



# SOUTH SAN ANTONIO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Agenda Item Summary

**Meeting Date:** December 15, 2025

**Agenda Section:** Presentation

**Agenda Item Title:** Annual Emergent Bilingual Presentation

**From:** Dr. Jennifer Gutierrez, Deputy Superintendent

**Presenter:** Rocio Gutierrez-Ochoa, Director of Bilingual & ESL Programs

**Description:** The Emergent Bilingual (EB) Annual Report provides an overview of district performance, student demographics, program implementation, and instructional initiatives supporting Emergent Bilingual learners during the 2025–2026 school year. This required annual presentation summarizes key data trends, including TELPAS progress, language program models, compliance indicators, and the district's efforts to strengthen bilingualism, biliteracy, and academic achievement across all campuses. The purpose of this presentation is to keep the Board of Managers informed of program outcomes, highlight department accomplishments, and outline next steps to ensure continued growth, fidelity of implementation, and robust instructional support for EB students throughout South San Antonio ISD.

**Historical Data:** South San Antonio ISD currently serves approximately 1,719 Emergent Bilingual students across all campuses, representing a significant and steadily growing portion of the district's population. The district provides a comprehensive continuum of instructional services designed to meet the diverse language acquisition needs of these students. We remain committed to strengthening collaboration among campus staff, families, and community partners to support academic growth, English language development, and social-emotional well-being. This presentation serves as the annual Emergent Bilingual Update to the Board of Managers and highlights the district's ongoing commitment to ensuring access to high-quality instruction and continued improvement for students acquiring English as a second language.

**Recommendation:** N/A

**Purchasing Director and Approval Date:** N/A

**Funding Budget Code and Amount:** N/A

**Goal 1:** SSAISD will increase academic achievement for all students and thus close the gap between student populations in pursuit of advanced performance and post-secondary educational or career paths.

# Bilingual/ESL Program Evaluation

**December 15, 2025**

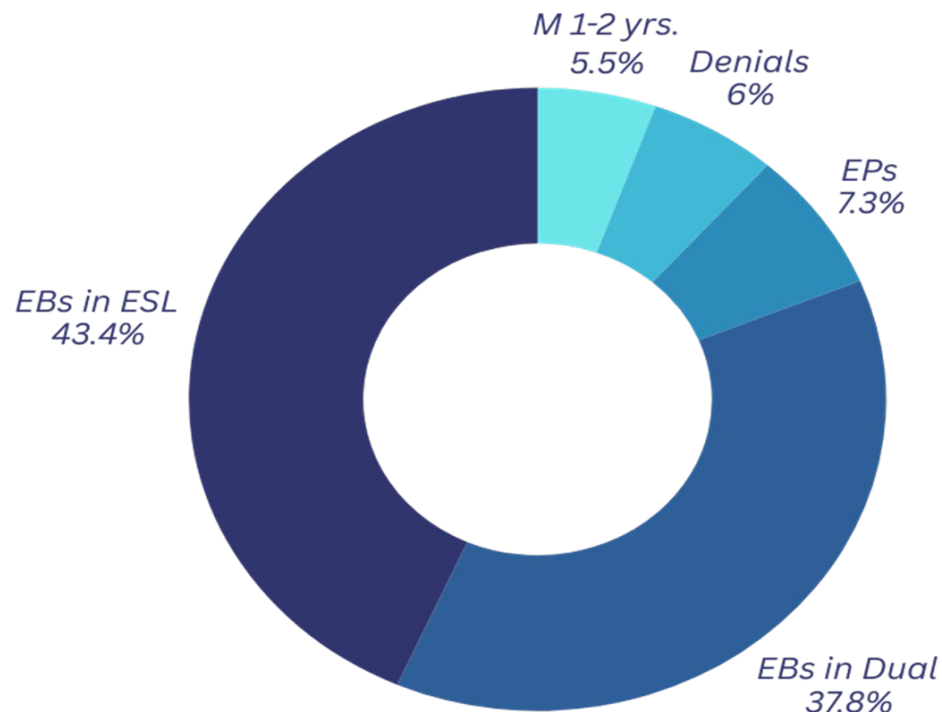
**Rocio Gutierrez-Ochoa**  
**Director for Bilingual/ESL Programs**



## **Growth of Emergent Bilingual Students (EBs) in South San Antonio Compared to District Enrollment**

School Year	EB Enrollment	District Enrollment	% of Enrollment
<b>2023–2024</b>	<b>1,654</b>	<b>7,872</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>2024–2025</b>	<b>1,717</b>	<b>7,468</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>2025–2026</b>	<b>1,732</b>	<b>7,084</b>	<b>24.4%</b>

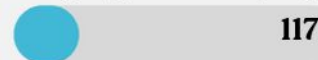
# 1,963 Total EB Students Served and Monitored for 2025–2026



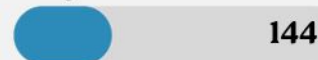
M1-2 yrs.- Monitored students have been reclassified because they met state criteria. They are monitored for 4 years.



Denials- Parents denied Dual Language and ESL programs.



EPs- English Proficient speakers in Dual Language Program.



EBs in Dual- Emergent Bilingual students in the Dual Language Program.



ESL-Emergent Bilingual students in the English as a Second Language Program



# Program Goals

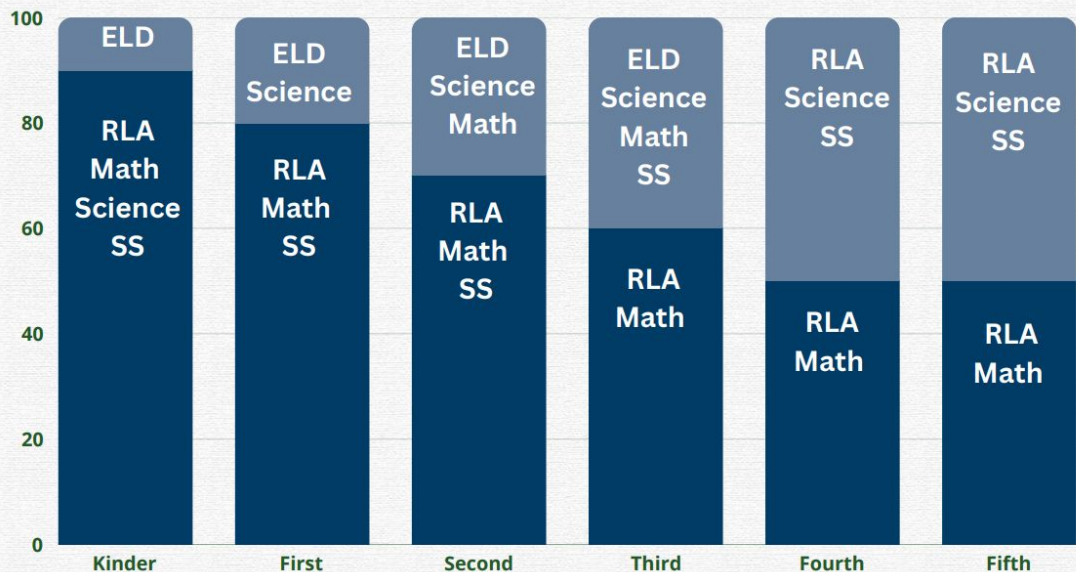
- To perform above the state and the region in all content areas.
- To close the achievement gap between Emergent Bilingual students and general education students in South San Antonio ISD.

# Dual Language Framework K-5



## South San ISD Bilingual Framework

Spanish   
English 



# English as Second Language K-12

## What is an ESL Content Class?

- **A grade-level core subject (Math, Science, Social Studies, or RLA)**
- **Taught by a certified ESL teacher**
- **Includes embedded language supports during daily instruction**
- **Helps students master academic content *and* develop English proficiency**
- **Uses targeted strategies, scaffolds, and linguistic accommodations to support learning**

# **TELPAS Assessment**

**The Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) is a state-mandated assessment used to measure the progress that Emergent Bilingual (EB) students make in learning the English language.**

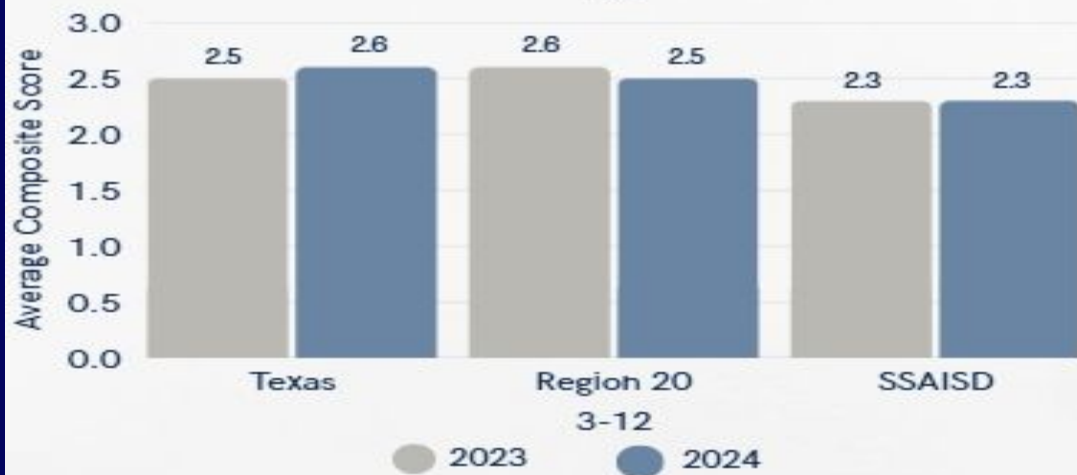


# TELPAS – How it is Assessed?

- It assesses the 4 language domains: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.
- Kindergarten–1st graders are assessed holistically in all language domains. The window to gather information is from February 16, 2026 – March 27, 2026.
- 2nd–12th graders are assessed online in all language domains and administered over two days. Students take the listening and speaking test on one day and the reading and writing on another.

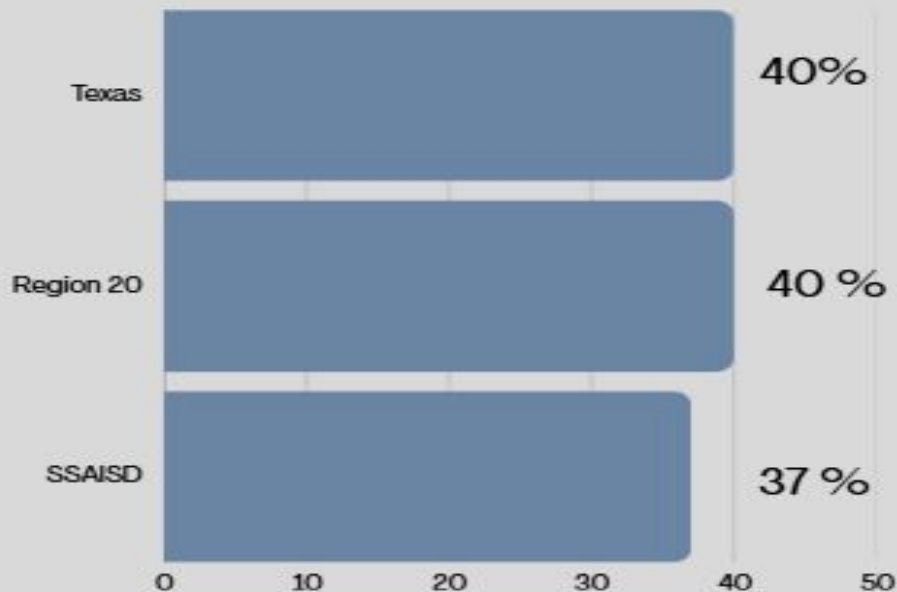
**TELPAS One Pager**

# TELPAS Data

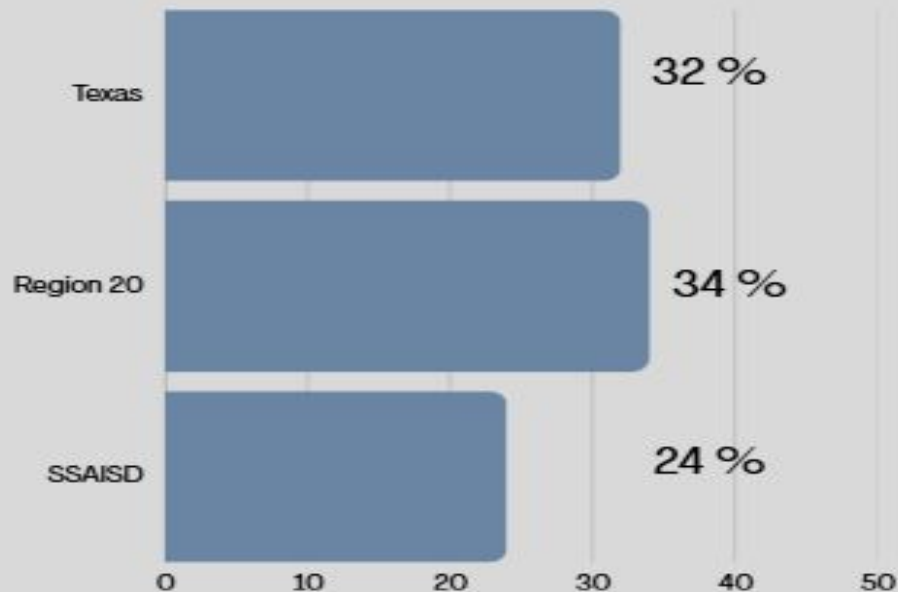


# TELPAS Growth

K-2 Percentage of students that grew AT LEAST ONE proficiency level.



3-12 Percentage of students that grew AT LEAST ONE proficiency level.



# Professional Development

August: *Dual Language Framework and Instructional Minutes* (5 DL Campuses)

September – November: *Supporting All Learners: Language Supports Across Content Areas* (Dwight MS, Shepard MS, Zamora MS, and South San HS)

November: *Teaching Toolkit: Strategies for all Learners* (Dwight MS SPED collaboration)

November: *Empowering Biliteracy* (Parent Symposium)

December: *TELPAS Through their Eyes: What EB Students Experience and How Teachers can Support* (South San HS)

December: *Region 20 TExES 154 Review Session* (all teachers needing ESL certification)

December: *Estrellita for Spanish Foundational Skills* (Kindergarten/1st DL Teachers)

# Next Steps...

- The Bilingual/ESL department continues to provide professional development to bilingual and ESL teachers.
- The Bilingual/ESL department will continue to support campuses across the district with individualized support based on specific needs from Campus Instructional Improvement Plans.

# Next Steps...

- The Bilingual/ESL department continues to work with campus Instructional Leadership Teams and other central office departments to build capacity within the district to run effective Emergent Bilingual programs.

# Thank you!

# Questions?

