

## District Legal Obligations to Provide a Language Instruction Educational Program (LIEP)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parent/Guardian(s):

Pennsylvania state law

Federal laws and court rulings require that public school districts take affirmative steps to overcome language barriers for students who are learning English so that they can learn English, participate meaningfully in their education, and access all academic content.

*Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964* prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin by recipients of federal financial assistance. The Title VI regulatory requirements prohibit denial of equal access to education because of student's lack of proficiency in English based on exposure to another language that is tied to their national origin.

The *Castañeda v. Pickard* case in 1981 established a three-part test to evaluate the adequacy of a district's program for EL students:

- (1) the program must be based on an educational theory recognized as sound by some experts in the field or is considered by experts as a legitimate experimental strategy;
- (2) resources and personnel must be provided in order to implement this theory effectively; and
- (3) the school district must evaluate its programs and make adjustments where needed to ensure language barriers are actually being overcome.

Our districts must adhere to these laws as well as state policies and regulations related to the education of English learners. In summary, we

- may not deny services based on English proficiency that your child would otherwise be eligible for,
- must take affirmative steps to overcome language barriers in all of our educational settings and programs so that your child can meaningfully access the academic standards and content
- must ensure that we have designed and implemented a program of instruction and support that is based on a sound theory or accepted as a legitimate experimental strategy by some experts in the field,
- must provide adequate resources to the program in order to implement the theory effectively, and
- must evaluate the program to ensure that it is effective, and
- must make adjustments to the program if it is found to be inadequate in any way.

Accordingly, our school district has implemented a program that we believe is the most appropriate to meet your child's needs. You have a right to refuse certain portions of this program, but even if you do, the district is still required by civil rights laws to provide all necessary supports that will help your child attain English proficiency and access academic content. The district is also required to assess the English proficiency of your students each year.

If you feel our district is not meeting its obligations to provide your student with an appropriate EL program, you have the right to file a complaint with the state department of education at 717-783-6595 or to file a curriculum deficiency complaint at the [PDE website](#).

## 学区有提供语言教学教育计划（LIEP）的法律义务

日期： \_\_\_\_\_

致家长/监护人：

向您提供本通知是为了让您知悉您的孩子在公共教育方面的权利以及我们学区必须提供的服务。联邦法律和法院裁决要求公立学区采取积极措施，为正在学习英语的学生克服其语言障碍以便他们能够学习英语且有意义地参与他们的教育并学习所有学术内容。

1964年民权法案第六章（Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964）禁止联邦财政补助接受者出现基于种族、肤色或国籍的歧视现象。法规第六条有关监管要求禁止因学生因接触与其国籍相关的另一种语言而缺乏英语能力而拒绝平等接受教育。

1981年的Castañeda诉Pickard一案成就了一个由三部分组成的测试来评估一个学区对英语学习者（EL）学生的计划是否充分：

- (1) 该计划必须基于该领域某些专家认为合理的教育理论或被专家认为是合法的实验策略；
- (2) 必须提供资源和人员才能有效地实施这一理论；和
- (3) 学区必须评估其计划并在需要时进行调整，以确保实际克服语言障碍。

我们的学区必须遵守这些法律以及与英语学习者（EL）教育相关的州政策和法规。总之，我们

- 不得根据您的孩子原本有资格获得的英语水平拒绝服务，
- 必须采取积极措施克服我们所有教育环境和项目中的语言障碍，以便您的孩子能够有意义地获得学术标准和内容
- 必须确保我们设计和实施的教学和支持计划基于合理的理论或被该领域的一些专家接受为合法的实验策略，
- 必须为项目提供足够的资源以有效地实施理论，并且
- 必须评估计划以确保其有效，并且
- 如果发现计划有任何不足，必须对计划进行调整。

因此，我们的学区实施了一项我们认为最适合满足您孩子需求的计划。您有权拒绝该计划的某些部分，但即使您拒绝，民权法仍要求学区提供所有必要的支持，以帮助您的孩子达到英语水平并能够学习学术方面的内容。学区还需要每年评估学生的英语水平。

如果您认为我们学区没有履行为您的学生提供适当的英语学习者（EL）计划的义务，您有权致电 717-783-6595 向州教育部提出投诉或在 [PDE 网站](#) 提出课程不足的投诉。