

# In-Person Learning Proposal for English Language Learners in Grades K-5

## Current Challenges:

1. English Learners (ELs) struggle with the language demands in the subjects they are learning. Due to the language barrier, these students often require more support to navigate the vocabulary, content knowledge, and technology requirements necessary to participate and succeed in class.
2. Younger students often can't read the instructions or understand what the expectations are on written assignments. Video instruction is in English and parents often don't understand what is being presented. (Translation of all materials would be cost prohibitive and impossible to do for all grade levels and materials!)
3. Many parents of our English learners do not have the language proficiency skills required to help their children with the curriculum and its language/technology demands.
4. As a result of these challenges, ELs will continue to fall further behind their peers during Distance Learning as we saw last spring. They do not have the language skills and resources needed to participate at a meaningful level during Distance Learning.

**Proposal:** To provide in-person learning for our Elementary EL students at Twin Bluff School, so the students can continue to learn with their English speaking peers while receiving the support needed to learn the grade-level content presented.

1. Two classes will be set up. One for grades K-2, and the other for grades 3-5. There will be about 11-13 students in each class.
2. A bilingual paraprofessional will work with the EL teacher in each classroom.
3. The students will receive instruction from their regular teacher and spend time with their regular classmates in their Google Classroom during their live "in-session" classes.
4. When the students leave their Google Meet to work on individual homework, the EL teachers and paraprofessionals will be there to reinforce the teaching that occurred as well as provide resource help for homework as needed.
5. Increased instruction will be provided for our Newcomer students who find it extremely difficult if not impossible to function in a distance learning environment.
6. We will continue to follow the strict social distancing and safety guidelines to keep our students and adults safe.

\*\*\* Of course we want ALL our students back in school, but our EL students and their families have one thing that separates them from all other demographics: their lack of English proficiency. This makes them unique in their needs. In order to provide an equitable education, we need to reduce the language barrier, and this proposal would facilitate that.