

LPSD 38 English Language Learners (ELL) Update

Fall 2011 LPSD38 English Language Learners Numbers



LPSD welcomed over **50** new ELLs with the start of the 2011/2012 school year. We now have over **35 different languages** other than English represented by the families of our 300 ELL students.

LPSD ELLs range in English Language Development from **NEP** (Non-English Proficient) to very high **LEP** (Limited English Proficient), and come from a variety of backgrounds (adopted from overseas, foreign-born, immigrant or military families as well as refugees).

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Nov 29 LPSD International Dinner, LPHS 6pm-8pm (RSVP required)
- ◆ **CELA Testing window January, 2012**
- ◆ Educating Children of Color, UCCS Jan 28, 2012
- ◆ CO Council Intl Reading Assoc Conference, Denver Feb 1-4, 2012
- ◆ Cherry Creek Diversity Conference, Denver Feb 4, 2012

[Attention classroom teachers of ELLs - if you are interested in attending any of these conferences please contact Stephanie Johnson at 785-4204 or \[sjohnson@lewispalmer.org\]\(mailto:sjohnson@lewispalmer.org\)](#)

School	NEPs	LEPs	FEP	Total
LPHS	1	12	5	18
PRHS	2	25	7	34
LPMS	3	18	6	27
LPES	3	24	10	37
BCES	12	25	6	43
PLES	5	34	4	43
MA	5	44	6	55
KES	4	10	1	15
PWES	1	5	1	7
Total	36	197	46	279
Preschool				32

News Flash - New Colorado English Language Proficiency Standards Arriving!

Colorado is one of 44 states to adopt the Common Core Standards. Not to be left out, the Colorado English Language Proficiency standards are also getting a make-over. The make-over is called WIDA (World Class Instructional Design and Assessment). "27 U.S. states belong to the WIDA Consortium, and many other schools nationally and internationally have adopted WIDA resources for use in their English language development programs" (wida.us). In a nutshell – WIDA standards are the same as the Colorado English Language Proficiency standards, the standards cross the content areas of **Language Arts, Mathematics,**

Science, Social Studies and Social and Instructional Language. WIDA provides the ELL teacher and classroom teachers with "Can Do" descriptors as well as instructional strategies to build language instruction. The framework is built on the following levels of language proficiency: *Entering* (NEP), *Beginning* (NEP*), *Developing* (LEP*), *Expanding* (LEP*), *Bridging* (LEP*) and *Reaching* (FEP*).

LPSD Timeline of Implementation:

Nov – School Board approval of WIDA

Jan-May – Can-Do Awareness

2012/2013 – Professional Development Training of WIDA

*NEP – Non-English Proficient/LEP – Limited-English Proficient/FEP – Fully-English Proficient

Everything You Wanted to Know About Laws for English Language Learners



Question:

What is the difference between academic and social language?

Social language allows one to engage effectively in familiar conversations such as play, daily activities, and normal conversations with friends. Academic language is a language essential for school success – it is more difficult to master because it is not generally used outside of the classroom and it draws on new vocabulary, more complex sentence structures, and rhetorical forms.

(American Educator, Summer 2008, pg. 13)

- Civil Rights Act of 1964 - no person shall be subjected to discrimination based on race, color, or national origin.
- May 25, 1970 Memorandum - access to education must be provided.
- Lau v. Nichols of 1974 - ELLs must be taught English before they can be held to the same standards as English-speaking students. Lack of language ability cannot be the reason a student fails a class. All teachers are legally responsible for the education of ELLs, not just the ELL teacher.
- Castaneda v. Pickard of 1981 - ELL instruction must be theory based, implemented with fidelity and evaluated to determine effectiveness
- Plyler v. Doe of 1982 - from a school's perspective there is no difference between legal or illegal immigrants. They are entitled to the same education as American citizens.
- No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 - States must establish annual measurable achievement objectives (AMAOs) for ELLs that are related to gains in English proficiency and meeting challenging State academic standards.
- CO Senate Bill 109 - established one common English Language Assessment - CELApro and all ELL students are required to participate in the assessment annually



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** We welcome Fran as a new addition to our staff. A Colorado native and Georgia transplant she recently completed her MA in Teaching and has work experience as a reporter and business owner.