

Support Strategies for English Learners 2023-24

1. EL Transportation

The District continued to allow ELs whose families moved into another attendance area to have the option of staying at their home school for the current school year and receiving bus passes for transportation.

2. Credit Recovery Priority

The District continued to give priority to ELs and recently reclassified EL students for credit recovery before or after school and during the summer at no cost.

3. Tucson Unified Virtual Academy (TUVA) On-Line Learning Experiences

The District again provided Intermediate EL students with the opportunity to take online courses (Apex Learning) through TUVA Self-Scheduled. Text translation support was available for the EL students in the major languages.

4. ELD I, II, III & IV Classes for Pre-Emergent/Emergent, Basic and Intermediate-Level ELs

In the 2023-24 school year, LAD coaches continued to utilize the ELD curriculum and assessments aligned to the 2019 English Language Proficiency Standards for all K-12 EL students. The District provided four levels of ELD classes for middle school EL students and five levels for high school students, as they became proficient in English.

ELD I classes are designed for Pre-Emergent/Emergent and low Basic students. Pre-Emergent students may be new to English or new to school, may have very low literacy but strong oral skills, and may be preliterate in their first language. Students in ELD I can transition to ELD II, or in some cases ELD III, depending upon their English proficiency. ELD III usually includes low Intermediate-level students, and ELD IV & V includes high Intermediate-level students.

5. Teacher Professional Development

The District also provided training for secondary ELD teachers on how to utilize:

- the newly adopted Vista Higher Learning ELD program. Training was provided for all 6-8 ELD teachers and all 9-12 ELD I teachers;
- Get Ready for 6-8 ELD I teachers and 9-12 ELD I teachers;
- Bridges A-C for 6-8 ELD II – IV teachers;
- The newly adopted Writable online writing program; and
- Rosetta Stone with their Pre-emergent/Emergent & Basic level EL students.

In addition, professional development focused on preparing ELL students for the February 2024 Azella assessment and understanding the best practices for teaching English Language Development.

6. Improved Tier 1 Instruction for EL Students; Sheltered Content Classes

In order to comply with Arizona law regarding English Learners (Senate Bill 1014), the District continued to expand Sheltered Content Classes (Integrated ELD Instruction) to all English Learners. The law now requires that all core content classes (math, science & social studies classes) with English Learners must provide Integrated ELD Instruction for their ELs. Integrated ELD Instruction includes using sheltered instructional strategies (SIOP strategies) and aligning the instruction to the 2019 Arizona English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards.

To accomplish this, the District continued to provide training on Integrated ELD instruction for all math, science and social studies teachers who had EL students in their classes. This training included instruction on how to apply foundational knowledge of language acquisition, how to select the ELP Standards to support language development and how to incorporate sheltered strategies (SIOP) into their grade level curriculum and lesson planning.

Language Support Specialists from Refugee Student Services also provided in-class support for ELs at many of the elementary, middle and high schools with large populations of students with refugee status.

7. Imagine Learning

The District provided Imagine Learning (IL) during SY2023-24 SY at the following 57 elementary schools.

Banks Elementary	Holladay Magnet Elementary	Oyama Elementary
Blenman Elementary	Hollinger K-8	Pueblo Gardens K-8
Bloom Elementary	Howell Elementary	Robins K-8
Bonillas Basic Curriculum Magnet	Hudlow Elementary	Robison Elementary
Borman K-8	Hughes Elementary	Rose K-8
Borton Magnet Elementary	Kellond Elementary	Roskruge Bilingual K-8 Magnet
Carrillo K-5 Magnet	Lawrence 3-8	Safford K-8
Cavett Elementary	Lineweaver Elementary	Sewell Elementary
Collier Elementary	Maldonado Elementary	Steele Elementary
Cragin Elementary	Manzo Elementary	Tolson Elementary
Davidson Elementary	Marshall Elementary	Tucson Unified Virtual Academy
Dietz K-8	Mary Belle McCorkle Academy of Excellence K-8	Tully Elementary Magnet

Dunham Elementary	Miles Exploratory Learning Center K-8	Van Buskirk Elementary
Erickson Elementary	Miller Elementary	Vesey Elementary
Ford Elementary	Mission View Elementary	Warren Elementary
Fruchthendler Elementary	Morgan Maxwell K-8	Wheeler Elementary
Gale Elementary	Myers/Ganoung Elementary	White Elementary
Grijalva Elementary	Naylor K-8 (with Roberts)	Whitmore Elementary
Henry Elementary	Ochoa Elementary	Wright Elementary

8. RAZ-Plus ELL

Raz-Plus ELL is a computer program that combines a collection of books and resources from Raz-Plus with complementary resources designed specifically for English Language Learners. The program provided a wealth of targeted resources created for guiding ELs in practicing key speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. The English Learners had access to books, tools, and resources designed to help them learn social and academic English.

The District provided Raz-Plus ELL for elementary EL students at the following schools:

Bonillas Basic Curriculum Magnet
Erickson Elementary
Henry Elementary
Hollinger K-8
Mary Belle McCorkle Academy of Excellence K-8
Roskruge
Safford K-8
Tully Elementary Magnet
Warren Elementary
Whitmore Elementary
Wright Elementary

9. Rosetta Stone

The District purchased Rosetta Stone English licenses for all middle and high school ELD I (Pre-emergent/Emergent) and ELD II (Basic) level EL students for the 2023-24 SY.

10. Tutoring Sessions for ELs

To support EL students at the elementary level, LAD continued to provide Tier 2

tutoring support for EL students by hosting in-person Language Academies 2 or 3 times per week from December 2023 through April 2024 at Henry, Holladay, Hollinger, Grijalva, Mission View, Lawrence and Tully. The focus of instruction for all the EL students was to develop their English skills in order to pass the AZELLA and reclassify to English Proficient, but an additional focus for the K-1 students was to also develop their oral English skills so that they could achieve a level of intermediate or proficient on the Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA), thereby qualifying for participation in the District TWDL programs.

To support EL students at the secondary level, LAD provided Tier 2 tutoring support for EL students at Wakefield 2 days per week from December 2023 through April 2024.

In addition, Language Support Specialists from Refugee Services continued to provide tutoring support for ELs before and after school, during lunch and during conference time, at many of the high schools with large populations of EL students with refugee status.

11. Summer School for EL students

During the 2024, K-7 Full STEAM Ahead summer school program, LAD offered elementary ELD at Blenman, Bloom, Erickson, Grijalva, White, Wright, Hollinger, Pueblo Gardens, and Roberts-Naylor. In addition, LAD offered ELD for middle school EL students at Doolen and Roberts-Naylor.

High school summer ELD classes for English Learners were also provided free of charge at Cholla, Pueblo, Catalina, Rincon, and Palo Verde High Schools. Intermediate ELs and 1st- and 2nd-year reclassified students also had the opportunity to take required core content classes free of charge during summer school in person at their high school or online with Apex Learning. The HS ELD coordinators, Refugee Language Support Specialists and ELD teachers again encouraged students to take these courses and helped the students register online.

12. Orientation Meetings for English Language Students and Parents

These activity-based events are designed to enhance the participants' understanding of the U.S. school system and culture. During SY2023-24, parent orientation meetings took place at five TUSD high schools, including Catalina, Cholla, Pueblo, Rincon, and Tucson High.

The Refugee Office also hosted a Newcomer Families Welcome Event at Catalina High School for all TUSD refugee families in January 2024. The event included a presentation on understanding the US education system. The

presentation included information on:

- School rules, requirements, and procedures,
- Classroom expectations,
- Scheduling in ELD classes,
- Grading system and passing grade,
- Graduation requirements, and
- Grade promotion and transition.