

Yellow Medicine East Public Schools

The Yellow Medicine East School District strives to provide a caring environment of high expectations that prepares every student for a successful future and instills the value of learning.



English Learner Program Description/Service Plan

Purpose of the Program:

The purpose of this document is to share, with our Multilingual and English Learner (EL) parents, families, and the community, the components of our English Learner (EL) Program

Objective & Goals of the Program:

- English proficiency for all English Learners
- Multilingual students will meet the same challenging academic standards and content as their Native English - speaking peers

District Data

- Spanish is the only language spoken amongst our EL students
- 22 Students in grades preschool through 12th are identified for EL services (10/1/22)
- 3.3% (22/662) of students are English language learners
- 7 students come from non-English speaking families
- 13 families receive translation services

Steps in EL Programming:

1. **All** families must complete the Minnesota Language Survey (MNLS) prior to starting school during registration. The student's MNLS indicates:
 - a. The language(s) the student learned first
 - b. The language(s) the student speaks
 - c. The language(s) the student understands
 - d. The language(s) the student has consistent interactions in other than English
2. If any of the MNLS questions are answered with a 'yes'- the student is referred to the EL teacher for screening - WIDA required test
 - a. The EL teacher will administer the WIDA screener for Kindergarten (Kindergarten, and first-semester 1st grade only)
 - i. A score of 28 or less qualifies for EL services
 - ii. Minutes of EL services are determined
 - b. EL teacher will administer the WIDA Screener (2nd semester 1st-12th)
 - i. If the overall score is between 1.0 and 4.4 qualifies for EL services
 - ii. Minutes of EL services are determined

Parent Notification

1. At the beginning of the school year, parents are notified within 30 days if their child qualifies for EL services
2. If mid-school year, parents are notified within 10 days of taking the EL assessment if child qualifies
3. The parent notification letter will be sent home in the preferred home language when possible
 - a. Oral interpretation of the letter may be available

Refusal of Services

Parents have the right to refuse services for their child. It is important for families to understand the purpose and intent of EL services, and that their child's academic future may be at risk without language support. Parents may contact the student's EL teacher and complete the refusal of EL service form. Parents can request at any time to enroll their child in EL services if the student continues to qualify for services. A student whose parents have refused EL services will still take the annual ACCESS until they are proficient in English based on the EL Program Exit criteria.

Exiting EL Programming

1. EL Program Exit and Reclassification are required if
 - a. ACCESS composite score of 4.5 or higher and score of 3.5 or higher in at least 3 of the 4 domains (reading, writing, listening, or speaking)
2. If a student meets the above Exit criteria and teachers support the exit decision
 - a. parents/guardians will be notified through a meeting, phone call, or letter sent home (interpreter or translation as needed)
 - b. Students are monitored for 2 academic years after they have exited the EL program to ensure their academic success

EL Services & Programming

YME believes in teaching English through content and that all teaching staff provide instruction for English Learners. Our program is designed to meet the diverse academic needs of our English Learners. Program models may include the following

1. **Pull out:** EL teacher instructs students in a separate classroom
2. **Push-In:** EL teacher supports students in the mainstream classroom
 - a. Example: stations, writing support
3. **Co-teaching:** EL teacher and content teacher teach the content together
 - a. Often follows the 'station teaching model'
4. **Sheltered:** A content specialist works with a classroom of just EL students

Minutes of Service

Levels 1/2: Entering/Beginning. Students receive a minimum of **60** minutes each day of English Language

instruction that meets English language development standards. Students are also supported through scaffolding in mainstream classes. Students receive EL instruction from licensed EL teachers and Paraprofessionals.

Levels 2/3: Developing/Expanding. Students receive a minimum of **30** minutes each day of English Language development class. Students are also supported through scaffolding in mainstream classes. Students receive EL instruction from licensed EL teachers and Paraprofessionals.