



# English Learners (ELs) District Newsletter



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### EL Team Leaders

**Gladiola Elementary**

Nicole Adams 530-7596

**Oriole Park Elementary**

Jennifer Slanger 530-7558

**Parkview Elementary**

Daniel Malakowsky 530-7572

**West Elementary**

Ruth Rolff 530-7533

**Intermediate School**

Marissa Bliss 530-7540

**Junior High School**

Kristi Vugteveen 530-7590

**High School**

Edith Trumbell 530-7580

**District EL Coordinator**

Lisa DeMaagd 530-7533

## Letter from the Superintendent

Dear English Learner (EL) Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

Starting February 6th, students in grades K through 12 who are considered an English Learner are required by the State of Michigan to take an English language proficiency assessment. This test is called ACCESS 2.0 (Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State). Kindergarteners will take the test one-on-one with a teacher. First through third grades will take the Listening, Reading and Speaking sections online but they will hand write the Writing portion. Fourth through twelfth graders will take the entire assessment online. This summative assessment addresses a wide variety of ability levels like speaking, listening, reading and writing, and like any other test will be challenging.

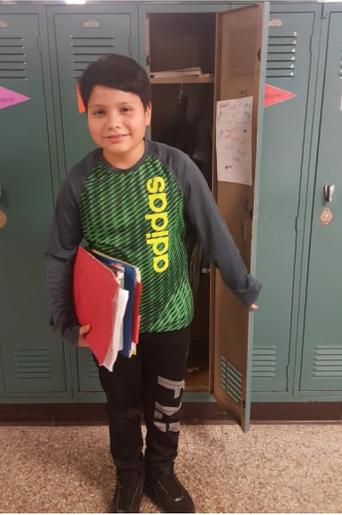
Our staff recognizes that parents wish for their child(ren) to do well on all school tests, and the ACCESS 2.0 is no exception. A student's performance on this assessment is very important. The results of this test, which will be mailed to you in the fall, will serve as one of the instruments used to measure your child's learning of the English language, and also help us determine how well Wyoming Public Schools is addressing your child's needs. Our staff will closely review the ACCESS 2.0 results of individual students to measure our school program's effectiveness, and help determine future instructional strategies.

If you have any questions or wish to know the ACCESS 2.0 schedule, please contact your child's building principal or the EL teacher/staff.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas G. Reeder  
Superintendent

## Student Spotlight



Rolando Rodriguez Podesto came to the U.S. from Peru this past year and attended school in New Jersey. This fall he moved to Michigan and attends Wyoming Intermediate in Mrs. VanDuinen's 6th grade class. Rolando has been working very hard in all subject areas, but has been especially dedicated to improving his English. In English class, Rolando always asks thoughtful questions and he will take notes during instruction even when it's not required. He sets very high standards for himself and works hard to achieve them! Upon coming to Wyoming, Rolando shared that his goal is to go to college and someday work for NASA. He also participates in after school ELL Homework Club to maintain his grades. We are so happy to have Rolando and his family in Wyoming this year!

### VOCABULARY OF THE MONTH

**remembrance** (noun) /rə'membrəns/

**Definition:** The action of remembering something; a memory or recollection.



### International Dinner

"Potluck Style" International Dinner will be at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, February 10th in Wyoming High School's cafeteria. Come with your family and bring a main dish, appetizer and/or dessert to share. Anyone who attends can get free entry into the High School basketball game that evening.

### Lunar New Year

Lunar New Year is coming. 2017 is going to be the year of the Rooster. Tet (New Year) is the occasion for Asian students to express their respect and remembrance for their ancestors, have appreciation days for parents and teachers as well as welcoming the New Year with their beloved family members. Wyoming High School students will celebrate on Friday, January 27, 2017. The dragon dance performance will be at 9:30 a.m. Parents are welcome to attend.

**Library Get Together**—There will be gathering at the Wyoming Library in March! Be looking for information to come home with your child. More details to come!

### Complaint Procedures for Non-Discrimination

If a parent or student has a complaint about any aspect of EL services, the parent should speak with their child's classroom teacher, an EL teacher in the building or directly with the building principal.

Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against or denied equal opportunity or access to programs or services may file a complaint, which may be referred to as a grievance, with the District's Civil Rights Coordinator. Sarah Earnest, Assistant Superintendent for Employee Relations, Wyoming Public Schools, 3575 Gladiola Avenue SW, Wyoming, Michigan 49519

A person who believes s/he has a valid basis for a complaint, may discuss the matter informally and on an oral basis with the District's Civil Rights Coordinator, who will investigate the complaint and reply with an answer to the complainant.