

Classes for English Learner

An English Learner (EL) is enrolled in the appropriate language acquisition level through an evaluation process that includes the following:

- If the student is new to the state or country, the state requires that we assess the student's language skills through the California English Language Development Test (CELDT). This test, which assesses listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, helps us determine the student's placement in the English Learner Development (ELD) program. After the initial administration of the CELDT, the test is administered annually until the student has been reclassified as English fluent and exited the program. This is the one test that can not be waived by a parent.
- If the student is coming to us from another California school district, we contact that school for the most recent CELDT score for the student. With this information we are able to place the student correctly.
- Once we determine the student's English fluency in listening, speaking, reading and writing, we are able to determine which ELD class is the proper placement.
- There are four levels of English Language Development (ELD) classes that relate to CELDT scores.
 - ◆ ELD 1 are Beginners
 - ◆ ELD 2 are Early Intermediates
 - ◆ ELD 3 are Intermediates
 - ◆ ELD 4 are Early Advanced

Since ELD 3 and ELD 4 meet English standards, the student is awarded English credit for those two ELD classes. Once a student has achieved CELDT Advanced level, they are placed in regular English classes.

The ELD classes provide intensive instruction in English with an emphasis on building academic vocabulary so vital to high school success. By supporting the student with concentrated instruction in ELD classes, we find they are able to more quickly acquire English and graduate. We are one of the first districts in the state to adopt the *Edge* program for our ELD classes. *Edge* is the first curriculum designed specifically for high school students and is more rigorous than our previous curriculum. It is a four level program starting with Beginners (ELD 1) and ending with English 1 (ELD 4). Student who complete the program are well prepared to enter English 2 and succeed.

1. Another component to the ELD program is the Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English (SDAIE) class. A SDAIE class provides content area instruction in history, science, math, and other required content areas. The SDAIE class strategy is

to focus on the content AND English development in every class. This helps the EL student continue to focus on English in every class while acquiring the required content standards.

2. Other interventions include the “Read 180” program which works on reading strategies. We have found that a program focusing on reading intervention really helps move our student forward. There are also Intensified Algebra classes with bilingual teachers which offer extra language support.

There are bilingual Paraprofessional assigned to ELD and SDAIE classes. The Paras support our students as they transition from their first language into English.