

PROGRAMS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

The Board of Education believes that students who, by reason of foreign birth or ancestry, have limited English proficiency (referred to here as “English Language Learners” or ELLs), will be more effective learners of both the language and the curriculum if they receive a comprehensive program of instruction and a full array of educational support services. The District will therefore to ensure that ELL students are identified, and provided with an appropriate program.

Pursuant to this policy and the regulations of the New York State Commissioner of Education, the Superintendent of Schools is directed to develop appropriate administrative regulations to ensure that ELL students are:

1. screened to determine if the student is an ELL in accordance with Parts 117 and 154 of the Commissioner's Regulations;
2. identified, as appropriate, as an ELL student with a disability;
3. annually evaluated to determine continued ELL eligibility;
4. assured of access to appropriate instructional and support services;
and
5. assured of having equal opportunities to participate in all school programs and extracurricular activities as non-ELL students.

The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for ensuring that the Commissioner of Education is provided with all information regarding ELL students required under the Commissioner's Regulations. The District will also provide assurances that it is providing appropriate school-related information to the parents (or persons in parental relation) of ELL students in English and the language they best understand.

The District will provide an orientation program annually for parents of newly enrolled ELL students. Individual annual meetings will be held with ELL parents at least once a year to discuss the goals of the ELL program and their child's language development, in addition to regular parent/teacher meetings.

The Superintendent of Schools shall ensure that all teachers employed for any bilingual and/or English as a New Language (ENL) program are properly certified in accordance with the Commissioner's Regulations, and that all teaching staff receive appropriate professional development on ELL students.

Great Neck Public Schools

Adopted: 08/06/90; 6/1/15