February 28, 2013

Re: CELDT Results Parent Notification Letter

Dear Parents or Guardians of:

Student Name: ___________________________________
Address: _________________________________________
City, State, Zip: ___________________________________

State and federal laws require all school districts in California to give a state test of English proficiency each year to every student who has previously been identified as an English learner. In California, the name of this test is the California English Language Development Test (CELDT). The results of the CELDT help to measure how each student is progressing toward proficiency in English in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Your child has been given the CELDT for the current school year, and the results are as follows:

Student Name: ____________________ CELDT Date: _____________
Student ID #: ____________________ Listening: _____________
School: ________________________ Speaking: _____________
Grade: ________________________ Reading: _____________
DOB: ________________________ Writing: _____________
Primary Lang.: _______________ Overall: ______________

English Language Proficiency: ________________

Based on your child’s CELDT results, if his/her English language proficiency is IFEP (Initial Fluent English Proficient), it means that your child took the CELDT for the first time and his/her scores met the SBE approved criterion as of May 2001. Therefore, your child will be placed in the district’s general program.

Otherwise, he/she will continue to receive English language instructional support to become more proficient in English for continued success in the school’s academic program which include English Language Development (ELD) and differentiated instructional strategies as detailed in one of the programs below.

**Structured English Immersion (SEI):** Students who score at less than reasonable fluency (CELDT beginning – Early Intermediate) are placed in a SEI program setting and are taught overwhelmingly in English, but may be supported in the students’ primary language. English learners receive instruction in ELD and other core subjects through effective teaching
strategies from trained and authorized teachers using district-adopted textbooks and supplementary instructional materials. Instruction is based on ELD and grade-level content standards.

**English Language Mainstream (ELM):** Students who score at reasonable fluency in English (CELDT Intermediate – Advanced) are placed in an ELM program setting in a classroom. English learners receive instruction in ELD and other core subjects through effective teaching strategies from trained and authorized teachers using district-adopted textbooks and supplementary instructional materials. Instruction is based on ELD and grade-level standards. Students continue to receive additional and appropriate instruction in order to make academic progress and meet the requirements to be reclassified as fluent English proficient (FEP).

**Alternative Program (Alt):** Students with an approved Parental Exception Waiver**** receive core instruction through their primary language and instruction in ELD from trained and authorized teachers using district-adopted textbooks and supplementary instructional materials. Instruction is based on ELD and grade-level standards. Students continue to receive additional and appropriate instruction in order to make academic progress and meet the requirements to be reclassified as fluent English proficient (FEP). If parents of 20 or more students in one grade level at the same school request the alternative program the school is required to provide the program.

**** California state law gives parents the right to request that their child be placed in an Alternative Program. To place your child in such a program, you must personally visit your child’s school to apply for a parental exception waiver each year, and he/she must meet one of the following criteria: a) knows English and performs academically at least at 5th grade level, b) is 10 years of age or older, or c) is a student under 10 years of age, has been placed in an English language classroom for 30 calendar days, and special needs exist.

As you look at your child’s CELDT results for this year, it is important to remember that these results are only one measure of your child’s progress toward English language fluency. Keep in mind other measures such as the California Standards Test (CST) in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics or the California Modified Assessment and current curriculum embedded assessments will also be used to assess the student’s progress.

You are invited to request a conference at school where your child’s CELDT results and instructional program will be explained. To schedule a conference, please call your child’s school.

Also, you are encouraged to be involved in your child’s education. You are welcome to volunteer at the school and to participate on the school’s English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC). If you have any questions regarding the CELDT or your child’s instructional placement, or if you wish to observe the classroom, please contact your child’s school office during school hours.

Sincerely,

Kao Lee, Management Information Technician