

English as a Second Language (ESL) Program

What is English as a Second Language (ESL) Support?

All Jeffco schools offer ESL support to the more than 5500 English language learners who speak more than 100 languages. ESL staff provide additional instructional services to children who speak or understand more than one language to ensure academic success in their grade level classrooms. ESL Staff use specific strategies to support English language development (listening, speaking, reading and writing), in all content areas: literacy, math, social studies, science and electives.

Goals of Jeffco's ESL Program

- English language learners will be at or above grade level in all content areas.
- English language learners will develop high levels of academic English language proficiency.
- The ESL/Dual Language staff promote cultural awareness and family involvement and help bridge school and home cultures.



Benefits of ESL Support

- A majority of English language learners who score proficient or advanced on the annual Colorado English language proficiency test perform as high or higher on state achievement tests than their native English-speaking peers.
- English language learners participate more successfully in their learning experiences because the English language instructional support they receive allows them to understand and accomplish the same grade level expectations as their native English-speaking peers.
- Students gain knowledge of their own culture as well as the cultures of others through interactions with a broad variety of people and cultural perspectives (Miramontes, Nadeau, Commins, 2011).

"To have another language is to possess a second soul."

— Charlemagne

What might English language instructional support from the ESL Staff look like?

At the secondary level:

- There are specific ESL courses that are designed to meet the students' English language development needs.
- All courses align with Jeffco's curriculum and include appropriate materials and assessments for English language learners.
- ESL Teachers may partner with math, science, social studies and English language arts content area teachers to ensure that students are able to meet grade level expectations.

At the elementary level:

- ESL Staff collaborate with classroom teachers to ensure that English language learners are able to meet grade level expectations.
- ESL Staff provide small group instruction for specialized English language needs, typically within the student's general education classroom.



Dual Language Education

Jeffco Schools offers Dual Language Education in six elementary schools and Spanish Language Arts course offerings in specific middle and high schools. The languages of instruction are Spanish and English.

Please contact the schools directly for more information. The elementary schools that offer Dual Language Education are: Edgewater, Eiber, Emory, Foster, Lumberg, and Molholm. Please contact your middle or high school for more information on their Spanish Language Arts offerings.



ESL/Dual Language Department
1829 Denver West Dr, Bldg #27
Golden CO 80401
Phone: 303-982-6644

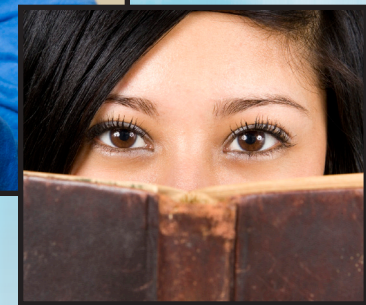
Families, we encourage you to speak your home language and celebrate your culture with your children. A strong home language leads to English language success.



"A vision that affirms the importance of family is based, in part, on the belief that students from all backgrounds arrive at school with a wealth of experiences, conceptual knowledge, and strategies for learning."

—Miramontes, Nadeau, Commins, 2011

English as a Second Language and Dual Language Department



"Our nation can only grow stronger if all our children grow up learning two languages. I can assure you when they enter the workforce in several years, we will regret the inability of our children to speak two languages. Our global economy demands it; our children deserve it."

*— Richard W. Riley,
Former U.S. Secretary of Education*

Revised 8/2017