

# ELD/Bilingual/Library Board Report

October 2025

## ESL & Dual Language

The beginning of the school year has gone well. Along with helping with testing and placement of kindergarten students, I've also been able to complete the following during the past month:

- Reviewed language use surveys of all new students (and there were a lot of new students!)
- Tested (with ELPA Screener) new students whose language use forms indicated languages other than English
- Collected and recorded language testing and MAP testing data for use in parent notification letters
- Sent out parent notification letters
- Worked on several sections of the district EL plan.

I've also been creating an ELD coordinator handbook, documenting all the various tasks that I do during the school year at specific times, so that when I step aside (whether after this year or later on) there will be a plan for a new coordinator to follow.

One other thing of note. This school year there has been an uptick in parents requesting to have their students opt out of ELD services. This is completely within the rights of parents, and at times it's for students who are very close to being proficient in English, and who will be fine academically without an ELD class. But, many times it's for students who need more time in the program to develop basic language skills. Whether it makes a difference or not, I plan to address this issue with teachers prior to parent conferences, so that we can communicate with one voice about the importance of fully developing English skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking, and the importance of ELD classes in that development.

## Libraries

Library checkouts are underway for another year, and we are already gearing up for Battle of the Books. We just received the October newsletter from Christie Boen, the library specialist with IMESD, and in it are the monthly SORA checkouts by schools in the region. If you remember, last year MHES led the way in checkouts (by a good margin). Well, so far this year MHES is in 4<sup>th</sup> place and CVI is in 8<sup>th</sup> place. If we hadn't split our elementary grades, we would have come in 1<sup>st</sup> to start the year. Maybe we can create a bit of a competition between the two schools, and lead the way with two schools.

I read a lot of books over the summer, including most of the books in the elementary Battle of the Books. I'm really looking forward to a great year, with many books checked out and read by students and staff.

As usual, if you have any questions or comments, feel free to reach out to me. Thank you!

David Lougee