

English Language Learners (ELL)

ELL Philosophy Statement

Sandwich values students' diverse backgrounds and their unique contributions to the learning community. In order to empower learners who are meeting the challenges of a new language and culture, Sandwich will support English Language Learners as they develop social, cultural, and academic competence by creating a learning environment that:

- Expects students to meet high academic standards
- Facilitates effective communication in English through reading, writing, speaking, and listening
- Encourages risk taking and inquiry

In this way, Sandwich will provide ELL students with an optimal learning environment in every academic setting.

ELL Contact Information

For further information concerning ELL Services in District 430, please contact Ms. Dawn Greenacre, Director of ELL Services, at [815 786-8812](tel:8157868812), dgreenacre@sandwich430.org.

Overview of District 430 ELL Services

Upon enrollment in District 430, all new students must complete a Home Language Survey. ELL Screening will be conducted for students as appropriate after review of the Home Language Survey. ELL Services are provided for eligible students as determined by ELL Screening.

ELL Services are provided at each of the district schools.

What is Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE)?

The Transitional Bilingual Education (TBE) program is for non-native English speaking students who are mastering written or spoken English. The program provides instruction in the student's native language with transition into English. The program helps students to succeed in academic subjects and learn English.

TBE- 20 or more ELL students of the same language group in school.

What is a Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI)?

The Transitional Program of Instruction (TPI) is for non-native English speaking students who are mastering written or spoken English. The program provides support to help students succeed in academic subjects and learn English.

Illinois state law requires school districts provide TBE/TPI services for all students in kindergarten through grade twelve who are identified as having limited English proficiency.

TPI- 19 or fewer ELL students of the same language group in school.

Who qualifies for TBE/TPI services?

Students in pre-kindergarten through high school who speak or hear a language other than English in their home and who need support with the English language are eligible. Students receive services until they meet the State determined criteria for English language proficiency.

Will my child be taught the same subjects and learn the same skills as students in the general program of instruction?

All students receiving TBE or TPI services must receive instruction and be assessed in the Illinois state standards (ISAT) in English using strategies and methodologies appropriate for them.

Language arts, reading, mathematics, science, and social studies are integral parts of the state mandated curriculum.

Music, physical education, health, and art are all parts of the balanced curriculum that children in the program are required to receive.

Who is responsible for teaching in a TBE/TPI classroom?

Teachers must be specifically trained and hold state required endorsements in bilingual education and/or English as a Second Language (ESL).

How is a TBE/TPI class different from the general program of instruction?

Teachers are specifically trained to teach in a TBE/TPI classroom. Appropriate language development materials are provided to help students learn.

Instruction focuses on developing English for effective participation in other

classes.

Academic content is delivered through proven instructional methods.

How can parents become involved?

Parents can volunteer for classroom activities.

Parents can encourage their child at home to achieve, provide a place to study, and show interest in school work.

Parents can ask their child's teacher or principal about serving on committees.

Parents can join the Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (BPAC).

Parents can participate in the parent Education Program classes.

Grades K-5 ELL Instruction

- ELL students are placed in regular classrooms; all classroom instruction is conducted in English. ELL students participate in Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Science (Social Studies), Art, Music, Physical Education (PE or Gym), Computer and Library classes, etc.
- Individual student needs determine the intensity of ELL instruction. (Most ELL students receive at least one period of ELL instruction daily.)
- ELL instruction for students in Kindergarten through fifth grade is scheduled during regular school hours. The ELL teacher and classroom teacher work collaboratively to plan appropriate instruction for students.
- The majority of ELL instruction is administered in a small group setting outside of the regular classroom. However, ELL teachers and assistants also provide support within the regular classroom when appropriate.
- Haskin elementary normally has more than 20 ELL students and so it is a TBE service model. The program provides instruction in the student's native language with transition into English. The program helps students to succeed in academic subjects and learn English.

Grades 6-8 ELL Instruction

- ELL students receive ELL instruction at the appropriate instructional level for two periods daily in place of the mainstream Language Arts class. ELL students are enrolled in mainstream classes for the remainder of their schedule.
- ELL Social Science, Science and Math tutoring are available for students who need additional support in those content areas.

- A supervised study period is available for ELL students to receive additional support from ELL teachers.

Grades 9-12 ELL Instruction

- ELL students receive ELL instruction at the appropriate level in place of a mainstream English class (two periods for Beginning ELL students; one period for students at the Intermediate, Advanced, and Composition/Literature levels.)
- Tutoring is available in several content-areas for ELL students. Tutoring in content-area classes vary from year to year, depending on students' needs.
- ELL students attend mainstream classes for the remainder of their schedule. ELL Program Assistants may be assigned to provide students with additional support in their mainstream classes.
- A Tutorial period is made available to ELL students in place of a traditional Study Hall period. During Tutorial, an ELL teacher and assistant provide additional support for students as needed.