

RILEY ELEMENTARY

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL



October 26, 2016

This week's theme: ELD

Dear Families,

You may have heard your students talking about ELD and wondered, "What is that?"

ELD stands for English Language Development (ELD). It is a federal requirement to provide 45 minutes of English instruction to our English Language Learners every day.

Students take a test in the spring called the WIDA. This test is a combination of speaking, listening, reading, and writing and tells us what support a student learning English needs.

Based on scores from the WIDA, we then group students into levels to support their English language development. Teachers target their instruction to the language needs of the group with whom they are working. The goal is to make at least a year's worth of language growth for every year spent in school.

Our ELD program is called EL Achieve. It guides teachers through instruction to the different language levels.

Riley has been doing a good job with our English learners. At the end of 3rd grade during the 2015-16 school year, 90% of third grade English Language Learners had made sufficient progress on the WIDA, meaning they had either reached level 4 or made at least one level change for every full year of instruction. 90% is an extremely high percentage, even above the district average! Way to go teachers!!

What happens with students who speak English as their dominant language? These students also go to an ELD class. Often times, they are working on similar skills as their English Language Learner peers. There is a great emphasis on writing during ELD time. We find all of our students benefit from targeted instruction specific to the English language.

If you have any questions, please let us know by calling 801-974-8310.

Sincerely,

Dr. Martin
Principal



FIND AND LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

<https://www.facebook.com/RileySLC/>