



ENGLISH LEARNERS (EL)

MANUAL

MISSION:

Empowering All Students To Meet Their Fullest Potential

VALUES:

Trust, Leadership, Communication, Collaboration, Accountability, Integrity
and Respect

NORTHRIDGE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ENGLISH LEARNER OVERVIEW:

Philosophy: Northridge is committed to providing the best second language acquisition support to all of our Limited English Proficient (LEP) students so that they can successfully access the curriculum in the classroom.

EL Federal Definition:

According to Section 25 of Title IX of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, the term *English Learner* is an individual

- A. Who is aged 3 through 21;
- B. Who is enrolled or preparing to enroll in an elementary school or secondary school;
- C. Who was not born in the United States or whose native language is a language other than English;
- D. Whose difficulties in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language may be sufficient to deny the individual
 - The ability to meet the State's proficient level of achievement on State assessments
 - The ability to successfully achieve in classrooms where the language instruction is English
 - The opportunity to participate fully in society.

How is a student identified?

Step one: Every student that enrolls in the District fills out a Home Language Survey upon registration. If any of the 5 questions have an answer other than English, the student will move to step two.

Step two: The student will be administered the Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener (OELPS). The screener is to be administered 30 days of enrollment. For students who enroll after the school year has begun, the window is 15 days within the school year.

There are 4 domains students are assessed: Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing. They can score: 1-beginning, 2-Early Intermediate, 3-Intermediate, 4- Early Advanced and 5- Advanced.

To be proficient, all domains must be 4's or 5's.

What happens after a student qualifies for English Learner Services?

The parent will receive notification of qualification for the EL services with a letter. The EL teacher will share what type of instruction each LEP student receives based on their needs scores. This information will be included in the parent letter.

Program Description:

Northridge offers different types of EL services:

1. Pull out service-to support EL students (provided out of the general education classroom environment) with lessons based on the Language Proficiency Standards.
2. Inclusion or push in service with small groups-to support EL students with lessons in which the EL teacher assists the student in general education classes.

Staffing:

Northridge Local School District shall encourage the designation of the Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) validation/endorsement on teacher certificate/license for all ELL teachers.

Progress Monitoring for EL Learners:

EL students receive lessons based on the English Language Proficiency Standards given by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). Lessons include morphology, phonology, syntax, semantics, discourse and pragmatics aspects of second language acquisition.

Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA)

In accordance with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), EL students will take the OELPA test 2nd semester to monitor progress. Reading, writing, speaking and listening are assessed. The OELPA assesses 3 overall performance levels: Emerging, Progressing, and Proficient. The performance levels are determined as follows:

1. Emerging students are those scoring any combination of 1's and 2's across all four domains.
2. Progressing students are those scoring any combination across the four domains who do not fall into Proficient or Emerging.
3. Proficient students are those scoring any combination of 4's and 5's across all four domains.

Family Communication:

Northridge recognizes that there are families who do not speak English. We partner with a company who will translate for parents. This also includes any documents that are sent home. The documents will be sent home in the language that has been requested.

At each building there are a variety of after school activities that EL students would benefit from joining. Families are encouraged to contact either the Student Services Director or the district's EL teacher.

Exiting the EL Program:

Based on the ODE requirements, a student is reclassified (no longer an English Learner) when the student has attained a performance level of Proficient on the OELPA. The proficient performance level is defined as domain/test level scores of 4s and 5s in any combination across all four domains which include listening, reading, writing and speaking.