Multilingual students offer tutoring

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Junior Manraj Gill created the new Language Tutors Club in an effort to help improve student understanding of foreign languages.

Gill, the president of the club, brought the idea of the club to language teacher Lili Floyd toward the end of last year and she happily agreed to sponsor the club.

The objective of the club is to have students with diverse knowledge of languages help their peers succeed in their language classes. The club is designed to help students like junior Emma Miramontes, who has taken several years of Spanish, yet still questions her understanding of the language.

"After taking three years of Spanish at my junior high and repeating Spanish 3 at DHS, I never felt like I got a firm grasp on the language," Miramontes said. "I found that language courses take more focus and effort than any other class I was in with the combination of speaking, spelling, grammar and vocab."

Miramontes believes that with a little extra help from the club, "it will be easier to focus out of the classroom environment without the distractions," and the extra help will keep her ahead.

According to Gill and Floyd, the response from the student body has been supportive so far.

"The students seem eager to help and often learners are more open with their peers and less anxious," Floyd said.

At the moment, the club is recruiting tutors who have completed or are in the process of completing four or more years of a language. Junior Chris Chinn had hoped to become a Spanish tutor for the club, but was turned down because he had only taken three years of Spanish.

"Initially, I tried to invite everyone whom I thought was qualified for tutoring others. But as our club grew, from the initial 17 to 55, Madame Floyd and I became concerned regarding the legitimacy of the club," Gill said.

Gill was concerned that help from an unqualified tutor could hurt a students understanding rather than benefit it. Gill has now created a club application form that requires students to get a signature from their language teacher.

"This is to get the teacher's approval that that student is qualifi-