



Welcome to Talawanda Schools!

Talawanda's English as a Second Language program currently serves nearly 100 English Language Learners (ELLs) representing more than 20 countries. These students participate in classes together with their native-English-speaking peers. Dedicated ESL teachers provide direct pull-out services for individuals and small groups.

A family liaison is available to assist Spanish-speaking families with translation services.

For More Information

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TIPS FOR PARENTS OF ESL STUDENTS

Learning a second language is hard work; it takes significant time and effort. Your support is critical to your child's success.

- Ensure that your child attends school every day unless they are sick.
- Help your child practice good study habits. Ensure that they complete their homework each night.
- Read to your child daily, in your native language or in English.
- Encourage your child to maintain their native language while they are learning English. Research shows that children who are fluent in their native language learn a second language much faster.
- Practice vocabulary with your child using household objects.
- Discuss suggestions for home practice with your child's ESL teacher and classroom teachers. All teacher contact information is on the website www.talawanda.net.

Use "Select Language" at the bottom of the web page to translate the website into another language.



TALAWANDA Schools

English as a Second Language (ESL)



Talawanda's ESL program supports all English Language Learners from kindergartners to high school seniors so they can fully participate in classes and achieve academic success.

Talawanda's English as a Second Language Program

Identifying English Language Learners

Federal and state laws require all school districts to identify students whose primary or home language is different than English. When parents enroll their children in a Talawanda school, they complete a Home Language Survey.

If a student has a language other than English, we are required to assess the student's English proficiency. All limited and non-English proficient students are considered Limited English Proficient (LEP) by the State of Ohio, and are therefore eligible for ESL services through the school

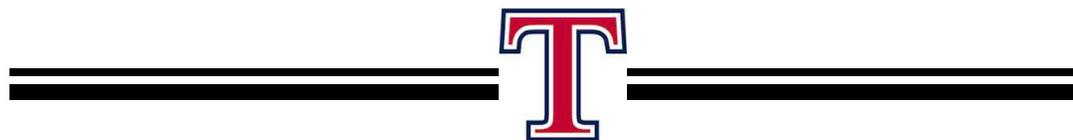


Graduation Requirements for English Language Learners

All LEP students participate in the standardized assessments required of all students. These begin in third grade and evaluate achievement in core academic topics (e.g., math, reading, science).

In high school, LEP students have the same graduation standards as all students. Previously, students were required to pass the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT). Beginning in 2014, students will be required to pass end-of-course examinations in required high school courses.

Some LEP students are eligible for accommodations on the required assessments. Accommodations may include native language translation, extended time to take the tests, and use of dictionary.



Annual Assessment of English Language Proficiency

Each spring, we assess ELL students using the Ohio Test of English Proficiency (OTELA) test. The OTELA includes four key areas: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The scores are used to determine students' progress in acquiring English. We also use test scores to help us determine the type and frequency of ESL services each student receives.

Students exit the ESL program when they are in at least third grade **and** they achieve the highest score of five or score four on the OTELA test two years in a row.