

Olentangy Local School District English Learner (EL) Parent Newsletter - Winter 2023

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! Welcome back from Winter Break! You are receiving this email because you have a child(ren) enrolled in the English Learner program in Olentangy. Our English Learner Department works with our students, families, and staff. Did you know that our district supports more than 1,320 English Learner students? There are over 80 different languages spoken by our students and families in Olentangy.

We are excited to work with our families to make the rest of the school year amazing for our learners. Our students will continue to learn and grow. There are ways for parents and families to get involved, too. Parents can check their child's progress report, attend parent teacher conferences, go to a school or district event, or volunteer. If you have questions about ways to get involved, contact your child's classroom teacher or your child's EL teacher.

Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment: Jan. 30 - March 24, 2023

Students in the English Learner (EL) program will take the [Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment \(OELPA\)](#) during the testing window Jan 30 - Mar 24, 2023. The OELPA is a required test for English Learners in the state of Ohio. There are four parts to the test: Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing. Your child does not need to do anything to prepare for the OELPA. The learning that happens during the school year gets the students ready to do their best on this test. We will receive the test results in May. A family report will be emailed to parents. Translated reports will be mailed home to families who need them. The results of this test are used to determine your child's EL services for the 2023-24 school year. Students who score "Proficient" on this assessment are exited from the EL Program. **If you have any questions about this assessment, please contact your child's EL Teacher.**

Elementary Families:

Elementary EL teachers recently sent home a Student Goals Report for English language acquisition. This progress report tells how your child is progressing with English language skills. The goals were created based off of assessment data and information from a standardized screener or state language proficiency test. The current progress levels are based on skills we have observed in the classroom and/or skills in small group instruction. We communicate progress toward goals for Quarter 2 (January) and again in Quarter 4 (May).

English Learning

For more information about English learning, please visit:

[Olentangy Schools English Language Learning Program website](#)

[Ohio Department of Education English Learners website](#)

Stay Connected

- **Alert Notices**-Ohio's winter weather can bring changes to school schedules. Please review our [Alert Notices](#) page for more information.
- **Become a Volunteer**- Get involved with our school and district as a volunteer. All volunteers in Olentangy must complete the volunteer training. Click [here](#) for more information about how to become a volunteer.
- **Reach Out**- Your child's classroom teacher and EL teacher are here to help. We also have a Student Well-Being team. Each building has a counselor and access to other resources. Click [here](#) for more information. These supports are free and available to all students in Olentangy.

If you have questions regarding Olentangy Local Schools' English language support program or your child's services, please contact your child's EL Teacher or Classroom Teacher.

Thank you for your time. We appreciate all the support you give your child at home!