



English Learner Parent Newsletter

Fall 2022

Dear Families,

Vanakkam! Bonjour! Hola! Namaste! Salaam! Marhaba! Ni Hao! Ola! Hello!

We would like to welcome back all of our returning students and families, as well as those of you who are new to us this year! Olentangy's English language teaching staff is looking forward to a great school year!

Olentangy's English Language teachers and aides provide social, emotional, and academic support to students that are new to learning English, as well as students whose first language is not English and are bilingual or multilingual. Our district supports close to 1300 students, Kindergarten through 12th grade, and includes over 30 different languages. We have a caring team of teachers and multilingual aides to support our students and families in every building in our district.

Included below is information regarding English Learners and processes that are involved in determining English proficiency status and support.

Identification Process

- In accordance with federal law, at registration, school districts use the home language usage survey results to identify students with languages other than English.
- In Ohio, school districts are required to use a state screener - Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener (OELPS). Students' English skills are assessed in reading, writing, listening, and speaking.
- The results from the screener determines whether students qualify as English learners and would benefit from having a language instructional educational program to participate effectively in school.

Next Steps

- Notify parents of English learner identification and services. If a student is identified as an English learner, the district or school will notify the parents/guardians. If you are receiving this message, your child has been identified as an English Learner.
- After a school district has identified a child as in need of EL services it must determine and implement the language instruction educational program the student will receive.
- All ELs are assessed annually in February-March. In Ohio, this is the Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA). Students' English skills are assessed in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students exit the program once they are Proficient on the OELPA. A score report is sent to families in June.

Olentangy's EL program provides a nurturing and supportive environment. Our EL teachers use research based instruction with supports to increase English proficiency. Supports provided depend on students' language proficiency levels. The goal is to help students grow their language skills to demonstrate proficiency and exit the program in a timely manner.

For further information regarding English Learning, please visit:

[Olentangy Schools English Language Learning Program website](#)

[Ohio Department of Education English Learners website](#)

Resources for all Olentangy Families:

- Food
- Clothes
- Medical
- Adult ESL Classes

Community Connections: Women Connecting with New Americans: This group offers free conversational English classes, shares about the understanding of American culture, and builds friendships and connections with other women. Founders: Jenny Zhang and Sarah Naranya. Contact number: 330-268-9518

Multilingual Family Liaison - Debora Oladoye - 617-697-7706 (Spanish & Portuguese)

- Translation resources: Spanish & Portuguese support
- Parent and family engagement related topics or needs
- Support families during registration at NSWC
- Support EL Teachers with OELPS administration
- Support EL Intervention Aides and/or Bilingual Volunteers

Multilingual Aides

We have [Multilingual Aides](#) who can support families at registration and in the school setting.

If you have questions regarding Olentangy Local Schools' English language support program or your child's services, [please contact your child's EL Teacher or Classroom Teacher](#)

Olentangy's EL Department values the relationships and communication we have with our students and their families. We look forward to building a successful partnership with you. We appreciate all the support you give your child at home!

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