

Policy 2385: English Learner Program

Status: DRAFT

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SECTION 1. ENGLISH LEARNER PROGRAM

1. In accordance with the Board's philosophy to provide a quality educational program to all students, the Caldwell School District shall provide an appropriate planned instructional program for identified students whose dominant language is not English. The purposes of the program are:

1.1 To help ensure that English Learners, including immigrant children and youth, attain English proficiency and develop high levels of academic achievement in English;

1.2 To assist all English Learners, including immigrant children and youth, to achieve at high levels in academic subjects so that all English Learners can meet the same challenging state academic standards that all children are expected to meet;

1.3 To assist teachers (including preschool teachers), principals, and other school leaders, state educational agencies, local educational agencies, and schools in establishing, implementing, and sustaining effective language instruction educational programs designed to assist in teaching English Learners, including immigrant children and youth;

1.4 To assist teachers (including preschool teachers), principals and other school leaders, state educational agencies, and local educational agencies to develop and enhance their capacity to provide effective instructional programs designed to prepare English Learners, including immigrant children and youth, to enter all-English instructional settings; and

1.5 To promote parental, family, and community participation in language instruction educational programs for the parents, families, and communities of English Learners.

1.6 To maintain building level Parent Advisory Committee to serve advisory functions for the English Learner program.

2. Accordingly, the Board shall adopt a program of educational services for each student whose dominant language is not English. The program shall include bilingual/bi-cultural or English language development.

3. The Superintendent or designee shall implement and supervise an English Learner program which ensures appropriate English instruction and complies with applicable laws and regulations.

4. The Superintendent or designee, in conjunction with appropriate stakeholders, shall develop and disseminate written procedures regarding the English Learner program, including:

4.1 Program goals;

4.2 Student enrollment procedures;

4.3 Assessment procedures for program entrance, measurement of progress, and program exit;

4.4 Classroom assignment accommodations;

4.5 State Testing accommodations ;

4.6 Parent, family, and community engagement; and a

4.7 List of resources, including support agencies, interpreters, and translators.

5. The District shall follow State guidelines to establish procedures for identifying students whose dominant language is not English. For students whose dominant language is not English, assessment of the student's English proficiency level must be completed to determine the need for English language development services.

6. Students whose dominant language is not English shall be enrolled in the District; delay of legal requirements will not prohibit enrollment.

7. Students shall have access to, and be encouraged to participate in, all academic and extracurricular activities of the District.

8. Students participating in English Learner programs shall be required, with accommodations, to meet established academic standards and graduation requirements adopted by the Board.

9. The English Learner program shall be designed to provide instruction which meets each student's individual needs based on the assessment of English proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

10. All English Learners shall be assessed annually using the state-approved assessment of English language proficiency.

11. The English Learner program shall be evaluated for effectiveness as required, based on the attainment of English proficiency, and shall be revised when necessary.

SECTION 2. STATEWIDE ASSESSMENTS

2.112: English Learners shall participate in the District's statewide assessments, unless 20 U.S.C. 6311(b)(3) and the regulations of the State Department of Education allow for their exclusion from an assessment.

2.2 To be eligible for exemption from the Idaho Reading Indicator, a student must have been enrolled in the District for less than two full school years, and must score less than a two (2) on the English Language proficiency assessment.

2.3 If a student qualifies, the Superintendent/designee shall determine whether a student should be exempted before the administration of the Fall assessment and for the remainder of that school year.

2.4 The Superintendent/designee may require a student who qualified for the exemption to take the Idaho Reading Indicator if they determine that it is educationally appropriate or if it serves as a prerequisite for that student to qualify for additional education services.

SECTION 3. NOTIFICATION

3.113: At the beginning of each school year the District shall notify parents of students qualifying for the English Learner program about the instructional program and parental options, as required by law. Parents/guardians will be regularly apprised of their student's progress. Whenever possible, communications with parents or guardians shall be in the language understood by the parents.

3.214: The District shall maintain an effective means of outreach to encourage parental involvement in the education of their children.

SECTION 4. REPORTING

4.115: At the conclusion of every second (2nd) fiscal year during which grant funds are received, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the Idaho Department of Education with a report, in a form prescribed by the Department describing the District's English Learner program and activities and providing the District's applicable demographic data.

Idaho Code § References

33-1617

Description

[English Language Learners - Program Requirements](#)

33-1618

[Assessment Exemption](#)

USC - United States Code References

Description

20 USC § 6311

[State Plans](#)

20 USC §§ 1701-1758

[Equal Educational Opportunities and Transportation of Students](#)

20 USC §§ 6811 et seq.

[English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act](#)

USC - United States Code References

42 USC § 2000(d) et seq.

Description

[Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964](#)

ESEA References

Section 111(b)(2)

Description

[State Plans - Academic Assessments](#)