

**THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
THE WILLIAM W. BODINE HIGH SCHOOL
FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

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INTRODUCTION

Founded in 1981 as a partnership between the School District of Philadelphia and the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, William W. Bodine High School for International Affairs is a magnet school in the Northern Liberties section of Philadelphia featuring a humanities and foreign-language centered college preparatory program and offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The mission of Bodine High School for International Affairs is to provide our students with a comprehensive educational experience that expands students' sphere of interest to include an ability to think critically about world affairs and prepare each and every one of them for a lifetime of personal achievement and service to their local, national, and global communities.

As part of the founding vision of the school, Bodine was the only public high school in the city of Philadelphia to require that students take four years of a foreign language. Early in the school's storied history, Bodine offered a variety of world languages, but due to the ongoing budget cuts and fiscal crisis at the local and state levels, foreign language teachers have been cut and Bodine has since been forced to reduce its offerings in world languages and related subjects. Philadelphia schools, particularly those like Bodine that serve low-income students, are struggling to support a core curriculum in social studies and foreign languages, leaving students without the skills required to compete in today's global labor market. This makes our proposal for an initiative like funding an Italian teacher through private donations and the Italian Consulate of Philadelphia especially vital. Offering economically disadvantaged youth the cognitive tools needed to acquire proficiency in foreign languages provides a crucial component absent in many Philadelphia students' educational experience.

We at the William W. Bodine High School for International Affairs pride ourselves on the global curriculum we offer and the unique programs and opportunities made available to our students via our special partnership with the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia. Since the inception of our international school in 1981, one of the staple events in our school year has been a spring trip abroad to expose our students to the world outside of the United States. The continuation and growth of our international program is fundamental to the development of our students' ability to think analytically about world affairs, strengthen advanced foreign language communication skills, as well as foster and promote a global understanding throughout their local communities. Past educational trip destinations have included China, Spain, France, the United Kingdom, Costa Rica and even Russia! In the spring of 2018, a group of Bodine teachers and students travelled to Rome, Sorrento, Sicily, Taormina, and Vatican City, Italy. The trip, "From Rome to Sicily," gave students the opportunity to explore and learn about both modern and ancient Italy. The diverse offerings within the trip package allowed students to see and learn all the wonderful things Italy has to offer – from the Eternal City of Rome to the unique culture and character of Sicily. However, none of the students or chaperones had any formal Italian language training, so they were at a slight disadvantage. With this proposal, we hope to expand Bodine's current foreign language offerings (which currently include Mandarin Chinese, French, Portuguese, and Spanish) to include Italian.

Because of our unique partnership with the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, which would help us to make this proposal a reality should we be accepted, Bodine High School for International Affairs is a natural placement for an Italian teacher. In addition, because of budget constraints, this is perhaps the only way right now that our students will have the advantage of learning Italian. As our budget planning continues, we can expand our Italian offerings by having had the ability to begin our new Italian language courses through this program.

Also, as the first World Heritage City in the United States, Philadelphia is a perfect location for a teacher from another country to experience the wealth of historical and cultural diversity of our country. We honor our founding fathers here in Philadelphia, as the one-time capital of a new nation. We are home to the Independence Hall where the Declaration of Independence was signed, and we are also home to the National Constitution Center, which celebrates the document from which our freedoms are framed. Bodine has warm and welcoming staff and students, and our teachers are among the best in the city. We have excellent support from our parents and from school district administration. This type of educational environment helps to ensure a smooth and deeply rewarding experience for an Italian exchange teacher.

SCHOOL DESCRIPTION

The mission of Bodine High School for International Affairs (grades 9-12) is to provide urban public school students with a comprehensive educational experience that expands students' interests to include global issues and prepares them for a life time of achievement and participation in the local, national and global communities. To meet this goal, Bodine dedicates itself to these objectives:

- To offer a rigorous and comprehensive college preparatory program for all students.
- To enable students to exceed the School District of Philadelphia requirements through the achievement of 28 school based credits, higher level diplomas or individual certificates from the International Baccalaureate Organization and the College Board's Advanced Placement program.
- To provide a coherent International Studies Program that encourages worldwide travel through the organizational support of the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia and other internationally recognized organizations.
- To provide these opportunities in a nurturing and harmonious atmosphere that is characterized by individual integrity and mutual respect within a small yet diverse student population.
- To promote global awareness through intensive study of foreign languages, history, literature, visual arts, mathematics science, economics, international politics and information technology.
- To infuse internationalism into the School District Core Curriculum courses across all disciplines.
- To complement the academic program with leadership opportunities for students, fostering the development of individual talents, academic achievement and civic responsibility.
- To provide an academic program which recognizes the value of disciplined ethical thinking, awareness of cultural differences and respect for a variety of worldviews.

Diversity: As a magnet school established to foster interracial understanding, Bodine attracts academically motivated students from all parts of the city and from all types of "feeders:" public, parochial, charter and home-schools. The student population is diverse: 51% African American; 22% Hispanic/Latino; 10% Caucasian; 12% Asian; 5% Multiracial/Other. This diversity is a great source of strength for the school, as the students are bound together by their common desire for a unique high school experience that transcends racial and ethnic boundaries. English is the

language spoken in the majority of students' households, yet approximately 25% of students are bilingual or trilingual, speaking more than 23 languages and dialects.

College Attendance: In the class of 2017, 99% of the graduates went on to post-secondary institutions, 78% to four-year programs, 18% to two-year programs, and 3% to technical/vocational certificate programs or the military.

IB Diploma Candidate Test Pass Rate (including Theory of Knowledge and Extended Essay): 80%

IB Overall Test Pass Rate (Diploma and Course Candidates): 76%

Requirements: Bodine High School requires a four-year sequence in a single foreign language in addition to city and state requirements for English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Health and Physical Education, African American History and the Arts. Additionally, each student is required to serve a minimum of 100 hours of service to the school and the larger community.

World Languages: French, Portuguese, Mandarin Chinese, and Spanish

Electives: Creative Writing (Songwriting), Introduction to Film, Introduction to Business, Anatomy & Physiology, and Personal Fitness

Advanced Placement: U.S. Government, Calculus AB, Environmental Science, and Physics. Bodine students also participate in Dual Enrollment Programs at the Community College of Philadelphia.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB): Bodine was authorized as International Baccalaureate World School in April 2005. The course offerings for students in the Diploma Programme include: English Literature (HL), Biology (SL/HL), History of the Americas (SL/HL), Math Studies (SL), French or Spanish (SL/HL), Business and Management (SL/HL), Math (SL), Visual Arts and Theory of Knowledge. Students apply for admission to Bodine's IB curriculum in the second semester of their sophomore year.

Academic Advantage: Bodine's seven period-period roster enables students to earn six credits per year (for a total of 24 credits) and take elective classes in grades 10-12. All students are prepared to enter IB courses by their junior year, through which they are able to earn a distinctive supplemental diploma and qualify for college credits.

Technology: Bodine offers a dual-platform environment, with one PC lab and a new Mac Lab. We are a BYOD and Google Apps for Education School with 14 computer stations in the library, mini labs in several classrooms, ChromeBook/laptop carts, and Ethernet/wireless access throughout the building. All classrooms feature interactive Promethean/Smart Boards. Elective classes provide instruction in basic and intermediate applications. Advanced technology courses are also available as electives to upperclassmen.

Extracurricular Activities: Bodine offers a wide variety of full-year and seasonal clubs.

Athletics: Basketball, Soccer, Tennis teams for boys and girls; Co-ed Cross Country, Track and Field, and Cheerleading, and Badminton, Softball, Baseball, Girls Volleyball, and Co-ed Golf.

Bodine Partnerships: Summer Search Philadelphia, Villanova VIEW, Youth Volunteer Corps, School Year Abroad, Perspectives Debate, Inc., International Exchange Student Program

(Poland, Colombia, South Korea and Japan), Seaport Museum SAILOR Program, Philadelphia Futures Sponsor-A-Scholar & College Connection, Temple Community Collaborative POWER, VOICES & POPPIN Internships and Upward Bound, Women of Tomorrow, Wharton-Aberdeen Investment Competition, Anti-Violence Partnership in Philadelphia.

World Affairs Council of Philadelphia: The World Affairs Council affiliation supplements the academic program through the part-time liaison who works closely with faculty to arrange for informational and cultural assemblies, guest speakers for classroom discussions, student-produced programs, hosting opportunities with international exchange students, study abroad programs and service projects. Through the continued support of the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, Bodine students serve as student delegates and leaders at the Council's annual high-school simulation programs (International Student Summit and Global Economic Forum) and are frequent guests at the Council's speaker event series, which feature some of the world's most influential leaders and experts.

Bodine Traditions: Spring Trip Abroad, Shakespeare Festival, International Day, Career Day, Spirit Week, Senior Breakfast and Trip, Junior Trip, African American Heritage Assembly, Asian Heritage and Hispanic Heritage Assemblies, Women's History Month Assembly, Salaam "Peace" Assembly, LGBTQIA Awareness Assembly, and One Book One Philadelphia Program and Author Visit.

BODINE'S FOREIGN LANGUAGE EXCHANGE TEACHERS

In the Spring of 2017, Bodine participated in a nation-wide competition to host a Teachers of Critical Language Program (TCLP) teacher and was one of a total of 26 schools that was awarded for the 2017-18 academic year. In partnership with the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, Bodine High School hosted a native speaker from China for a full academic year.

Our 2017-18 exchange teacher from China, was an excellent resource in successfully re-establishing our Mandarin Chinese language courses at Bodine. The opportunity has built a great foundation at the school in terms of familiarizing the Bodine administration and World Affairs Council staff of the process with regards to hosting foreign exchange teachers. Currently, there are 55 students, grades 9-12, enrolled in two Chinese 1 courses. Our hope in applying for funding for an Italian foreign language instructor, is to ensure that we would be able to maintain an Italian foreign language program at Bodine indefinitely. As previously mentioned, Bodine has a four-year language requirement for all students.

BODINE AND THE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA

The World Affairs Council is the partner of Bodine High School for International Affairs, and is a pivotal component of our cultural and curricular planning for our students and staff. The World Affairs Council is a private, nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that provides life-long educational programming and global issues forums to audiences throughout the Greater Philadelphia region, including Council members, students, teachers and the general public. Since its founding in 1949, the Council has hosted more than 5,000 prominent speakers at events that have reached more than 500,000 community participants, forging a continuous dialogue between policymakers and the public. Over these past 69 years, the Council has also impacted the lives of more than 500,000 students, providing them with meaningful opportunities to think critically and engage actively in their local and global communities. By allowing a staff member from the WAC to serve as the community liaison, a rich and varied program will no doubt be provided to the exchange teacher. The Council has also cultivated a rich history of working with local and

national partners, including the University of Pennsylvania, the Fox Business School at Temple University, Drexel University, St. Joseph's University, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Foreign Policy Research Institute, along with many others. Additionally, the Council's global education work benefits significantly from national foreign and public policy organizations, including the United Nations Association, the Foreign Policy Association, the Wilson Center and the Brookings Institution.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

A Pennsylvania State Teacher Certification in The Italian Language is required. The Pennsylvania Department of Education website provides the steps for applying for teaching certifications at:

<http://www.education.pa.gov/Teachers%20-%20Administrators/Certifications/Pages/default.aspx#tab-1>

It is possible for the teacher to obtain a temporary "emergency" certification through the Pennsylvania Department of Education. We have familiarity with navigating the process due to having our recent Mandarin exchange teacher. This information is also be available on the website above and we take care of this within the first few weeks of the teachers' arrival.

To be eligible to serve as a guest instructor for The School District of Philadelphia, an individual must complete the following clearances and paperwork prior to their start date: 1) Child Abuse History Clearance; 2) State Criminal Background Check; and 3) FBI Background Check OR Signed Volunteer Affirmation. The individual has not lived in PA for the past 10 years, go to <https://uenroll.identogo.com/> to obtain an FBI Background Check. If you HAVE lived in PA for the past 10 years, go to www.philasd.org/FACE/volunteer to print and sign the Volunteer Affirmation.

CONCLUSION

We are very much looking forward to the possibility of offering our students this unique opportunity to add Italian to our roster of foreign language offerings. We are prepared to continue to offer Bodine students a unique and fascinating educational experience in hopes of fostering within them an ability to think analytically about the world in which they live.

It is our hope that you agree to the importance of this opportunity for our students. We eagerly await your response and decision, and appreciate your time and careful consideration.

Sincerely,

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