

FAMILY ACADEMY:

# Helping Your Student Learn and Grow

**October 15, 2026** | 6:00–7:30 p.m.

Olympic View K-8

*Understand what your student is  
learning and discover ways to support  
learning at home.*



**FEDERAL WAY**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS





# Family Academy: Language Access

**Sonia Nicholson, Executive Director of  
Categorical Programs and ML Services**

**Ann Modarelli, ML Facilitator  
Becky Small, ML Facilitator**



# Alignment to Strategic Plan



21,000+ STUDENTS

107 LANGUAGES

EACH SCHOLAR:  
A VOICE.  
A DREAM.  
A BRIGHT FUTURE.

FEDERAL WAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
STRATEGIC PLAN, 2021-2025

NEARLY 3,000 STAFF

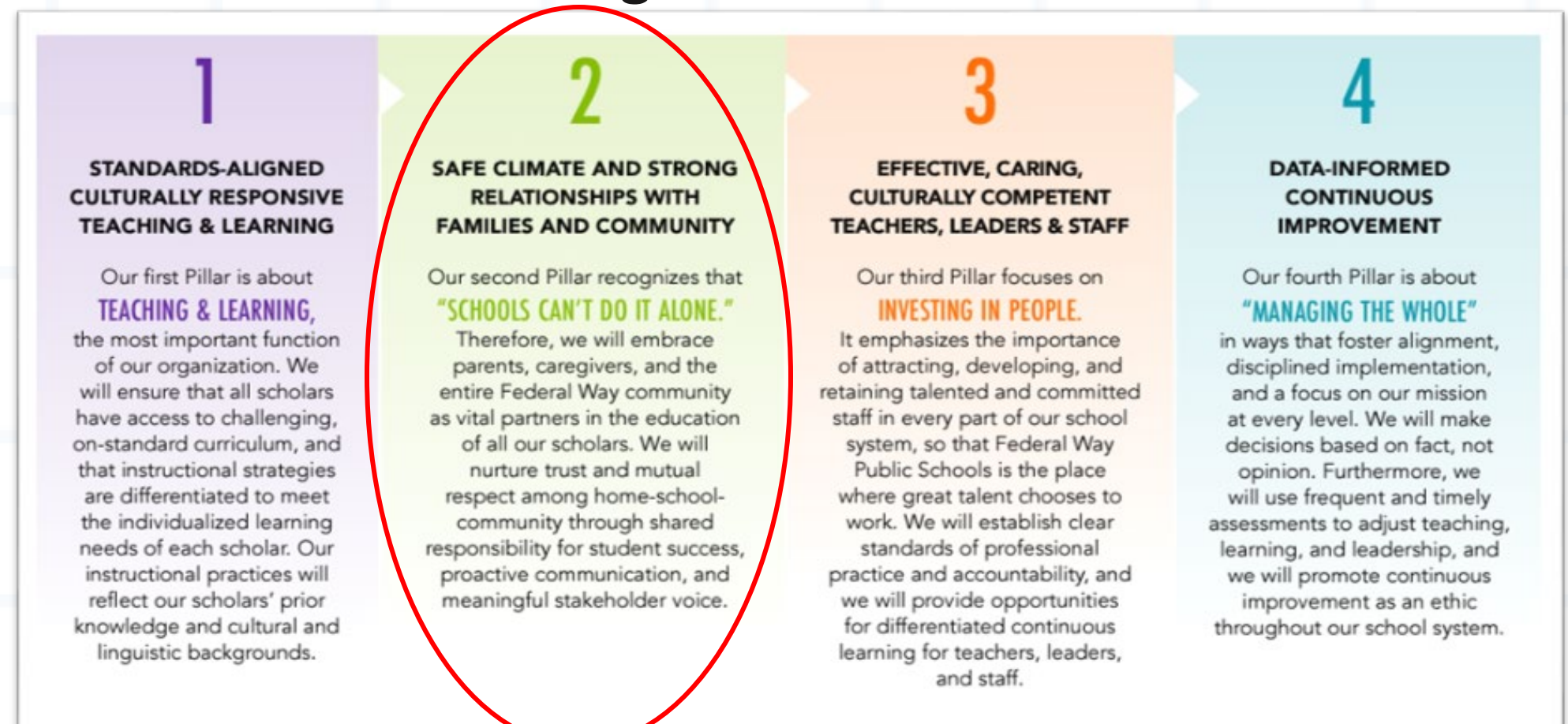
35<sup>SQ MI</sup> AREA SERVICED

37 SCHOOLS

The infographic features a central blue box with the text 'EACH SCHOLAR: A VOICE. A DREAM. A BRIGHT FUTURE.' and 'FEDERAL WAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS STRATEGIC PLAN, 2021-2025'. Surrounding this are various statistics and images: '21,000+ STUDENTS' and '107 LANGUAGES' in colored boxes; 'NEARLY 3,000 STAFF' and '35<sup>SQ MI</sup> AREA SERVICED' in green and orange boxes; and '37 SCHOOLS' in an orange box. Images include graduates, students, and staff.

## OUR CORE BELIEFS

- We believe that race, socioeconomic, *language*, cultural background, and other exceptionalities should not be predictors of student achievements .
- We believe that our families are critical partners in each child's learning.



The infographic displays four pillars of the school system, each in a colored box. The second pillar, 'SAFE CLIMATE AND STRONG RELATIONSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY', is circled in red. The pillars are: 1. STANDARDS-ALIGNED CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING & LEARNING; 2. SAFE CLIMATE AND STRONG RELATIONSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY; 3. EFFECTIVE, CARING, CULTURALLY COMPETENT TEACHERS, LEADERS & STAFF; 4. DATA-INFORMED CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT.

| 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 4                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>STANDARDS-ALIGNED CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING &amp; LEARNING</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>SAFE CLIMATE AND STRONG RELATIONSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>EFFECTIVE, CARING, CULTURALLY COMPETENT TEACHERS, LEADERS &amp; STAFF</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>DATA-INFORMED CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Our first Pillar is about <b>TEACHING &amp; LEARNING</b> , the most important function of our organization. We will ensure that all scholars have access to challenging, on-standard curriculum, and that instructional strategies are differentiated to meet the individualized learning needs of each scholar. Our instructional practices will reflect our scholars' prior knowledge and cultural and linguistic backgrounds. | Our second Pillar recognizes that <b>"SCHOOLS CAN'T DO IT ALONE."</b> Therefore, we will embrace parents, caregivers, and the entire Federal Way community as vital partners in the education of all our scholars. We will nurture trust and mutual respect among home-school-community through shared responsibility for student success, proactive communication, and meaningful stakeholder voice. | Our third Pillar focuses on <b>INVESTING IN PEOPLE</b> . It emphasizes the importance of attracting, developing, and retaining talented and committed staff in every part of our school system, so that Federal Way Public Schools is the place where great talent chooses to work. We will establish clear standards of professional practice and accountability, and we will provide opportunities for differentiated continuous learning for teachers, leaders, and staff. | Our fourth Pillar is about <b>"MANAGING THE WHOLE"</b> in ways that foster alignment, disciplined implementation, and a focus on our mission at every level. We will make decisions based on fact, not opinion. Furthermore, we will use frequent and timely assessments to adjust teaching, learning, and leadership, and we will promote continuous improvement as an ethic throughout our school system. |

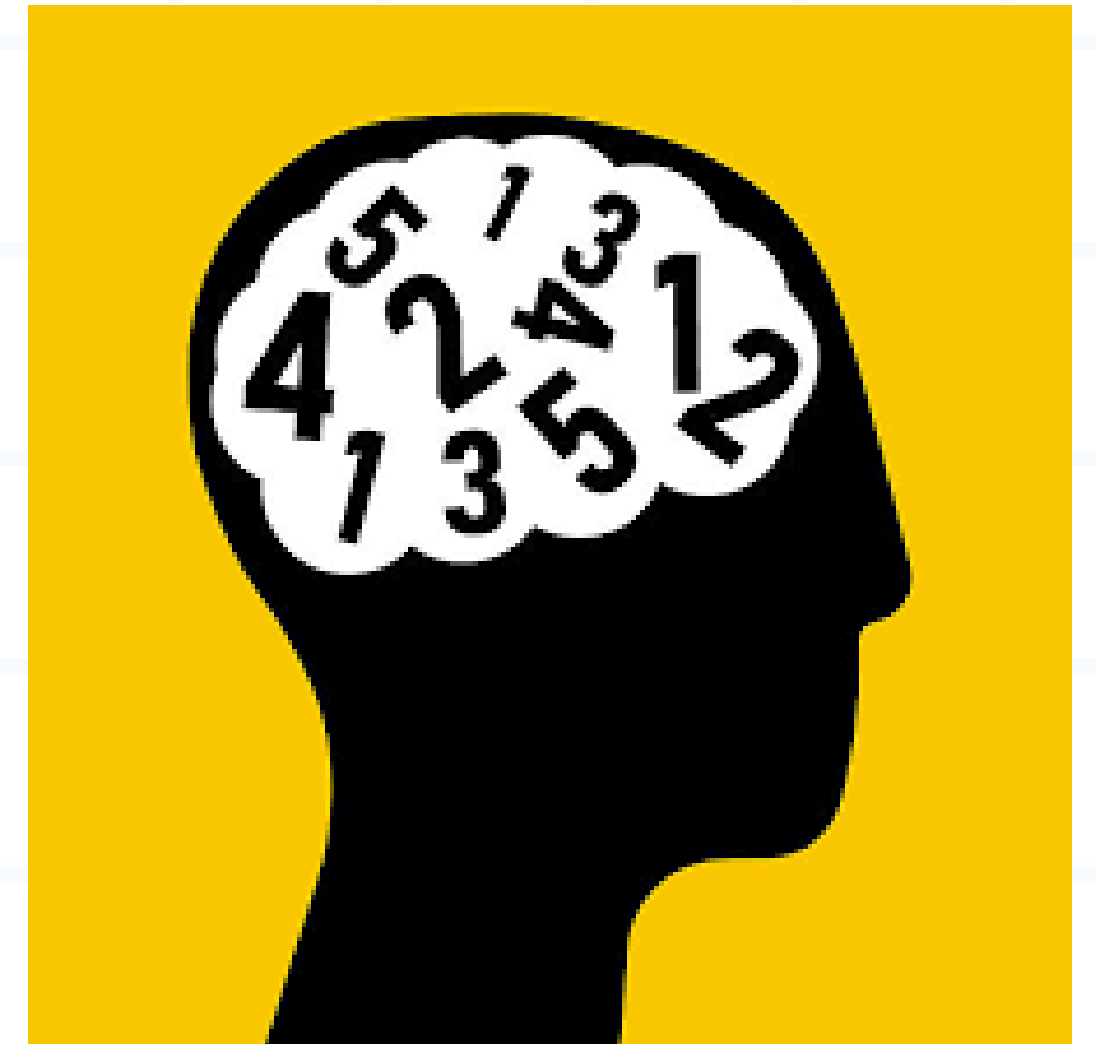
# FWPS Scholars from Around the World



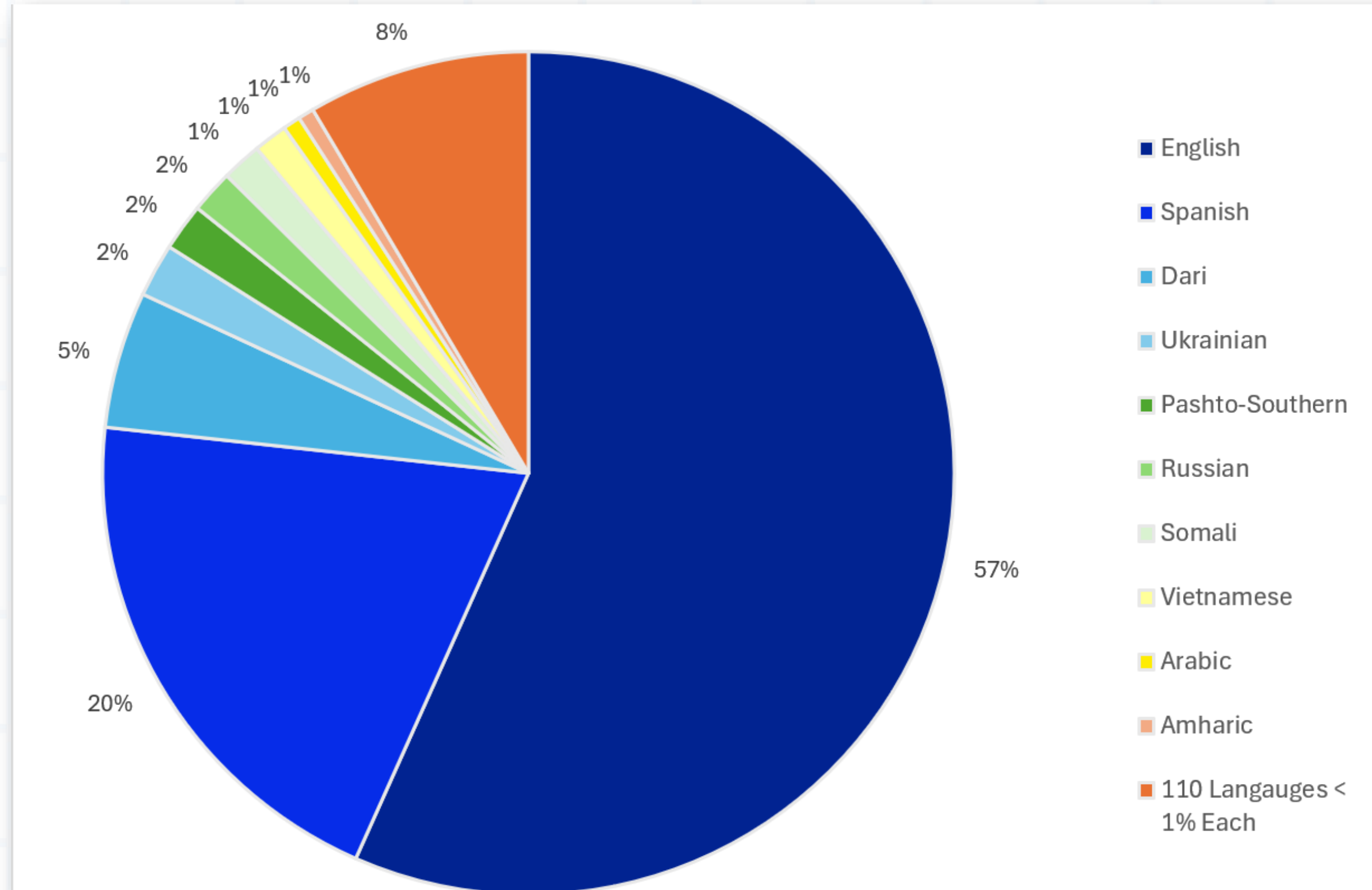
# Quick Connect

Discuss with you table groups -

**How many first  
languages do you think  
there are in Federal  
Way Public Schools?**



# 120 First Languages in FWPS



# Language Access Tools

Language Access Plan

In-District Interpreters

Language Link

ILA Devices

# Language Access Tools

## Language Access Plan



### Purpose of Language Access

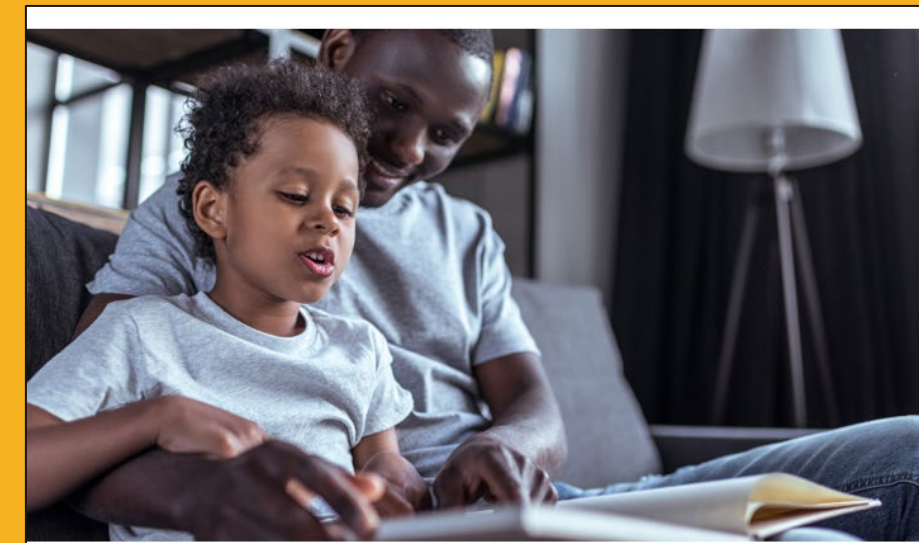
### Definitions

### Language Services

### Roles and Responsibilities

### Contacts

### Resources



#### **FWPS Language Hotline for Families**

The district maintains voicemail lines in the top seven languages spoken by families. The voicemail lines are monitored daily.

FWPS Language Hotline:  
253-945-2198

Communication for families needing information in a language other than the identified top seven is provided upon request at the building level.

#### **Language services can be accessed in a variety of ways:**

- By calling or emailing the school, teacher, school leader or district office
- Through district mailings, Synergy email, Remind, notices and the district website
- Leaving a voicemail message on the district's designated language hotline
- Through the use of the language services provider that offers live interpreter services
- Questions regarding access should be sent to the office of multilingual services via phone or email.



# Language Access Tools

## In-District Interpreters

**Become a FWPS interpreter and/or translator to support our multilingual families!**

**Current FWPS Employees**

- Contact ML Services 253 945 2094  
Email Zjavid@fwps.org
- We will verify your information and schedule a language proficiency assessment for you.
- After passing the assessment, you will be placed on our list of approved interpreters/translators.

**Non FWPS Employees**

- Apply on the FWPS site for the "Guest Interpreter" position (See QR Code and URL)
- After your application has been screened by Human Resources, ML Services will contact you and schedule a language proficiency assessment.
- After passing the assessment, you will be placed on our list of approved interpreters/translators

**We have a special need for Chuukese, Somali and Samoan interpreters!**

Share this flyer with a friend!



<https://bit.ly/49ruUsq>

### Examples of Roles:

Present at in-person conferences

Present at FWPS family events



**\*Please consider applying to be an in-district interpreter\***

# Language Access Tools

## Language Link



**Added layer of language support**

**240+ languages supported**

**LANGUAGE LINK**

**\*Over the phone translation  
can be provided at the front  
desk of your scholar's  
building.\***

# Language Access Tools

## ILA Devices

One available at every building

200+ languages and dialects supported

Not intended to replace human interpretation

For quick, in moment use (not for SLCs)

**\*Be sure to ask your building for their ILA's Room QR Code, to communicate remotely.\***



**ILA**  
THE INSTANT LANGUAGE ASSISTANT  
FOR 120 LANGUAGES & DIALECTS



**RAL WAY**  
**IC SCHOOLS**

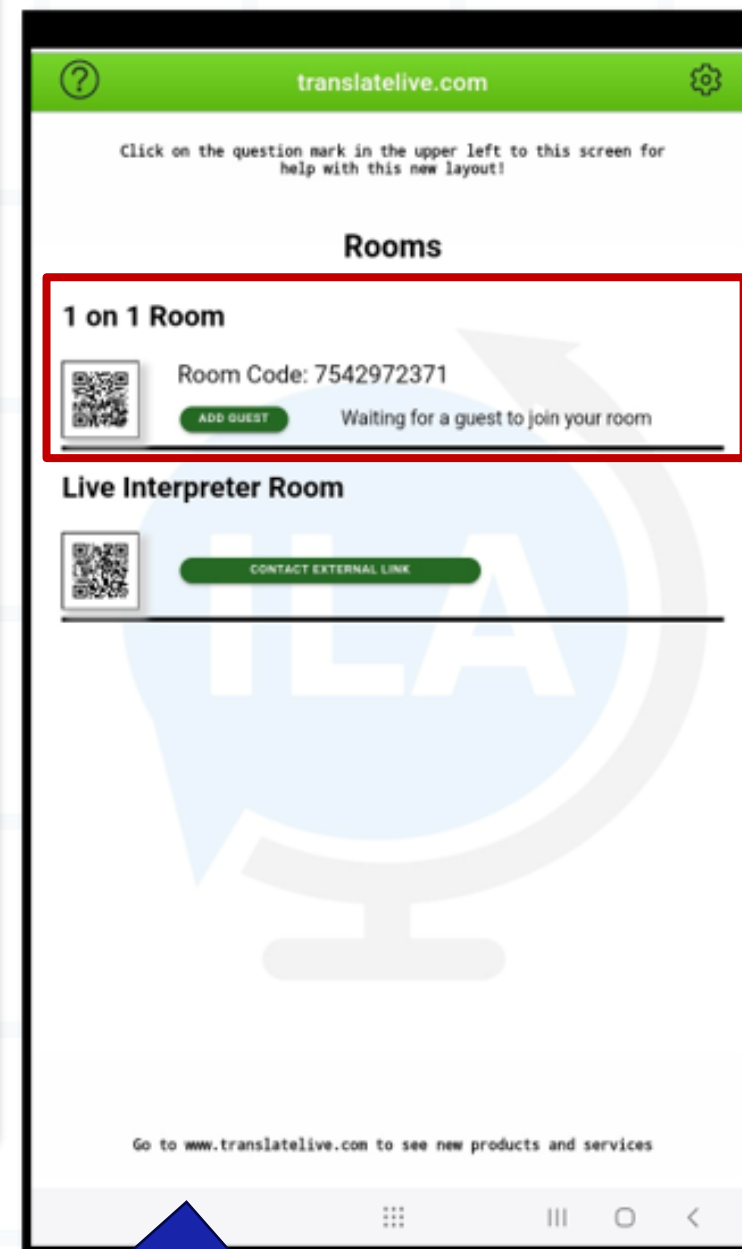
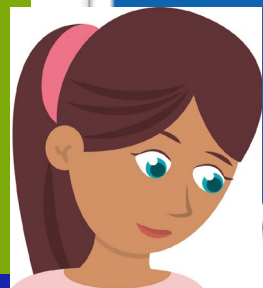
# Language Access Tools

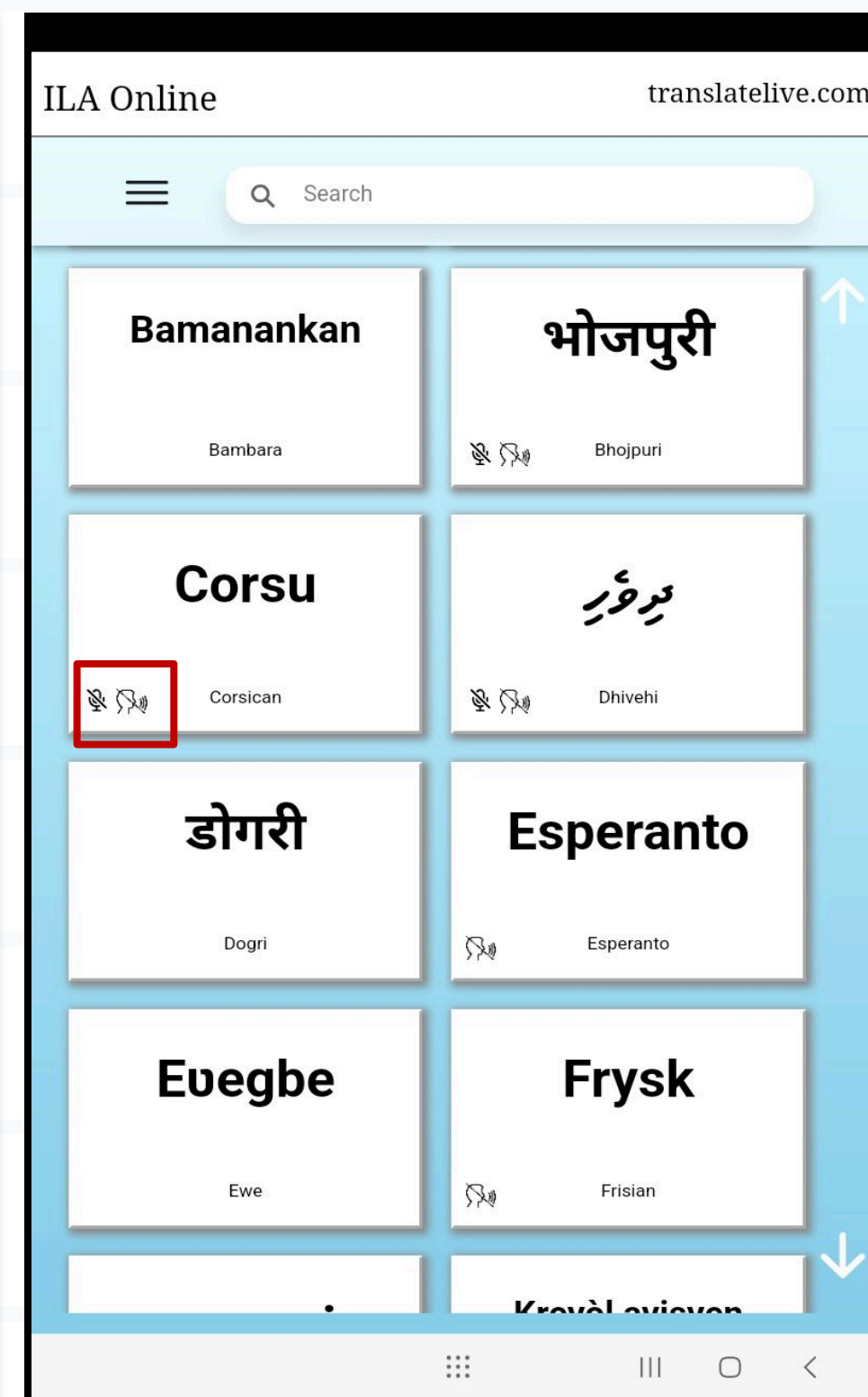
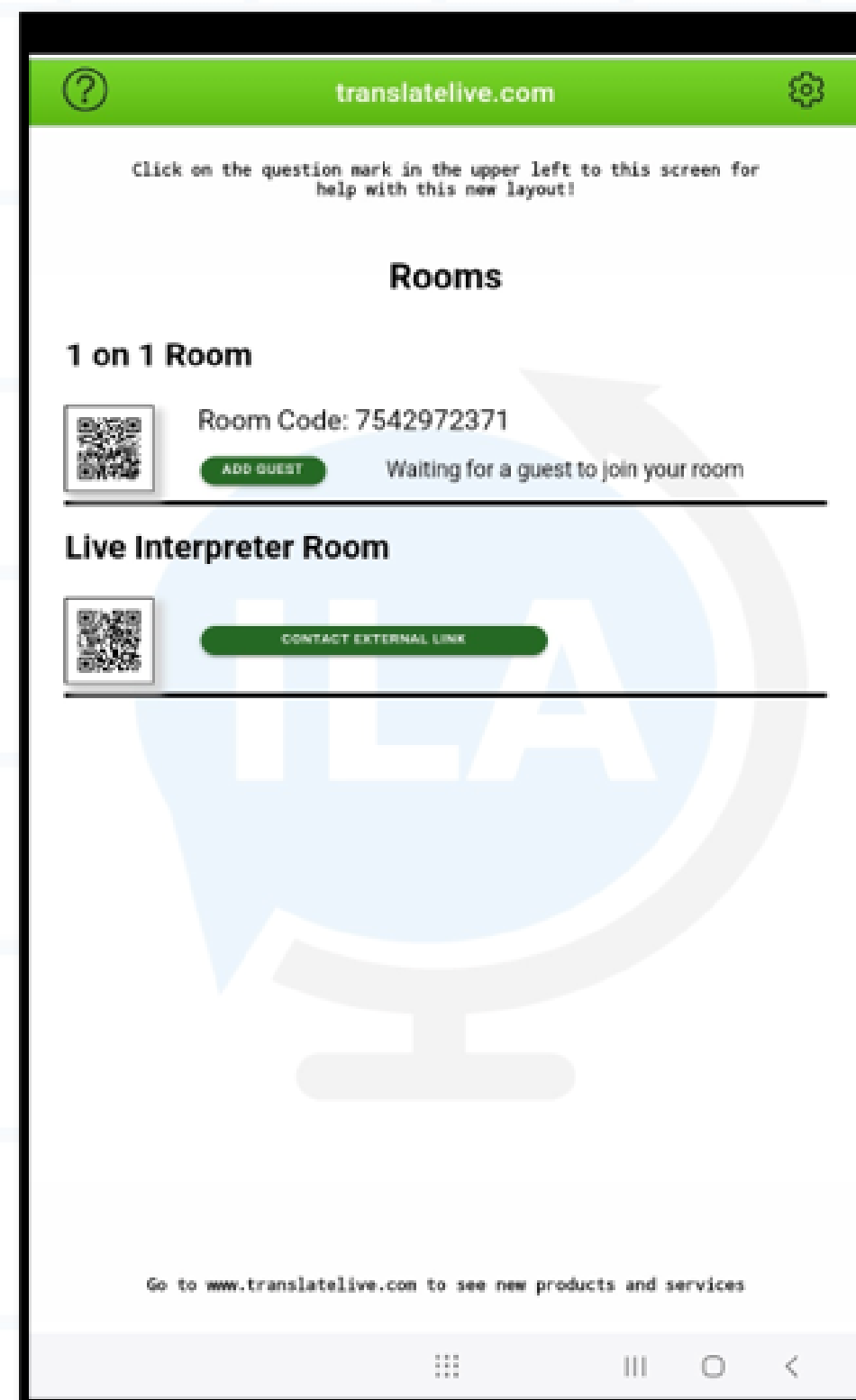
## ILA Devices

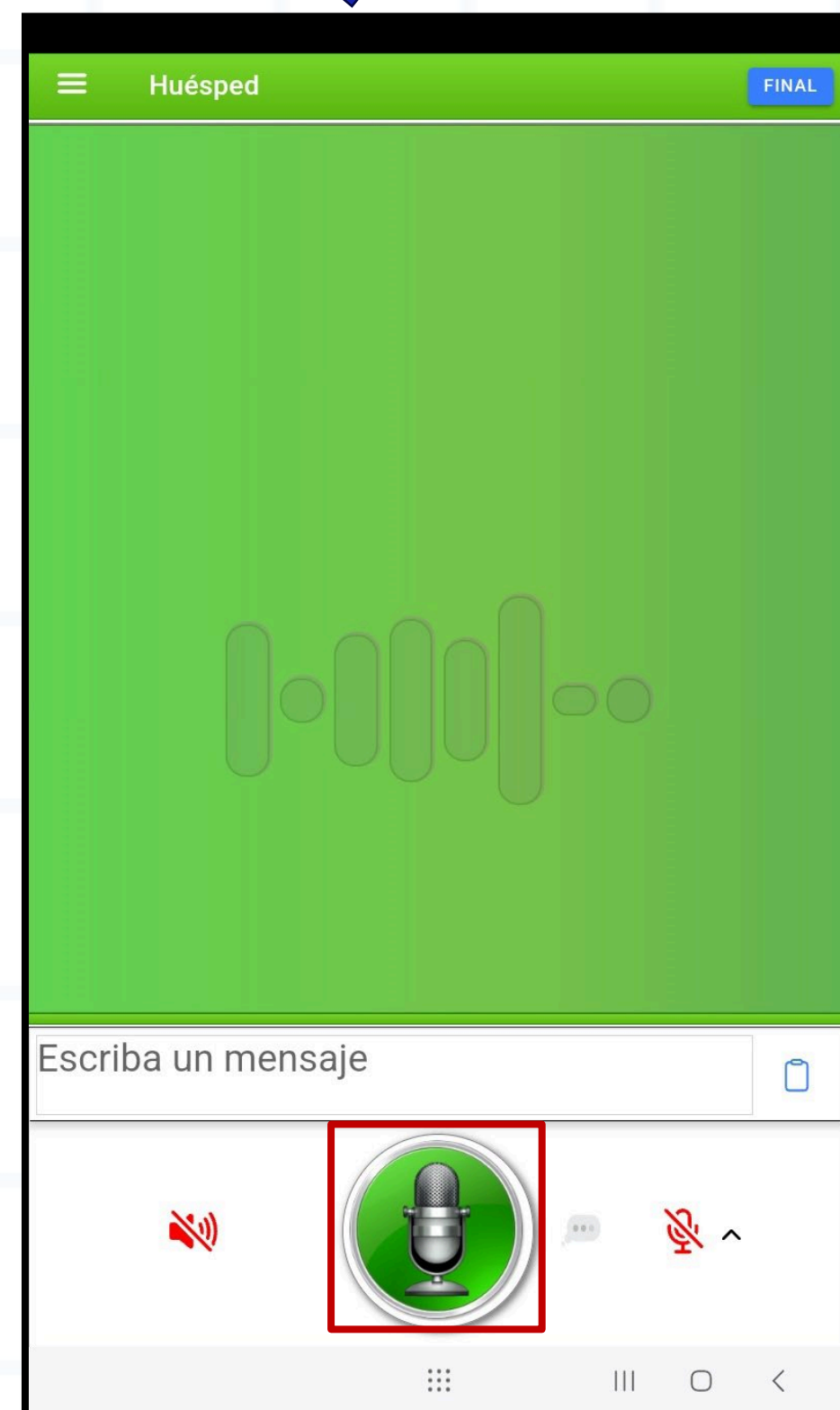
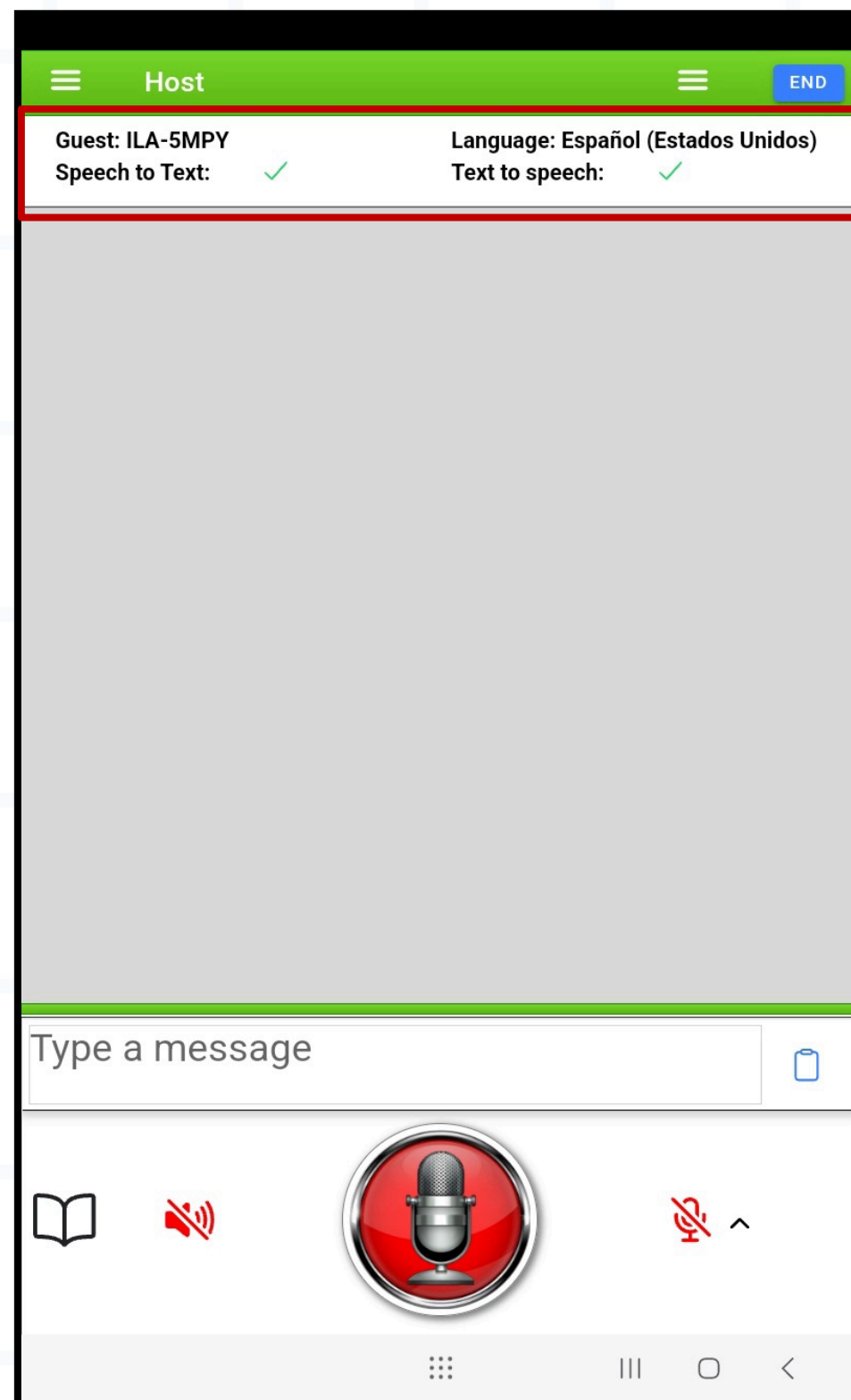
### Activity:

- To have future ready families, we want to make sure our families are confidently using our Language Access tools. Use this time to familiarize yourself with the ILA device and its capabilities.
- Possible Scenario Topics:
  - Locating your scholar's classroom for SLCs.
  - Enrollment of your scholar to a new building.
  - Need more information regarding summer programming.
  - Information regarding your scholar's bus route.
  - Any other school related topic.









A decorative collage on the left side of the slide. It features several circular and rectangular photo cutouts of diverse students. At the top left, a young boy is writing at a desk. Next to him, a girl is smiling and holding a small object. Below them, a girl in a yellow shirt is laughing. To her right, a boy is looking at the camera. Further down, a girl is holding a pink and white object. At the bottom right, two girls in graduation gowns are posing. The collage is overlaid with large, semi-transparent geometric shapes in blue, orange, and purple, along with concentric circular patterns in blue and orange.

# Student Led Conferences (SLC) Reminder

## ParentVUE/ StudentVUE

- Schedule your SCLs
- Review Scholar's class schedule, View current grades, Transcripts

## Requesting an Interpreter for Scholar-Led Conferences:

- School can arrange for interpreter to be present at SLC
- ***You have a right to interpretations services during SLCs. Make sure you let your child's school know that you want / need an interpreter.***
- If an in person translator is not available, than Language Link should be used.



Questions?



**FEDERAL WAY**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## ML Services Contact info

Email: [zjavid@fwps.org](mailto:zjavid@fwps.org)

Phone: (253) 945-2094

# Feedback Survey

**Share your feedback about today's event!**

*Encuesta posterior al evento: !Ayúdenos a mejorar!*

*Sau buổi sự kiện: Hãy giúp chúng tôi cải thiện!*

Опрос мнения по окончании мероприятия:  
Помогите нам учесть недочёты!

پست-نظرسنجی : رویداد به ما کمک می کند  
بهبود یابیم!



**Scan the QR code or, Visit:**  
[www.fwps.org/FamilyAcademySurvey](http://www.fwps.org/FamilyAcademySurvey)

# Breakout 2 Workshops:

Making the Most of Scholar-Led Conferences

*(For all grades) Room A204*

---

Rested & Ready: Sleep Habits that Support Learning

*(For all grades) Room A202*

---

Level Up (Middle School): Helping Your Child Grow in Reading and Math

*(For middle school) Room A201*

---

IEP Essentials: Navigating Special Education for Your Child's Success

*(For all grades) Room B202*