Dear Parent or Guardian,

I am pleased to inform you that your child will receive support through an English language development program for the 2018-2019 school year. The purpose of this program is to provide support for students not yet proficient in speaking, listening, reading and writing in English. The program will assist your child to meet age appropriate academic achievement standards for grade promotion and graduation.

The district identified your child as being limited English proficient through test results. Your child’s proficiency in English measured at: **Proficiency Not Demonstrated:** ______, **Emerging:** _______, **Progressing:** _______ on the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA21).

Students will remain eligible for the English Language Development Program until they score proficiency on the ELPA21. Most students successfully exit the program within 4 years. When exited from the program, your child’s performance will continue to be monitored to determine if future assistance is needed. In the school year 2017-2018, KSD supported in English Language Development 2,920 bilingual qualified students, of which 114 students were 12th graders. In conclusion, **70%** of students in the English language development program as 12th graders graduated in the 2017-2018 school year. This graduation rate does not include the students who exited before 12th grade or take into account when students began receiving English language development services.

If your child has a disability, the English language development program will coordinate with appropriate staff to meet the objectives of your child’s Individualized Education or 504 Plan.

I strongly encourage your child’s participation in the English language development program and invite you to learn more about the benefits of the program. However, you have the right to remove your child from the language program at any time.

If you wish to discuss your child’s progress in English language development and academic achievement, please contact your child’s school.

The school district has the following English language development program(s) and your child is enrolled in:

- **Dual Language Program:** Provides integrated language and academic instruction for native English and native Spanish speakers with the goals of high academic achievement, first and second language proficiency, and cross cultural understanding (Christian, 1994). In Dual Language, students who earn a proficiency level on the ELPA21 continue to stay in the program until 8th grade.

- **Dual Language Program (One Way):** Developmental Bilingual Education (DBE), educates native Spanish speakers with the goals of high academic achievement, first and second language proficiency, and cross-cultural understanding (Christian, 1994). In Dual Language, students who earn a level 4 on the ELPA21 continue to stay in the program until 8th.

- **Sheltered Instruction (Content-based ESL):** Teaches content to English language learners (ELLs) in strategic ways that make academic subject matter concepts comprehensible while promoting the students’ English language development. (Echevarria, J., Vogt M.-E., & Short, D., 2000)

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at **509-222-5032.**

Sincerely,

Alyssa St. Hilaire
Bilingual Program Coordinator