



LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Federal Programs/ELL

P.O. Box 82889 • Lincoln, NE 68501-2889 • (402) 436-1988 Fax • (402) 436-1929

Notice of Progress for Title III District Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives November 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian(s)

Your child is currently enrolled in an English language development program to help to increase his or her ability to speak, read, write, and understand English, and to achieve high academic standards. The objective of this program is to make annual increases in the number or percentage of students who:

- Make progress in learning English,
- Attain English proficiency by the end of the school year, and
- Meet Annual Performance Targets on required Reading and Math state assessments.

It is also our goal to keep you informed regarding student progress within the English language development program. Based upon a review of test results of all eligible students enrolled in the program, the following progress was made toward achieving annual program objectives

Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs)	Met	Not Met
Progress in learning English	✓	
Attained English proficiency	✓	
Met Annual Performance Target		✓

These scores represent a group of students learning English as a new language, not your child individually. In the attachment following this letter you will find answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about AMAOs. For information about how you can be an active participant in helping your child learn English and meet challenging academic standards, or if you have questions about your child's progress please contact the person below.

Name: Laura Salem, Curriculum Specialist **Phone:** 402-436-1982 **Email:** lsalem@lps.org

We appreciate your interest and involvement in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Linda Hix, Director
Federal Programs/ELL
402-436-1989, lhix@lps.org

إذا أردتم المساعدة باللغة العربية ، الرجاء الإتصال على الرقم الآتي : 402-436-1958

Si necesita ayuda en español, no dude en llamar a uno de nuestros Asesores Académicos Bilingües. 402-436-1938

Nếu Quý vị cần trợ giúp bằng tiếng việt, xin gọi Điện Thoại cho nhân-viên Liên-Đới Song Ngữ: 402-436-1939

Если Вам требуется помощь на русском языке позвоните ответственному по связям со школой 402-436-1942

English Language Learners in Nebraska School Districts

Question: How do school districts help children learn English when English is not their first language?

Under the law, schools must help the children learn English. This can be done by providing special programs such as:

- English Language Learner Programs:
 - Students may be in special classes to help them learn English for everyday language and to help them in their classes.
 - Classroom teachers may be using special teaching strategies to help the students learn English while they are also learning their classroom subjects.
- Bilingual or Dual Language Programs:
 - Students may be in classes where the subjects are taught in English and the child's first language. This helps the children continue to learn their first language while they also learn English.

Question: How do school districts know if the students are learning English?

- Teachers will continue to assess how students are learning English using classroom assignments, grades, quizzes, tests and so forth.
- The school district must also give an English language test to make sure English learners are making progress in becoming fluent in the English language. This test determines how well students can read, write, speak, and understand English.

Question: After the students are given the English language tests, what kind of information is reported?

- The school district receives the testing results for each **individual** student. This is one way that helps them keep track of how each student is progressing in learning English. It also shows how the district is doing in helping **all** children who are English language learners.
- In addition, the Nebraska State Department of Education sets yearly goals (Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives; which are also called AMAOs) for English language learners in the following areas:
 - The number of students making progress in learning English
 - The number of students becoming proficient in English
 - The number of English language learners scoring as proficient on tests of Reading and Mathematics

Question: What happens if school districts do not meet these language goals?

- If the goals have not been met for one year, the school district must tell the parents.
- If the goals have not been met for two years in a row, the school district must tell the parents and develop a plan to help meet these goals.