

MULTILINGUAL LEARNER EDUCATION UPDATE

MARCH 2022



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

English Learner (EL) → Multilingual Learner (ML)

Our department, along with a large number of researchers and experts in the field, believe that the term “English Learner” connotes a deficit label reflecting a perception of what this diverse group of learners can’t do - “they don’t speak English.” Therefore, over the course of the year our department will implement with a culturally responsive intent a nomenclature change in all our in-house and internal discourse and initiatives for this diverse group of students to “Multilingual Learner(s)”. The term “Multilingual Learner” has an asset-based connotation which highlights the amazing strengths our students bring to our classrooms and culture - the ability to use multiple systems to learn language and learn content contemporaneously that leads them to become members of a diverse community in which they can excel. However, in all compliance and regulatory discourse and documentation processes, we will continue to use the “English Learner” as it aligns to federal and state nomenclature.



MULTILINGUAL LEARNER DEPARTMENT

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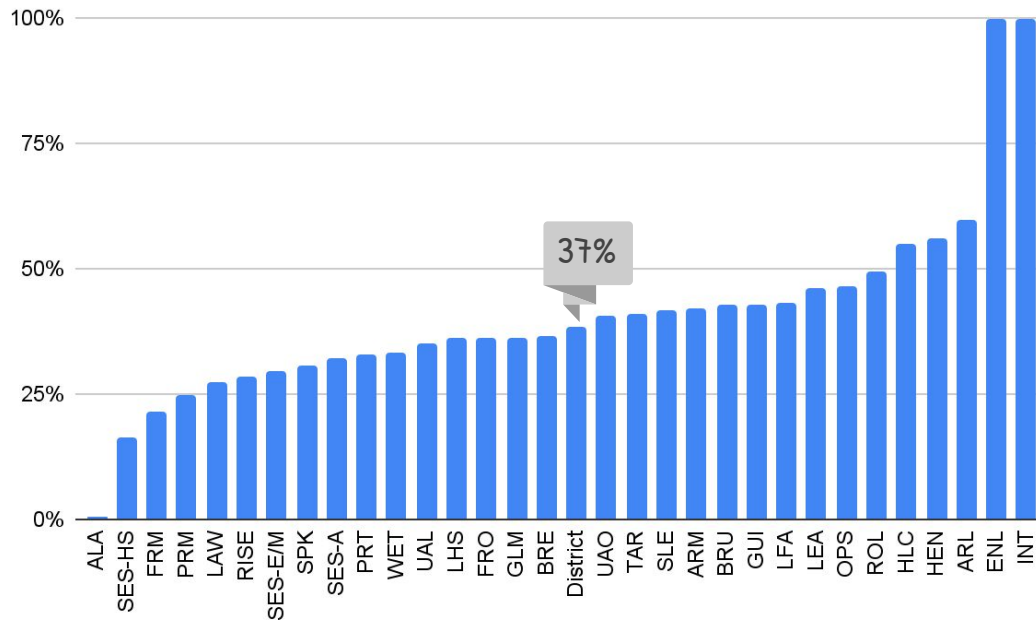
Yomayra Figueroa

Family Engagement Coordinator
for Multilingual Learners

School Based ML Teams

Principal
Coach/AP/DCI
Language Acquisition Team
Facilitator
ESL Teacher(s)
Students
Families

ENGLISH
LEARNER
EDUCATION



ML Enrollment - March 2022

Guatemala → 234

Honduras → 37

El Salvador → 22

Nicaragua → 5

Costa Rica → 4

Panama → 2

Brazil → 1



FAMILY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

- + English Learner Parent Advisory Council (ELPAC)
 - + Monthly Meetings
 - + Upcoming Elections
 - + Spring Event
- + Central American Family Outreach
 - + 1:1 outreach to families and home visits
 - + Family focus/support groups
- + ESL Courses for Parents
 - + 3 running currently – NCEC (2) and PRT (1)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

- + Monthly ESL Teacher Professional Learning Community (PLC) with Confianza
- + Bimonthly ESL teacher check-ins
- + Bimonthly LAT-F meetings
- + Weekly SEI Teacher Courses (2)
- + Monthly Co-Teaching PD with OSSS
- + Paraprofessional PD Series
- + Learning Walks with Language Acquisition Team Facilitators
- + ESL MTEL Study Group

UPCOMING ML DEPARTMENT INITIATIVES

Newcomer Grades 7–12 Program

Merger of International and ENLACE into a comprehensive 7–12 program for newcomers

- + **June 2022** → Present draft plan to Superintendent
- + **August 2022–June 2023** → Workgroups and stakeholder engagement
- + **September 2023** → Program launch

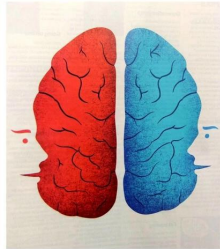
Dual Language Program

A strand (2–3 classrooms) of Dual Language one-way immersion beginning in Kindergarten in Fall 2024

- + **November 2022** → Submit preliminary proposal to DESE
- + **January 2023** → Submit final proposal to DESE
- + **February 2023–June 2024** → Planning and hiring
- + **September 2024** → Program launch

What are the benefits of bilingualism?

- Attention
- Empathy
- Reading
- School performance and engagement
- Diversity and integration
- Protection against cognitive decline and dementia

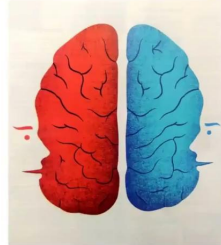


Source: <https://www.wbur.org/npr/497943749/6-potential-brain-benefits-of-bilingual-education>

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Cuales son los beneficios del bilingüismo?

- Atención
- Empatía
- Lectura
- Rendimiento y participación escolar
- Diversidad e integración
- Protección en contra del deterioro cognitivo y demencia



Source: <https://www.wbur.org/npr/497943749/6-potential-brain-benefits-of-bilingual-education>

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Learn more about Dual Language Education!

