

Olentangy Local School District
ELL Parent Newsletter - Winter 2019

Dear Families,

Vanakkam! Bonjour! Hola! Ciao! Namaste! Salaam! Marhaba! Ni Hao! Halo! Ola!

Happy New Year! We would like to take the opportunity to welcome back all of our students and families from Winter Break. Did you know that our district supports over 500 English Learner students that represent more than 40 different languages? English language instruction educational programs facilitate the development and attainment of English proficiency and academic achievement of students whose native or first language is not English. Students receive instruction in social and academic English and appropriate support for learning academic content.

The second half of our school year will be filled with numerous learning opportunities for our students, as well as our parents. Olentangy Local School District takes great pride in establishing an atmosphere that invites its valued stakeholders to be a part of the educational process. Throughout the year, parents are provided with many opportunities to participate in the education of their child. We welcome your attendance at district and school events, and encourage your participation by volunteering in our schools. You are a valued member of our team!

[Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment: February 4 - March 22, 2019](#)

Students who are qualified in the English Language Learning (ELL) program will begin taking their annual assessments on February 4th. There are four parts to the test: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Test sections will be given throughout February and March for each grade level. There are practice tests on the Ohio Department of Education's (ODE) website, if you would like your child to practice at home. We will receive the results from ODE in May and a family report will be mailed to your home. The results of this test are used to determine your child's ELL services for the 2019-2020 school year. Students who score "Proficient" on this assessment are exited from the ELL Program. **If you have any questions about this assessment, please contact your child's ELL Teacher.**

Elementary Families:

Elementary ELL teachers recently sent home a Student Goals Report for English language acquisition. This progress report describes how your child is progressing with English language skills at a particular level. The goals were created based off of assessment data and information from a standardized screener or state language proficiency test. The current progress levels are based on skills we have observed in the classroom and/or skills in small group instruction. We communicate progress toward goals for Quarter 2 (January) and again in Quarter 4 (May).

Our ELL Department is looking for **Bilingual Parent Volunteers**. If you are bilingual and would be willing to connect with other parents to help all parents understand our school technology systems and other school resources, we need your help! Please contact [Christina Aprile](#) for more information.

Adult ESL classes: If you or someone in your family is looking for adult ESL classes, here are a few local community options:

[Delaware County District Library](#)

[Vineyard Community Center](#)

[Westerville Public Library](#)

[Delaware Area Career Center](#)

Adult ESL classes at Grace Church 7600 Liberty Road Powell - contact Sandy at 614-638-3137.

If you have questions regarding Olentangy Local Schools' English language support program or your child's services, please contact your child's ELL Teacher or Classroom Teacher.

Thank you for your time. We appreciate all the support you give your child at home!

[Stefanie Daberkow](#)

Olentangy Local Schools
ELL Supervisor

[Christina Aprile](#)

Olentangy Local Schools
ELL Department Chair

Olentangy Local School District Mission: To facilitate maximum learning for every student.