Jordan School District

**Annual Notification of Participation in the English Language Development Program**

**2020 – 2021**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

When you enrolled your student in school, you indicated your student speaks a language other than English, or a language other than English is used in your home. Because a language other than English was noted, your student was given a language acquisition test to measure his or her proficiency in English. Based on the results of this test, your student qualifies to participate in an English Language Learning Program (ELD).

Your student is given the WIDA ACCESS test each year to assess and measure English language development. This is a more comprehensive language acquisition test. Included with this letter are the results of the most recent test including the current English language proficiency level. Additionally, your student’s academic achievement information will be provided on his/her next report card, and in a yearly report of your student’s end of year test results. If you need additional information regarding your student’s academic achievement, please contact your student’s teacher(s).

**English Language Development (ELD) Program**

The ELD program is designed to develop both conversational and academic language. This program meets the comprehensive linguistic, academic, and social needs of your student. It provides both direct English language development from an ESL endorsed teacher, and sheltered content instructional services that allow students to achieve competence in English and meet state standards. English language development instruction is provided by specially trained teachers. The goal of the ELD program is to have your student successfully perform on grade level in English and to graduate on time with his/her peers. Your student will be placed according to the ELD plan that is determined by the school.

**Monitoring and Exit Requirements**

Students who are levels 5 and 6 are exited from the direct ELD services because they have demonstrated fluency in all areas (reading, writing, listening, speaking and comprehension) of the WIDA ACCESS. At that time, they will then be monitored for a minimum of four years to ensure linguistic and academic success. After four years of successful classroom performance, students will be exited from the program. The time required to exit the program varies by individual student. However, all English learners are expected to graduate within the same time frame as native English speaking students.

**Additional Information**

English learners who also qualify for special education services will receive ELD in alignment with their Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

You have the right to decline your student’s enrollment in the ELD Program proposed above. Upon your request, your student will not receive direct ELD services, but could continue to be assessed using the WIDA ACCESS. If you wish to decline direct services, please contact your school’s principal to discuss this option.

If you have questions, please contact your student’s school.