

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELLs)



Changes in the District's ESL Program

Parkland School District

	<u>1997</u>	<u>2014</u>
█ Total Population of Students	7,274	9,164
█ Number of ELL students (01)	11	197
█ Number of languages	6	36
█ Number of ESL teachers	1	10
█ Number of ESL teaching assistants	0	1

Dispelling a Myth about ELLs

Myth

If ELLs hear English all day,
they learn it quickly. They are
like “little sponges”.

Fact

In reality, it takes 5 – 7 years to
become proficient in a new
language.



ESL Teachers

❖ Develop English language proficiency in the areas of:

- Listening
- Speaking
- Reading
- Writing



ESL Teachers

- ❖ Provide support in content areas
- ❖ Communicate and collaborate with classroom teachers to make adaptations and modifications to the curriculum



Delivery of Instruction

Pull Out

- ELLs are instructed outside the regular classroom in small groups arranged by skill level, grade level and/or ESL level

Push In

- ESL teachers go into the regular classroom to provide support to ELLs with specific content in a subject area



Characteristics of ELLs by Level

Level 1- Entering

- Understands little or no English
- Follows one-step directions
- Names objects
- Labels objects and pictures
- Uses one word responses or gestures

Level 2 – Beginning

- Responds in a word or phrase
- Uses simple vocabulary
- Decodes simple sentences but may not know the meaning
- Follows two-step directions
- Writes in phrases or simple patterns



Level 3 – Developing

- Follows multi-step oral directions
- Retells stories or events
- Responds orally using full sentences
- Has some knowledge of punctuation and capitalization but may not be consistent
- Writes sentences centered around one idea

Level 4 – Expanding

- Understands English as spoken on TV or in the normal flow of conversation
- Discusses stories, issues and concepts
- Interprets information or data
- Creates original writing pieces
- Revises and edits writing



Level 5 – Bridging

- Expresses ideas in English with fluency
- Reads materials used in the regular education classroom
- Demonstrates writing ability appropriate to succeed in the regular education classroom

Level 6 – Reaching

- Completes all assignments independently.
- Functions on grade level with peers
- At this level, an ELL is placed on a two year monitor status.



Top Ten Strategies for Classroom Teachers

1. Use Visuals & Manipulatives
2. Use Body Language
3. Repeat, Repeat, Repeat
4. Cooperative Learning Groups
5. Use the “buddy” system
6. Use graphic organizers
7. Alter your voice intonation
8. Pair-Share
9. Adapt or modify curriculum and assignments
10. Avoid paper/pencil tests as your only means of assessment.



I have a new ESL student. Now what?

- Find out as much as you can about the student's native culture and other school experiences using "Culturegrams" on the Internet and reviewing student records from previous schools, if available.
- Talk to your class about the new student's culture using multi-cultural pictures and storybooks.
- Have a class meeting with students and ask them how they would feel in a new country and school.
- Brainstorm ways students in the class can help the new student and make a "Welcome Book".
- Seat your new student in the middle of the class next to peers or buddies. This way he or she can observe you and also observe how other students respond to your instructions.



Translation Services

“Language Line Services”

See your building’s ESL teacher for help accessing interpreters by telephone.

Websites

<http://translate.google.com>

<http://babelfish.yahoo.com>



ELL State Standards

Available on the
Parkland Intranet Home Page
under the ESL tab



PSSA for ELLs

1. All ELL students must take the math and science PSSA tests.
2. Students who have been in U.S. schools less than one year may opt out of the PSSA reading and writing.
3. These students arrived after April 15, 2012.



ESL PLACEMENT

1. Home Language Survey

(All new students/families take this survey.)

2. W-APT (WIDA Access Placement Test)

(This test helps to determine the correct level for the WIDA test.)

3. WIDA ACCESS for ELLs

(This test is given in January/February to all ELL students. It is tied into AYP and is mandated by PDE.)



WIDA Access for ELLS

1. Five Grade Spans of Tests
K, 1-2, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12
2. Three levels at each Grade Span
A, B and C
3. Four Domains
Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking
4. Standardized



EXIT CRITERIA

1. Score 5.0 on Tier C on the WIDA ACCESS
2. PSSA scores of Basic or above
3. Final Grades of “C” or above in core subjects
4. 2 years of Monitoring



MONITORING

1. Students receive two years of monitoring
2. Students can receive ESL assistance
3. Students are never re-entered back into the program full time



WE THANK YOU
and
YOUR ELL STUDENTS
THANK YOU!

