

NEW JERSEY SEAL OF BILITERACY



Signed into law on January 26, 2016

Congratulations

Dr. Shelly Spiegel-Coleman
Californians Together



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BXXkm7kWDtI&feature=youtu.be>

Significance of the Symbols on NJ Seal of Biliteracy

Created and designed by Erika Gallagher



- Half of the bottom bough is made of oak leaves.
NJ's state tree is the northern red oak, so those leaves symbolize the state.
- The other half of the bottom bough is made of laurel leaves. Historically, laurel leaves have been a symbol of victory. A crown of laurel leaves was given to the victor of the Pythian games, an ancient Greece forerunner of the modern Olympic games. Winners received a wreath of bay laurel.
- The book represents an educated population.
- The globe represents a bilingual world.
- The colored version is yellow and blue because the flag of the state of NJ is yellow. Blue was chosen as a contrasting color.

NJ is one of 22 states to adopt the Seal of Biliteracy

The screenshot displays the Seal of Biliteracy website. At the top, a navigation bar includes links for Home, Steps to Implement, Resources, FAQs, News, Contact Us, Sign up, and Log in. A central banner features a carousel of images showing students and staff. Below this is a section titled "STATE LAWS REGARDING THE SEAL OF BILITERACY" with a legend: Approved State Seal (dark blue), Under Consideration (teal), Early Stages (orange), and No Seal of Biliteracy, Yet! (white). A map of the United States shows 22 states in dark blue (Approved), including WA, OR, CA, NV, UT, AZ, NM, TX, LA, MS, AL, GA, NC, VA, WV, OH, MI, WI, MN, IA, MO, IL, IN, PA, NY, NJ, DE, MD, DC, CT, RI, MA, NH, ME, VT, and HI. A social stream on the right shows a post from armathsciarts about students using movie-making software. A "FOLLOW US" section at the bottom right features a Facebook post for the Seal of Biliteracy with 2,453 likes.



Initial Committee members 2013

- Dr. Mary Curran, Rutgers University, Graduate School of Education
- Cheri Quinlan, NJ Department of Education World Languages
- Lori Ramella, NJ Department of Education, Office of Title I, Bilingual Department
- Jean Modig, Past President of FLENJ
- Elizabeth Franks, NJTESOL-NJBE

Executive Boards of FLENJ and NJTESOL/NJBE

Erika Gallagher, designer and creator of the NJ Seal of Biliteracy

2013



2016

To our beginning seven pilots districts

District	Superintendent	Director/Supervisor
Linden *	Danny A. Robertozzi, Ed. D.	Alphonsina Paternostro
Mahwah *	C. Lauren Schoen, Ed. D.	Miriam Lezanski
Perth Amboy*	Dr. David A. Roman	Lillianne Cruz-Argemil
Plainfield *	Anna Belin-Pyles	Phillip Williamson, Ed. D.
Princeton	Dr. Steve Cochrane	Priscilla Russel
Vineland *	Mary Gruccio, Ph. D	Joanne Negrin, Ed. D.
Washington Twp *	Joseph N. Bollendorf	Rosemarie Armstrong

* Core Six districts that participated for all three years

Fall 2013



KUDOS to our First “Seal of Biliteracy” Recipients

- **185** students from **seven** districts attained required proficiency in two (or more) languages!
- **Ten** languages were represented in our first cohort: Spanish, French, Mandarin, Italian, Russian, German, Arabic, Japanese, Swahili and Latin.



2014-2015



2014



2015

We add six more pilot districts

District	Superintendent	Director/Supervisor
Egg Harbor Township	Dr. Scott McCartney	Michelle Schreiner, Ed. D.
Ocean City	Dr. Kathleen Taylor	Terri Brennan
Red Bank Regional	Thomas Pagano (Interim)	Robert Donohoe/Rose Powers
Ridgefield Park	Eric W. Koenig	Melissa Cavins
South Hunterdon	Louis Muenker, Ed. D.	William Ross
Westfield	Dr. Margaret Dolan	Robert Roth

Seal of Biliteracy 2014-2015 Recipients



- **341** students from **twelve** districts attained required proficiency in two (or more) languages!
- **Fourteen** languages were represented: American Sign Language, Spanish, French, Mandarin, Hebrew, Italian, Russian, German, Arabic, Japanese, Haitian Creole, Polish, Portuguese and Latin.

2015



2016

Plus our additional twelve pilot districts

District	Superintendent	Director/Supervisor
Carteret	Kevin Ahearn	Maria Romero
East Brunswick	Dr. Victor Valeski	Ruth Chang
Franklin	Dr. John A. Ravally	Dana Karas
Hammonton	Dr. C. Dan Blachford	Thomas Fischer
Hopewell Valley	Dr. Thomas A. Smith	Sara Olivera
Lakewood	Laura Winters	Tracey Paolantonio
Middle Township	Dr. David Salvo	Kathleen McDonald
Millburn	Dr. Christine Burton	Abby Crespo
Millville	Dr. David Gentile	Debra Sukinik
Passaic	Pablo Muñoz	Dr. Gloria Arce-Vargas
Summit	June Chang	Ana Ventoso
Toms River	David M. Healy	Leslie Port

2015-2016

KUDOS

- **727 Seal of Biliteracy Certificates!**
- **24 Districts**
- **16 languages:**
 - Spanish, French, Latin, German, Italian, American Sign Language, Arabic, Mandarin, Russian, Tagalog, Polish, Yoruba, Punjabi, Haitian-Creole, Portuguese, Vietnamese
- **3 students received certificates in multiple languages**

2015-2016

Superlatives

Superintendent of the Year

- Danny Robertozzi, Ed. D., Linden Public Schools
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igl-ICcgSFg>

Most Certificates

- Westfield – 121 East Brunswick – 107

Most Languages

- Linden - 7 different languages
- East Brunswick – 6 different languages
- Egg Harbor & Toms River – 5 different languages

2015-2016

Statistics

Top 5 languages

1. Spanish – 516
2. French – 123
3. Latin – 27
4. German – 17
5. Italian – 14

- 65 % are Native English Speakers
- 35 % are Heritage language speakers
- 2% (16) are current ELLs
- 5% (33) are former ELLs

Growth over 3 years

	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Districts	7	12	23
Certificates	185	341	727
Languages	10	14	16