RICHLAND ONE
DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES AND ESOL PROGRAMS

2612 Covenant Road • Columbia, South Carolina 29204
Office: (803) 212-1475 .Fax: (803) 252-2951

Ernesto Bernal
Coordinator

May 10, 2019

To the Parent/Guardian of _____

RE: ESOL Center School Expansion 2019-2020

Dear Sir or Madame:

Richland School District One is committed to providing the highest quality education to every student in our district while at the same time meeting all state and federal guidelines for serving families with children who are designated as English learners. The population of ESOL students is growing in our state and in our district.

As part of a careful re-evaluation of the schools designated as ESOL centers, Richland One is expanding the number of centers in order to better meet the needs of our students. We will now be offering ESOL services at more schools which will ensure that children are spending less time being transported from their zoned school to an ESOL center and will put children back in their communities and closer to home.

You are receiving this letter because the expansion of the number of ESOL centers impacts your child. The attached chart shows the district's ESOL centers and the feeder schools for each center. Students who currently attend A.C. Flora for ESOL services or monitoring will not be required to attend one of the new high school ESOL centers and will be allowed to graduate from A.C. Flora unless parents wish for their child to attend the ESOL center closest to their home.

The resources that Richland One allocates to English learners will not change with this expansion. We will continue to ensure that teachers throughout the district are trained, prepared and dedicated to serving your child and providing equal access to the best that our district has to offer.

If you have any questions about the expansion of ESOL center schools, please visit the Richland One website under ESOL Programs Department. There you will find a document entitled *ESOL Center School Expansion FAQ* - https://www.richlandone.org/Page/6164 . You can also receive additional information by calling the International Welcome Center (803) 212-1475 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon, Monday through Thursday.

As always, Richland School District One values the difference your child and family make in our schools and community. Thank you for your attention and support on this matter. We are looking forward to the new opportunities that school year 2019-2020 will bring for our students.

Sincerely,

Ernesto Bernal
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Richland School District One
Phone (803) 212-1475
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