0.05%
ALL	165	7.5%
ELL	32	1.5%

At Science Hill, the language of instruction is American English. Tennessee is an English-only state, which means that schools are prohibited from providing bilingual education. American English is also the predominant language of social discourse, although some students communicate with their friends in Spanish. As Science Hill is the only high school in the Johnson City Schools district, the range of languages in students' lives are a good representation of those present in the community at large.

Of the eighty-seven students enrolled in Science Hill's IB Program, five (5.7%) have a language other than English in their background.

Gabriel Fernando Garcia	9 th grade	Spanish	NELB
Miguel Esteban Gutierrez	10 th grade	Spanish	NELB
Sophia Zeyu Liu	10 th grade	Chinese	NELB
Ignacio Miguel Garcia	11 th grade	Spanish	NELB
Savannah V Hirst	11 th grade	German	NELB

SHHS Language Policy

Science Hill High School supports language development in a variety of ways. All teachers at the school are also language teachers. The language of instruction is English, with German, French, Latin, and Spanish taught as additional languages. Dedicated students can join a language-oriented club or take AP or IB level language courses. Native speakers of Spanish also have the opportunity of furthering their skills in our two "Spanish for Native Speakers" courses. Students with a different mother tongue may elect to develop that language to satisfy the school's world language requirement. English Language Learning (ELL) students receive support from an on-site certified ESL teacher and an ELL-dedicated math tutor. Teachers and administrators can receive in-house Spanish training at the school's Spanish-for-Teachers sessions.

Science Hill is committed to helping all interested students benefit from the IB Program. If a student requires language support to succeed, the school is equipped to provide it. The school maintains a language profile of each IB student that includes languages and language status. Language status options are ELL, T1 (Transitional 1st Year), T2 (Transitional 2nd Year), G (exited from ESL program while in high school), and NELB (Non-English Language Background, has another language in her/his background but has never required ESL services).