

Myth vs. Fact

Myth: My child was only placed in the ENL program because I noted that we speak a language other than English.

Fact: The procedure for identifying an ELL is a thoughtful multi-step process which includes:

- a. completion of Home Language Questionnaire form
- b. parent interview
- c. informal interview with child
- d. NYSITELL

Myth: My child will be "identified" or "labeled" as an ELL and it will negatively impact their permanent record.

Fact: Being a language learner does not mean a child has a disability. It simply means that their language is developing. This is NOT a negative nor is it a label. In fact, many of our students enter into our gifted program as well as Honors classes.

Myth: My child will be in the program indefinitely.

Fact: Every child develops and learns language at a different rate. We cannot guarantee when a child will become Proficient/Commanding. Some will test out within a year while others will take a longer. Your child's teacher will keep you informed of their progress. The goal is to give the students the support they need to be successful, independent learners as soon as they are ready.

Myth: This program is only for children who just immigrated to the U.S.

Fact: The majority of our students are born in the U.S. and live in multilingual homes. We want your children to be bilingual.

Myth: My child will miss classroom instruction.

Fact: The ENL teachers work very closely with the classroom teacher to set up a successful program and experience for the students. The ENL teachers may work in the general education classroom with the classroom teacher as well as pull-out for targeted instruction. Additionally, the ENL teachers are trained in the content area district programs.