

District: Tupelo Public School District
Section: I - Instructional Program
Policy Code: IK - Limited English Proficiency Instruction

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

BOARD POLICY

1. English is the primary language of instruction in the Tupelo Public School District. ~~Students whose primary language is not English and whose learning is found to be impaired due to limited or absent English language skills will be provided access to English as a Second Language (ESL) services.~~ **A language instruction program will be provided to linguistically diverse students. Student participation in any language instruction program is voluntary and parents or guardians have the right to decline or opt-out of EL services.**
2. Consistent with the goals of the District, the purpose of the ~~ESL program~~ **English Learner (EL) program** is to assist students in ~~academic subjects and in effective transition to English.~~ **the acquisition of English in order to facilitate access to grade-appropriate curriculum, instruction and assessments.** ~~Transition support will also attempt to heighten appreciation of each language, the heritage with which the student is associated, and the sense of dignity of a human being with unique worth.~~ **Linguistically diverse students are expected to participate fully in all levels of the educational programs of the District.**
3. **All English Learners must be allowed to attend school, regardless of their ability to present a birth certificate, social security number, or immigration documentation. Children may not be excluded from school because they do not have a social security number (Plyer v Doe).**
4. The Board authorizes the superintendent to establish administrative procedures consistent with this policy.

Last Review Date: _____
 Review History: [1/1/1900][1/1/1901]

[IK-E1 - English as a Second Language.pdf](#)
[IK-E2 - English as a Second Language.pdf](#)

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Identification

1. ~~Students to be served by the ESL program are identified through the Home Language Survey, which is provided to all students upon enrollment in the District.~~
2. ~~Candidates for the ESL program will be assessed, after which an individual language service plan will developed for each ESL student.~~

3. Parents have the right to opt out of EL services or remove their child from the District's English Learner Program. However, if a student has been classified as an EL student based on the Home Language Survey and the Placement Screener, the student is still required by federal law to take the annual English Proficiency Test until the student has scored proficient in reading and writing and achieves an overall score of proficient. ~~Licensed teachers and paraprofessionals who work with students served in the ESL program are required to be proficient in English oral and written communication as evaluated on the District Career Appraisal Instrument.~~

Language Education Program

English Learners will be provided with appropriate EL language assistance services and access to the standard instructional program of the District. Licensed teachers and paraprofessionals who work with students served in the ~~ESL~~ EL program are required to be proficient in **both oral and written** English ~~oral and written communication as evaluated on the District Career Appraisal Instrument.~~

Exiting The English Learner Program

All English Learners in grades K-12 will be given the state-adopted annual assessment of English proficiency. Students are required to achieve an overall proficiency level of 4 or higher and score proficient in both reading and writing to transition out of the EL program.

Students will be monitored for 4 years after exiting the EL program. Students are not required to take the annual English Proficiency Assessment while they are being monitored.

Adopted Date: 10/18/2013

Approved/Revised Date: