

## IDENTIFICATION of ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

### (Ells)

#### Home Language Survey

- Each student entering the JPPSS for the first time completes the *Home Language Survey* (HLS) on the online registration document. The primary or home language is defined as being “*any language other than English*” according to at least one of the following criteria:
  - the student’s first acquired language is NOT English;
  - the language spoken most often by the student is NOT English; or
  - the dominant language spoken in the home is NOT English, regardless of the language spoken by the student.
- Federal law requires this method of identification to screen for all possible second language learners of English

#### Assessment of English Language Proficiency

Any student whose HLS indicates a primary or home language other than English is sent from the school site to the East or Westbank ESL Testing and Center. The student is identified as a Primary Home Language Other Than English (PHLOTE) student at the center and a language assessment is administered to the student. All domains of English are assessed: listening, speaking, reading, and writing using the W/APT. LEP status and proficiency levels are assessed and the student is categorized as a *Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced Ell* or *fully proficient* in English. The ESL Program is explained to all parents of Ells who are offered ESL program participation. If the parent accepts the ESL program, the child is assigned to an ESL center site and transportation is provided. ALL high schools have ESL programs; all middle schools have ESL programs except for Worley Middle School; and the majority of elementary schools have ESL programs. Ells whose parents refuse ESL program participation attend their district school.

Native language assistance is provided to parents when practicable as they complete required school registration documents. It is the responsibility of the school to garner all general registration documents.

### **ESL Testing Centers:**

#### ***EASTBANK:***

ESL Testing Center

Alfred T. Bonnabel High School

Building 800

Kenner, LA 70065-4707

Telephone: 504-443-4229 (Spanish/English)

#### ***WEST BANK:***

ESL Testing Center

Administration Building

Suite 2801 Bruin St

Harvey, LA 70058

504-365-5363 (Spanish/English)

### Duties of Testing Centers:

- Tests students for English language proficiency and completes documentation of blue ELL folder
- Explains school policy in a language the parents can understand
- Provides to parents the *Procedures and Policies for Parents and Students* in Spanish.
- Assists the school by helping parents complete required registration documentation
  - student health records, birth certificate, proof of residence, parent notification, transitional/homeless documentation, testing data, academic transcripts from native country and/or U.S. school system, Home Language Survey (HLS) form, and student PHLOTE/Registration Record form.
- Assists in the transmission of special education information (IEPs or evaluations) to the special education department
- Inputs data related to national origin, ethnicity, LEP status, home language and funding source in the Federal Programs Tab of Infinite Campus.

