

What is our program? all about

English language development (ELD) is designed to provide students with consistent, explicit instruction in the vocabulary and language forms of academic English. Academic language proficiency is what we need to understand texts, write professionally, and engage in critical academic discourse. Students will regularly engage in language practice through reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities. Besides the support students receive in the ELD class, students receive instruction in their regular education classes designed to support their learning needs. GPSD7 uses two models for instructional support in the regular classroom. These models are the highly regarded SIOP and Constructing Meaning.

I am very happy with this program. I realize that it meets the needs of my children, and us as parents.

—GPSD7 parent

How can parents be involved?

Parents are encouraged to participate in their student's academic experiences. In GPSD7 we have regular opportunities for parents and families to join us as partners in the educational success of our ELL students. We have regularly-scheduled parent meetings and activities. You are encouraged to keep in contact with the school, and you can follow your student's progress by accessing Power School on the internet.



Grants Pass School District No. 7
Dept. of Curriculum & Instruction

Contact Information

To find out more about the district ELD Program, you may contact any one of the following:

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English Language Learner



"Our focus is to find and close critical gaps in knowledge and vocabulary that are usually not addressed through content area instruction."

How does a student qualify for ELD services?

If a language other than English is spoken at home, a student's file will be reviewed and an interview conducted with the parent. If the ELD teacher feels it necessary to continue, an evaluation will be conducted to determine the student's English proficiency level. Parents are informed of the student's qualification for service and asked to give permission to participate in the program.

Grants Pass School District provides services for students at elementary, middle and high school.

Our programs are located at the following schools. Transportation is provided for those students qualifying for services.

- Lincoln Elementary
- Redwood Elementary
- North Middle School
- Grants Pass High School

Students are placed in an ELD class by English proficiency level. Students with higher levels are grouped together whereas students needing more English language development are provided with more time and opportunities for practice in smaller groups. At the elementary level, students are provided services in a 30 minute block of time depending on proficiency level. For middle and high school students, the ELD class is credited as an elective period in the student's schedule.

As student proficiency levels increase, they are transitioned to the more mainstream classes and offered continued support. All students learn at different rates but it typically takes 5 to 7 years to become proficient in a second language.

What did you learn in ELD that helps you in other classes?

"You make learning easier so I can understand what we are doing in class."

"The teacher makes learning fun."

"It helped me with my reading and writing."

"...helps me with reading, writing and to do my essays way better than last year- so, thanks Mr. M"

"It helps me with speaking."

"I like to come because the (ELL) teachers teach me English, help me read and understand what I read."

"I can read and write better in my regular class because of ELL."

"It's fabulous fun and I get to read books!"

"I like ELL because of the reading and writing we do. We write to learn."

"I like to do activities about what I want to do when I grow up."

"I like coming to ELL to learn words that I didn't know before."

Systematic ELD

Systematic ELD is an educational approach used in our ELD classes where students are taught lessons which incorporate the grammatical forms and function of language, with an emphasis on fluency in language use. Students are taught lessons that emphasize the grammatical forms and functions of language. English language development focuses instruction on explicitly building receptive and expressive language.

SIOP

The Systematic Instruction and Observation Protocol (SIOP) provides for easily accessible language objectives that help the student to further their academic knowledge and content. Other proven strategies in the SIOP model help our ELL students learn academic English with confidence.

Constructing Meaning

Constructing Meaning is a set of tools and strategies teachers use to help students understand and work with the English language in regular classes. This model is used by both secondary and elementary teachers. It helps secondary teachers teach the vocabulary of their content. For example, they would focus on the language of math or science that students need to be successful. Elementary teachers might focus on speaking and writing activities where students practice new language. All teachers look carefully at what language students need to be successful on their assignments.