

English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) ENGLISH LANGUAGE CENTER

Program Goals

The goal of the ESOL program is to address the needs of the whole child, to provide language acquisition as quickly as possible, and to foster a teacher/parent/student cooperative approach to learning and teaching. This program fosters an environment where individual differences and learning preferences are given their rightful place.

English Language Center

Purpose

The English Language Center (ELC), located at the Campbell Academy, is an essential component of the Atlanta Public Schools (APS) ESOL Program. It is designed for eligible K-5 students who are new to the United States and the district.

The ELC serves English Language Learners (ELLs) identified as beginners in the development of English language proficiency as well as students with limited or interrupted education and minimal literacy skills in the primary language. Students are served for one or two semesters in order to prepare them for participation in a school-based ESOL program.

Instruction

ELC students receive intensive English instruction that focuses on the four language domains: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The ELC curriculum is aligned to the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS), World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) and Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) standards. Conceptual teaching themes are present throughout the school and provide purposeful, meaningful and authentic opportunities for students to utilize language skills. Instruction is further supported by innovative computer-based applications that promote English language development.

Identification

Initial review of students' educational backgrounds takes place either at the base school or at the International Student Services Center (ISSC), also located at Campbell Academy. Subsequently, students are referred to the ELC if they meet the following criteria:

- The student speaks a language other than English (this information is taken from the Home Language Survey)
- The student's listening and speaking score is under 19 (K W-APT - Kindergarten WIDA ACCESS Placement Test) or under 5 (W-APT - WIDA ACCESS Placement Test)
- The student has been enrolled in an U.S. school for one semester or less
- The student is 5 years old on or before September 1st of each year

ELC referrals should be directed to the ESOL Office at 404-802-7580.

Transportation

School bus transportation is provided for all ELC students. Each day, students are picked up from and returned to their base school. Information regarding pick-up and drop-off times is available in the ELC Main Office.

Hours of Operation

The ELC is open each day from 8:00a.m. 2:00p.m. Students arrive at 8:30a.m. and are dismissed at 1:30p.m. Lunch is served daily; however, students should eat breakfast before coming to the ELC.

English Language Center
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