

Tus xov tooj hais lus Hmoob
yog 651-407-7623.

*If you would like to speak with a
Hmong liaison, call 651-407-7623.*

Si le gustaria tener información
en Espanol del contenido de estos
anuncios o de cualquier otro
asunto relacionado con el
programa de EL, por favor
llame a 651-407-7625

*If you would like a Spanish
interpreter, call 651-407-7625*

If you would like information in
another language not listed above,
please contact an English Language
teacher at the numbers listed on
the back panel of this brochure.



* White Bear Lake Area Schools is a
WIDA consortium member. For
information go to www.wida.org

Who should I contact with questions about EL services?

For questions regarding White Bear
Lake Area Schools programs,
contact the EL teachers at:

Birch Lake Elementary
651-653-2776

Hugo Elementary
651-653-2798

Lakeaires Elementary
651-653-2809

Lincoln Elementary
651-653-2820

Matoska International
651-653-2847

Oneka Elementary
651-288-1800

Otter Lake Elementary
651-653-2831

Vadnais Heights Elementary
651-653-2858

Willow Lane Elementary
651-773-6170

Central Middle School
651-653-2888

Sunrise Middle School
651-653-2700

WBLAHS - North Campus
651-653-2920

WBLAHS - South Campus
651-773-6200

English Language (EL) Programs

Grades K-12



White Bear Lake Area Schools
4855 Bloom Avenue
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

www.whitebear.k12.mn.us

What is EL?

The purpose of the EL program is to help develop children's Standard American English skills to a level where they can succeed in their mainstream classrooms.

How does the district identify children for EL services?

All parents complete a Home Language Questionnaire (HLO) as part of the school registration process. If the parent indicates a language other than English is spoken in the home, an EL teacher will assess the child to see if they qualify for English language instruction. The district will send a Parent Notification Form to your home if children qualify services.

What happens during EL sessions?

English language learners meet with a licensed EL teacher or an EL Educational Assistant. The EL program focuses on the development of language skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening based upon MN state Language Arts standards and WIDA* English Learner Standards. Our classes are designed to meet the needs of all EL students.



How often do students receive EL service?

EL services vary according to a student's age, previous experience with Standard American English, and current English language needs. The following schedule is typical, but exceptions are made as needed:

Grades K-5

Students in kindergarten through fifth grades receive focused English language instruction a minimum of thirty minutes at least four times a week.

Grade 6-12

Students in grades 6-12 attend English language development class(es) daily. In addition, EL Resource time provides language support for mainstream content area classes.

How do we know if children are making progress?

Together with classroom teachers, our EL teachers and Educational Assistants monitor students' progress in reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Additionally, EL students are assessed annually using the ACCESS Test.

How long will my children need to take EL classes?

Research shows that social English language proficiency takes from one to three years to acquire. However, academic literacy in English, which is our focus in EL, takes from seven to ten years to acquire. When a student demonstrates competency in English Language skills, they are then moved

to Indirect Status where they are monitored in their academic classes without EL support. English Learners are considered eligible for exit from EL services after they have been indirectly serviced for an appropriate amount of time and have reached a level of proficiency in English Language skills, standardized test scores and classroom work.

How can parents help?

Your children should continue using and learning their first language. You can teach your children many important things at home in your first language that will help them in school. Here are some ways you can help without using English!

- Read to them and talk to them about what you are reading
- Tell them stories and ask them to retell the story
- Teach them to express their thoughts and feelings
- Have them see you read for pleasure

Children who are able to listen, speak, read and write in their first language are able to learn English more easily. The ability to communicate in multiple languages is a valuable skill in our society.

Extra curricular and after-school activities are excellent opportunities for your children to practice and improve their English skills. Sports, music, drama, and school clubs allows your child to interact with children their own age in English.