

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY – ENGLISH LEARNERS

Vision: The Nye County School District is committed to provide equal educational opportunities to students who are designated as English Learners (ELs) by providing an EL program that is aligned and integrated within each of the District’s priority goals. Consistent with Nevada and federal law, the District takes action to overcome language barriers that impede equal participation by EL students in all of the District’s instructional programs.

Expectations: The Board of Trustees recognizes that explicit emphasis on language and literacy instruction is an integral part of effective teaching and learning for EL students and that their academic success is a responsibility shared by students, educators, the family and the community. It is vital for ELs to receive rigorous, explicit, high-quality language instruction while being held to high expectations and standards in order to access content area curriculum, attain proficiency in the English language and improve their overall academic achievement and proficiency.

Outcomes: The desired outcomes of the EL program are that every EL student:

- Will graduate from high school college and/or career ready
- Will acquire full proficiency in English as rapidly and effectively as possible
- Will meet State standards for academic and language achievement.

Family Outreach: The District will provide opportunities for parents or legal guardians of pupils who are limited English proficient to participate in the program [NRS 388.407(2)(d)] and ensure proper communication of required information (NCLB 3302). Parents and legal guardians of pupils who are limited English proficient will be provided with information regarding other programs that are designed to improve the language acquisition and academic achievement and proficiency of pupils who are limited English proficient and assist those parents and legal guardians in enrolling those pupils in such programs [NRS 388.407(2)(e)].

Definitions:

1. EL – This term is used to refer to a student enrolled in school, who is identified and does not meet proficiency on a State-approved language proficiency assessment in accordance with Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).
2. EL Program – The term refers to the District’s method of providing language acquisition services to all of the District’s EL students.
3. ELPA (English Language Proficiency Assessment) – Nevada’s approved language proficiency assessment for students, developed by a State-approved vendor.
4. ELD (English Language Development Standards) – Nevada’s State-approved standards for ELs, i.e., World-class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) standards.

5. ELAD or TESL Endorsement (English Language Acquisition and Development or Teaching English as a Second Language) – refers to an endorsement issued by the State of Nevada to certify a teacher is highly qualified to teach ELs.

Reviewed: October 27, 2015
Adopted: October 13, 1998
Revised: December 8, 2015

NEPN/NSBA Classification: IHBEA

Legal Reference: NAC 388.405, NRS 388.405 & 389.011