

# District 97: A Welcoming Place for All - Update

D97 Board of Education Meeting  
December 12, 2023

Presented by:

Michael Arensdorff, Dr. Luis DeLeon,  
Patrick Robinson, & Dr. Christine Zelaya





# Overview

- **Commitment to multilingual students and families**
- **Timeline and collaboration**
- **Welcoming, programming and staffing support**
- **Celebrations and learning**



# Multilingual Students and Families



**We are committed** to providing access to a public education to all families who reside in Oak Park, to implementing our equity policy, and to adhering to responsibilities and duties outlined by the Illinois State Board of Education.



**We celebrate** the significant assets our new students bring: strengthening our learning context, bringing joy to our school communities, and preparing students for a multilingual and multicultural global community.



**We welcome and support** our new families through adaptive programming, smart staffing, prepared learning environments, and ongoing professional development.



# Timeline and Collaboration



# December 2023: Village of Oak Park Update

## Recent News

Village earns high marks for carbon disclosure

Collaboration Continues to Support Migrants Residing in Oak Park

LeadCare Cook County program offering free lead service line replacement to licensed childcare providers

Asylum Seekers Find Temporary Shelter in Oak Park

Buckle up and drive sober to arrive safely this Thanksgiving

Ongoing Efforts to Aid Asylum Seekers in Oak Park

Solar Switch program offers group buying for solar panels

Village Board approves emergency disaster Resolution

Fall leaf collection set for Oct. 30 - Dec. 8

Village of Oak Park Statement on Assistance for Asylum Seekers

## Village Board Votes to Enhance Assistance for Asylum Seekers

**Nov. 21, 2023** – The Village of Oak Park Board of Trustees approved a motion at its regular meeting Monday night (Nov. 20) to reallocate \$500,000 in unspent American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding as lost revenue in the general fund to be directed to providing aid to asylum seekers through February 6, 2024.

The funding to support asylum seekers in Oak Park is added to a pool of \$550,000 that had been established previously, bringing the overall total to \$1.05 million. That includes \$400,000 in Supporting Municipalities for Asylum Seeker Services (SMASS) grants and \$650,000 in ARPA funding as lost revenue in the Village's general fund. The first allocation by the Board of \$150,000 was made during its regular meeting on Oct. 30.

In a separate action, a resolution declaring an emergency disaster through February 6, 2024 was also approved by Board vote as the meeting bled into Tuesday morning. Previously, the Board unanimously approved a resolution declaring an emergency disaster during its emergency meeting on Nov. 2. That order, which was to expire on Dec. 4, is rescinded immediately in favor of the new declaration. This resolution calls for the temporary suspension of purchasing requirements such as formal bidding procedures and Board contract approvals when quick action is deemed necessary and when it is impractical to convene a Board meeting.

Currently, the Village of Oak Park is officially supporting 162 asylum seekers residing in the community, including 57 children under the age of 18. More than half of those individuals (89) are sheltering at The Carleton Hotel of Oak Park, while 55 are currently housed at the West Cook YMCA. Eighteen (18) individuals are also staying at Grace Episcopal Church with the support of volunteers.

Official information about the efforts to assist asylum-seeking migrants in Oak Park is available at [www.oak-park.us/emergencyresponse23](http://www.oak-park.us/emergencyresponse23).

## NEWS LINKS

News Releases

Facebook

Instagram

OP/FYI Newsletter

Pinterest

Subscribe to e-news

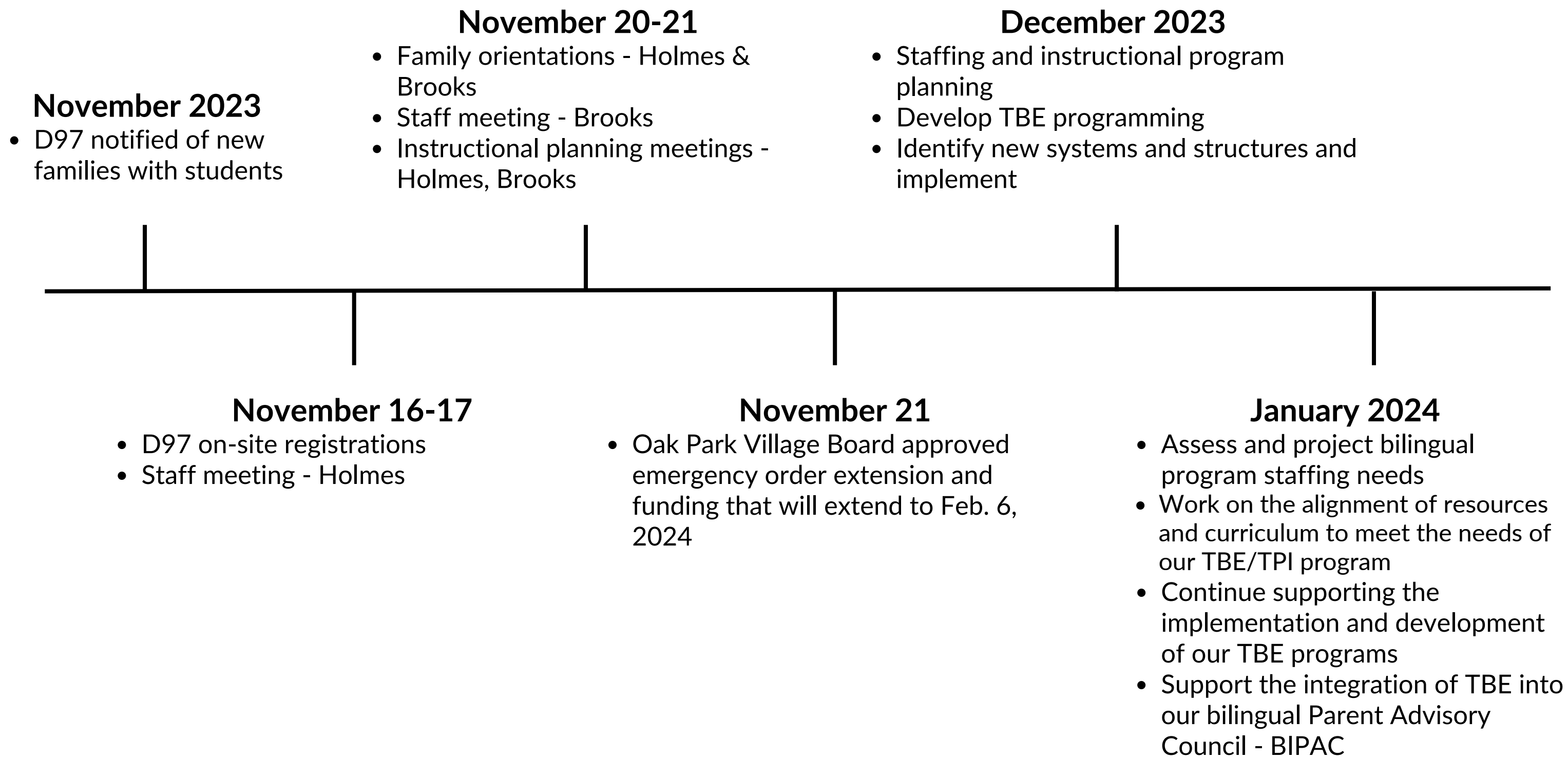
Twitter

Village Board TV

VOPTV on YouTube



# Timeline



***\*\*Ongoing collaboration with the Village of Oak Park, Carleton, YMCA, and other community partners***



# How Does District 97 Support New Families?

# District 97

## Welcomes New Families



**Holmes School Welcome Schedule**

	Activity
<i>Monday, Nov. 20</i>	
8:00	Bus Pick Up at YMCA and then the Carleton for Kids and Families
8:30-9:00	Welcome Breakfast- MPR
9:00-9:15	Tours
9:15-9:30	Students- Recess
9:15-10:30	Parents- MPR <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Calendar</li><li>• Lunch</li><li>• Bus</li><li>• F/R Forms</li><li>• Early Childhood Collab</li></ul>
9:30-10:30	Students- Room 121 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kindness Confetti</li><li>• Picture Book</li><li>• Go Noodle</li><li>• Legos, Connect 4, Checkers</li></ul>

**Brooks Welcome Plan**

	Activity
<i>Tuesday, Nov. 21</i>	
9:20	Leave Carleton - Walking to Brooks with Michael Arensdorff and Brenda Martinez
9:45-10:20	Welcome Breakfast in Commons for families
10:20-11:00	Student School Performance - Bravo
11:00-11:30	School Tour with our students
11:30-12:00	Distribution of materials <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Locks</li><li>• Backpacks</li><li>• Overview</li></ul>
12:00	Dismissal



# District 97 English Language Learner (ELL) Programs



ISBE Administrative Code 228.25

## TPI: Transitional Program of Instruction

19 or fewer EL students of the same language group in school.

Includes: A locally determined program, usually ESL, and home language support as needed.

## TBE: Transitional Bilingual Education

20 or more EL students of the same language group in school.

Includes: Instruction in core content areas in home language, English and ESL.

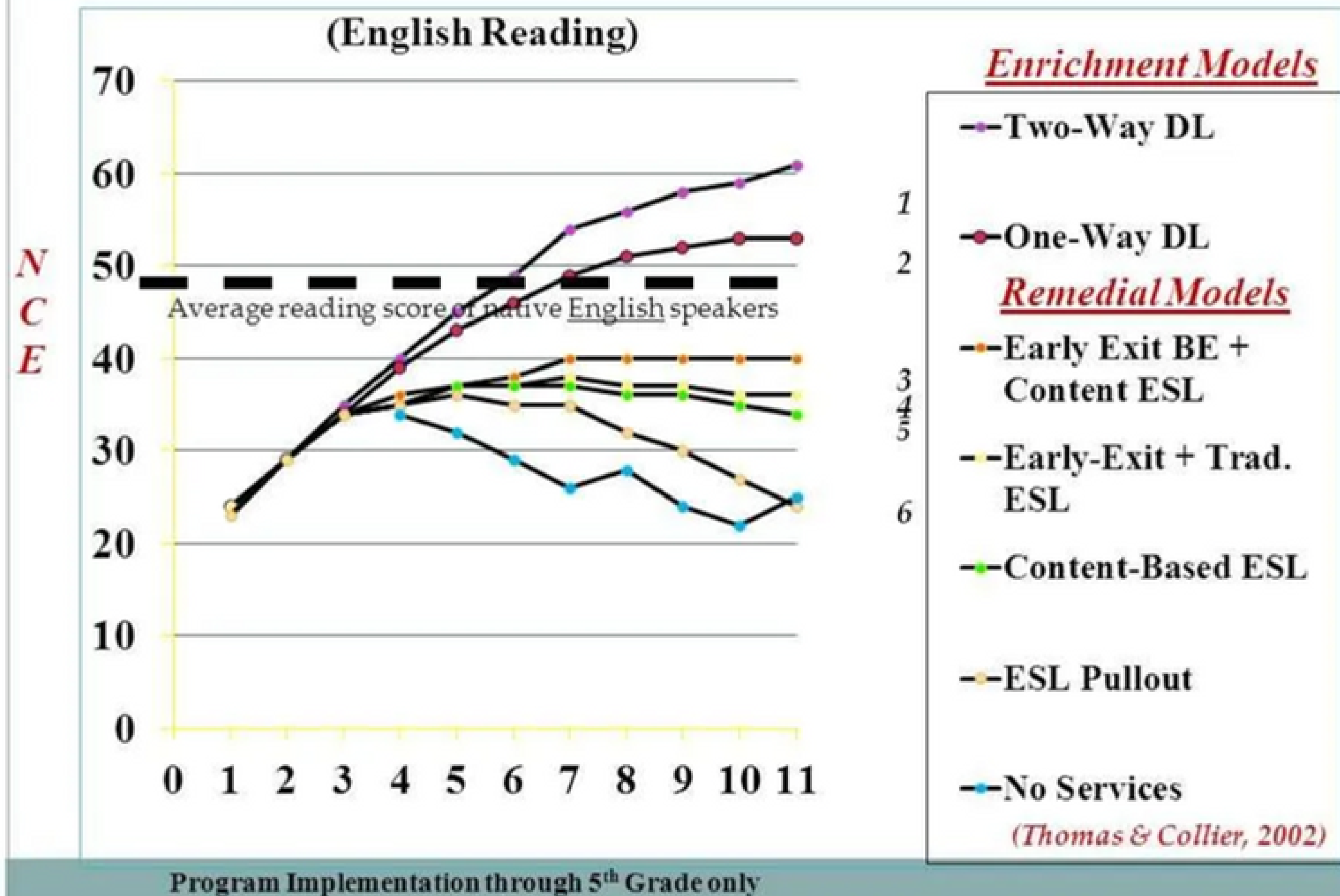


*Historically, District 97 has been providing EL services through a TPI model. Currently, we have TPI programs at all 10 of our schools and TBE at Holmes Elementary and Brooks Middle School.*

# District 97 English Language Learner (ELL) Programs



## National Research - Models for Educating Spanish Dominant Students



# Systems of Support



Welcoming Families



Adaptive Programming



Smart Staffing



Prepared Learning Environments



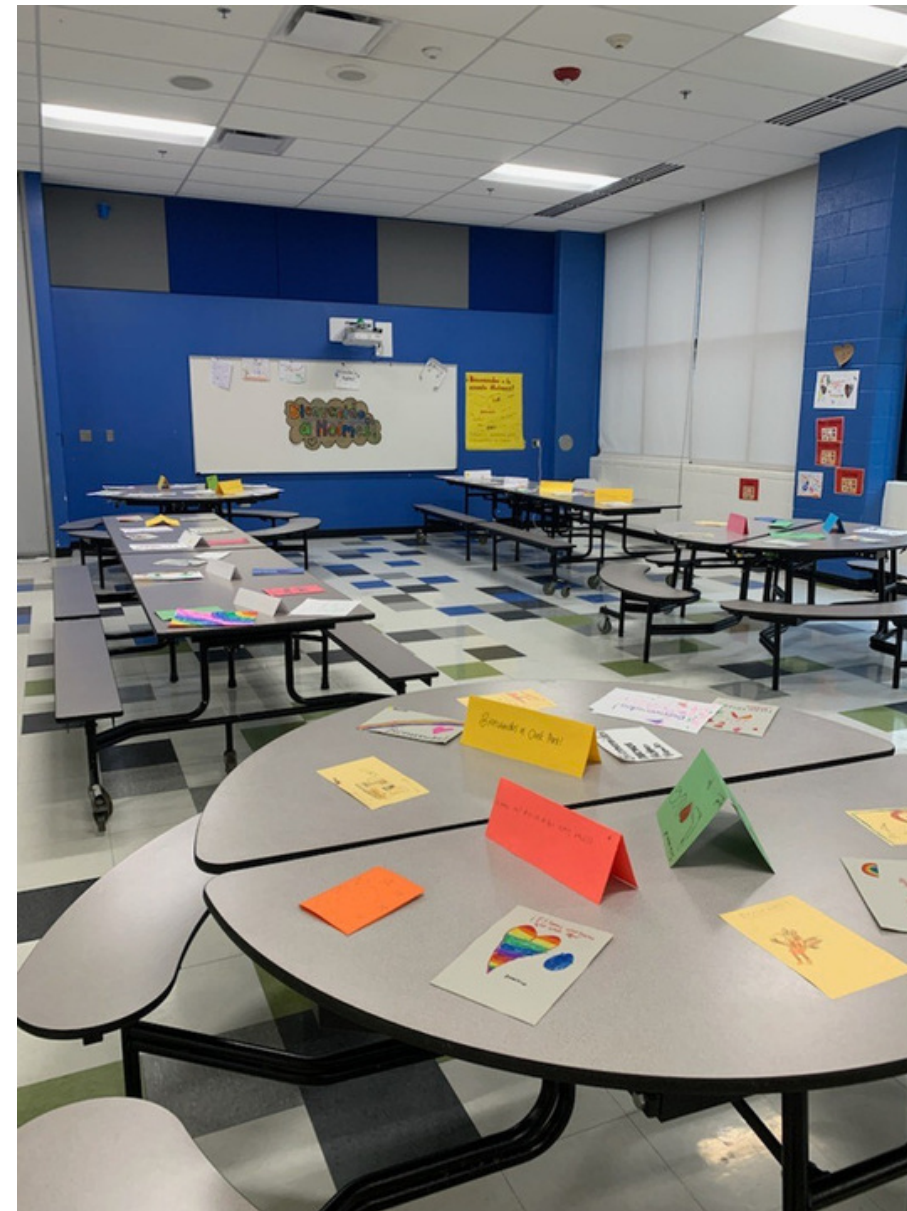
Ongoing Professional Development



# Celebrations and Learning



# Celebrations & Learning





# Celebrations & Learning





# Celebrations & Learning







## Oak Park Elementary School District 97 Welcomes All Families

Se Habla Español

For any family seeking to enroll children in school, we offer:



Access to translation and interpretation services in Spanish and other languages.



Support through the registration process.



Assistance to complete free/reduced lunch applications.



Information to connect families to community organizations.



A welcoming and inclusive experience for all children and their families.

### Contact Us



**Office:** 260 Madison St.  
Open Monday to Friday,  
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Send a message to the  
Registration team at  
<https://bit.ly/d97registrar> or  
scan the QR code below



Call or send a text  
message to 818-732-4735



[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)



## El Distrito Escolar 97 de Oak Park da la bienvenida a todas las familias

Se Habla Español

Para cualquier familia que busque inscribir a sus hijos en  
la escuela, ofrecemos:



Acceso a servicios de traducción/interpretación en  
español y otros idiomas.



Apoyo durante el proceso  
de registro.



Asistencia para completar  
solicitudes de almuerzo  
gratis o reducido.



Información para conectar  
a las familias con las  
organizaciones  
comunitarias.



Una experiencia acogedora  
e inclusiva para todos los  
niños y sus familias.

### Contacta con nosotros



**Oficina:** 260 Madison St.  
Abierta de lunes a viernes,  
8 a.m. a 4:30 p.m.



Envía un mensaje al equipo  
de registro en  
<https://bit.ly/d97registrar> o  
escanear el código QR



Lame o envíe un mensaje de  
texto al 818-732-4735



[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)



Reach out to  
our team via  
Let's Talk:

[https://bit.ly/  
d97registrar](https://bit.ly/d97registrar)