

Santee School District

ANNUAL PARENT NOTIFICATION LETTER

Federal Title III and State Requirements



To the parent(s)/guardian(s) of: _____ School: _____ Date: _____
 Student ID #: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Grade: _____ Language indicated on survey: _____

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s): Each year, we are required by law to notify you of your child's proficiency level in English. We must also provide you with the school's recommendation for program placement and describe all available program options. This letter also explains how we decide when a student is ready to exit the English learner program. (20 *United States Code* sections 7012 and 6312[g][1][A]; *California Education Code*, Section 48985; and Title 5 of the *California Code of Regulations*, Section 11309[a][b][1])

Your child's current English proficiency level is **Early Advanced**, according to the most recent California English Language Development Test (CELDT) results.

Based on these results, your child has been identified as an:

- English learner (EL) with less than reasonable fluency in English** and assigned to the Structured English Immersion Program.
- English learner (EL) with reasonable fluency in English** and assigned to the English Language Mainstream Program.

Academic Achievement Results – State Testing for Grades 4-8

Skill Area	Smarter Balanced Scale Score	Performance Level
English Language Arts	Testing starts in 3rd Grade	n/a
Mathematics	Testing starts in 3rd Grade	n/a

Academic Achievement Results – 3rd Trimester District Testing

Skill Area	Measure	Performance Level
Reading	Benchmark Reading	Standard Exceeded
English Language Arts	English Language Arts Performance Task T3	Meets Standard

Program Placement Options for English Learners

The chart below shows all program placement options. (A more detailed description follows.) To request that your child be placed in an Alternative Program in which much of the instruction is provided in your child's primary language, you must apply for a "Parental Exception Waiver."

English Language Proficiency Levels		Program Placement
Advanced	Reasonable fluency***	English Language Mainstream *** or an Alternative Program with an approved Parental Exception Waiver
Early Advanced		
Intermediate		
Early Intermediate	Less than reasonable fluency***	Structured English Immersion*** or an Alternative Program with an approved Parental Exception Waiver
Beginning		
		Other Instructional Setting based on IEP

[***Districts determine what levels constitute "reasonable fluency" and "less than reasonable fluency".]

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Description of Program Placement Options and Goals for English Learners

All programs include English Language Development (ELD) and teaching strategies differentiated for each student's level of English language proficiency. These strategies are used to help each student reach proficiency in speaking, reading and writing English, and succeed academically in all core subjects.

- **Structured English Immersion (SEI):** Students who score at **less than reasonable fluency** are placed in an SEI program and are taught overwhelmingly in English. Some assistance may be provided in the primary language. Students are taught ELD and other core subjects by authorized teachers using district-adopted textbooks and supplementary materials. Instruction is based on ELD and grade-level content standards.
- **English Language Mainstream (ELM):** Students who score at **reasonable fluency** in English are placed in an ELM program. They are taught ELD and other core subjects by authorized teachers using district-adopted textbooks and supplementary materials. Instruction is based on ELD and grade-level content standards. Students receive any additional instruction needed for them to be reclassified as fluent English proficient.
- **Alternative Program (ALT):** Students with an approved "Parental Exception Waiver"**** are taught core subjects in their primary language. They receive instruction in ELD in English. Teachers must receive special training to work in such a program. They use district-adopted textbooks and supplementary instructional materials. Instruction is based on ELD and grade-level content standards. Students receive any additional instruction needed for them to be reclassified as fluent English proficient. **(District inserts full description of their alternative program(s) and process to obtain a Parental Exception Waiver.)**

NOTE: At any time during the school year, you may have your child moved into the English Language Mainstream Program. Parents of ELs have a right to decline or opt their children out of school district's EL program or out of particular EL service(s) within an EL program (*20 United States Code Section 7012(a)(8), and 5 CCR Section 11301[b]*). However, LEAs are still obligated to provide the student with language acquisition services (*5 CCR Section 11302*) until the student is reclassified.

Parents/Guardians have the right to request a "Parental Exception Waiver" for an alternative program.
 California law gives parents the right to request that their child be placed in an Alternative Program. To do so, you must visit your child's school to apply for a "Parental Exception Waiver" each year. Your child must meet **one** of the following requirements: a) knows English and performs academically at least at fifth grade level; b) is ten years of age or older; or c) is a student under ten years of age who has been in an English language classroom for 30 calendar days, and has special needs.

Reclassification (Exit) Criteria

The goal of the English learner program is for students to become fully proficient in English and to master state standards for academic achievement as rapidly as possible. This district's reclassification criteria are listed below:

Required Criteria (California Education Code Section 313[d])	LEA Criteria
English Language Proficiency Assessment (CELDT)	Classroom Assessments: (criteria = "Meets Standard or Exceeds"), Trimester Assessments - English Language Arts Performance Task - Approaching Standard - BAS Reading (K-3)
Comparison of Performance in Basic Skills	
Parental Opinion and Consultation	
Teacher Evaluation	

 Please telephone the school at (619) 956-5000, if you would like to schedule a parent conference to discuss your child's options for program placement.