



English Learners (ELs) District Newsletter



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West Elementary
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Intermediate School
Marissa Bliss 530-7540

Junior High School
Jessica Trentham 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 4th, 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 handwrite 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,

Craig Hoekstra
Superintendent

Office Max Donation

In December, a former WPS graduate gave back to his community. The EL Department at Parkview Elementary graciously accepted a donation from Office Max in Wyoming. This community service event was organized by former WPS Alum, Damian Ortega. The donation included folders, notebooks, pencils, highlighters, and various other supplies. Thank you very much Office Max for this generous donation to the Wyoming Community!



Newcomers at the Gardens

In December, Newcomers from our Junior High and High School visited Frederik Meijer Gardens to explore their exhibit on Christmas and Holiday Traditions from Around the World. Students viewed trees and displays from 42 countries and many different holiday traditions and celebrations! They also created some of their own art as they made beaded snowflakes.



International Dinner

On December 14 many families of our 5th-12th grade students gathered for an International Dinner at Wyoming High School. They feasted upon Venezuelan



empanadas, Vietnamese spring rolls, Italian pasta, tamales, egg rolls, cheesecakes and so much more! After dinner, students who came received a baseball hat with the WPS logo, and their families were given free tickets to watch our Wyoming Wolves basketball teams play! Thanks to all the families who came out and for those who brought a dish to share!



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.