

VALLEY STREAM UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT TWENTY FOUR

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS INSTRUCTION

Policy 6155

The Board of Education believes that students who, by reason of foreign birth or ancestry, have limited English proficiency, will be more effective learners of both the language and the curriculum if they receive instruction in both their native language and English. The School District will therefore make every effort to identify students that are English language learners (ELLs) and provide them with an appropriate program of transitional bilingual education or free-standing English as a new language program.

Pursuant to this policy and the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, the Superintendent of Schools or their designee is directed to develop appropriate administrative regulations so that ELL students:

- are diagnostically screened for limited English proficiency to determine if a student is an ELL in accordance with Part 117 and 154 of the Commissioner's Regulations
- are identified, as appropriate, as an ELL student with a disability;
- are annually evaluated to determine continued ELL eligibility. Included in the evaluation shall be each student's performance in content areas to measure academic progress;
- have access to appropriate instructional and support services, including guidance programs;
- have equal opportunities to participate in all school programs and extracurricular activities as non-ELL students; and
- are provided with the appropriate educational strategies to facilitate their acquisition and development of English language skills and to enable them to meet the standards of education of the State and the School District.

The Superintendent of Schools or their designee shall be responsible for (1) providing the Commissioner with all information required under the Commissioner's Regulations and (2) providing appropriate school-related information to the parents of ELL students in English, or in the language they understand. In addition, the Superintendent of Schools or their designee shall ensure that all teachers employed for any bilingual and/or ELL program are properly certified in accordance with the Commissioner's Regulations.

Ref: Education Law §3204
English Acquisition, Language Enhancement, and Academic Achievement Act, 20 USC §§ 6801 et seq.
Equal Educational Opportunities Act of 1974, §§ 201 et seq., 20 U.S.C. §§ 1701 et seq.
8 NYCRR §§ 80.9; 80.10; 117; 154 et seq.

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