English Learners Board of Education Wrightstown Community School District

The Wrightstown Community School District recognizes that within the district there may be students whose primary language is not English. The Board shall provide appropriate services for district students who possess limited or no command of the English language. The purpose of these services will be to help students acquire English language skills that will enable them to function successfully in an all English classroom and to meet established academic standards.

English Learner (EL) students shall be identified as part of the school enrollment process through the district designed Home Language Survey. State law defines an EL student as a student whose ability to use the English language is limited because of the use of non-English language in his/her family or in his/her daily non-school surroundings, and who has difficulty with reading, writing and speaking or comprehending in English within the academic classroom setting. Once EL students are identified, their English proficiency shall be assessed. They shall be classified according to their English proficiency level and provided services to meet their needs.

Specialized instructional materials and techniques designed to teach English to speakers of other languages shall be used in the district. An EL student or a small group of students may work with a qualified staff member to develop their English language skills. The degree of curricular and instructional modification, type of support services, and their duration shall be determined individually and be based on student need. If a sufficient number of the EL students identified are of the same language group to meet statutory requirements, (ss 115.97); the Board shall establish and implement a bilingual-bicultural education program as required by state law.

The Wrightstown Community School District shall assess the English proficiency and academic progress of EL students in accordance with legal requirements and established District procedures. The results of both state-required tests and alternate assessments shall be used consistent with District policies in making instructional, promotion and graduation decisions. Test results may not be used as the sole criterion in reclassifying an EL student from a bi-lingual bi-cultural education program or in determining grade promotion, eligibility for courses or programs, eligibility for graduation or eligibility for participation in postsecondary education opportunities. Exemption of an EL student from taking a state required test may also not be used as the sole criterion for making such determinations.

Parents/guardians of EL students shall be notified of student testing arrangements and of educational programs and services available to help their children improve their English language skills and academic achievement. These notifications shall be made consistent with legal requirements and in such manner as to ensure that the student's parent/guardian understands them.

Adopted: 11/13/2007

Reviewed:

Revised: 11/16/2011, 11/19/2018