

Important Acronyms

ELD English Language Development

EL English Learner

FEL Former English Learner

LIEP Language Instruction Education Program

ELP English Language Proficiency

HLS Home Language Survey

LEA Local Education Agency (School District)

BICS Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills

CALP Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency

PHLOTE Primary Home Language Other Than English

WIDA (wida.us)

PA ELDs Pennsylvania English Language Development Standards



For more information, please contact:

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**ENGLISH
LANGUAGE
DEVELOPMENT**

*An informational
brochure for parents
and caregivers*

English Learners (ELs)

The Palisades School District has the responsibility to provide a program of instruction for English Learners for the purpose of facilitating student achievement of English proficiency and the academic standards.

During enrollment, families fill out a home language survey indicating if the student speaks or is exposed to another language at home. This notification is the first step in determining whether a student requires English Language Development (ELD) instruction.

The student may be screened for English proficiency using the WIDA Screener. The screening results are then considered along with additional criteria such as academic records, and parent/student interviews, to determine whether placement in the district English Language Development (ELD) program is appropriate.

Students who have already been identified EL in another district, and who have not yet exited the program will be placed in the program.

English Language Development Program

The Palisades School District ELD program is center-based for grades K-5 at Durham-Nockamixon Elementary School. Students in middle and high school are supported at their respective schools. The purpose of the program is to support student comprehension during daily lessons and help them participate socially in school as they develop/build upon their English language skills, including reading, writing, speaking and listening.



Support varies to meet individual student needs and may include push-in whole group support, pull-out small group lessons, pull-out one on one instruction and online support sessions. The ELD teacher will collaborate with the regular content area teachers to ensure that all teachers support the acquisition of cognitive academic language for ELs throughout the school day.

Monitoring Student Progress

To measure students' proficiency in English, the annual state English language proficiency (ELP) assessment, ACCESS for ELLs 2.0®, is required by federal law. This assessment measures students' English language proficiency and progress in each of the four language domains: reading, writing, speaking and listening.



Although parents may opt their children out of separate and specialized ELD instruction, there is no provision that allows student opt out of annual ELP testing. Once ELs demonstrate English proficiency, they are monitored by the ESL teacher for a period of 2 years. To evidence the level of English proficiency needed for reclassification, the ESL teacher will use a combination of the student's WIDA ACCESS for ELLs 2.0® scores and information gathered by teachers using standardized language use inventories.



