

Dillon School District 3

Parental Notification of Student Placement in the English for Speakers for Other Languages (ESOL) Program

To the Parent or Guardian of: _____
Last Name First Name Middle Initial

School _____ Grade ____ Date _____

Your child’s English proficiency has been measured using the English Language Development Assessment (ELDA) or another approved diagnostic test such as the Language Assessment Survey (LAS). Results show that your child is eligible to receive assistance from the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program. Your child’s fluency in English is at the level checked below:

- _____ Prefunctional (uses only languages other than English)
- _____ Beginner
- _____ Intermediate
- _____ Advanced
- _____ Fluent English (not always at grade level; still can receive academic support and accommodations)

Your child will receive _____ minutes per week of English instruction in reading, writing, listening, and speaking with an ESOL or mainstream teacher using the following models of instruction:

- ESOL pull-out group _____ ESOL class(es) for credit _____
- Structured Immersion _____ ESOL Push-In _____

ESOL classes provide instruction appropriate to the child’s needs and abilities. Most students exit the ESOL program within three to five years, and are expected to graduate from high school at the same rate as mainstream students. Students who qualify for special education or other special services receive those services in addition to ESOL. ESOL teachers will coordinate with special education instructors to fully implement Individual Education Plans (IEP).

When your child’s test results on the English Language Development Assessment (ELDA) are “fluent,” and other factors such as school grades and work samples indicate that he or she is able to achieve academically without direct ESOL support, your child will be fully mainstreamed. Years in ESOL depend on the initial level of proficiency, motivation, and other factors.

You, as parent(s), have the right to immediately refuse ESOL service. Your child will be removed from the ESOL program upon receipt of the waiver form. While mainstream teachers will strive to meet the needs of your child, they may not be able to fully meet his or her academic needs without ESOL support. Bilingual instruction is not available in the Dillon 3 School District.

Parents have the right to express opinions and voice concerns about any educational services your child is receiving. Please contact _____ at _____ to do this.

Your child has been placed in the _____ grade, and will receive instruction from regular teacher(s) in regular classes when he or she is not receiving ESOL instruction. Attached is a description of the ESOL program available to your child at his or her school. If you would like more information, please contact _____ at _____ to arrange an appointment.

Dillon School District 3 English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Program Instructional Models

Your child will receive the type of instruction checked below:

	1. ESOL Pull-Out	Minutes per week	Students are grouped according to language fluency level and grade and are pulled-out from mainstream (regular) classrooms. ESOL teachers collaborate with main-stream teachers to teach language and skills so that they succeed in their regular classes. Students are not penalized for work missed in their regular classes.
	2. ESOL Special Areas Class	Minutes per week	Students receive ESOL instead of exploratory or special areas classes. They do not miss core academic work such as language arts, math, science, and social studies, but they may miss subjects such as art, music, and physical education.
	3. ESOL Exploratory Class	Minutes per week	Students receive ESOL instead of exploratory classes in art, music, home arts (cooking and sewing). They do not miss core academic work such as language arts, math, science, and social studies.
	4. ESOL Elective Course for Credit	Minutes per week	Students are not pulled out of any other classes. They receive __ elective credits that count towards graduation. They receive grades on their report cards. Homework and class work are adjusted according to their level of fluency. They may receive between .5 and 6 elective credits in ESOL.
	5. ESOL English for Core Credit	Minutes per week	Students take the ESOL Sheltered English class instead of the regular English courses until they are able to succeed in regular English classes. ESOL teachers who are also certified in secondary English teach this class. Essential standards and objectives taught in mainstream English classes are modified so that students may transition to mainstream English classes.
	6. Other:	Minutes per week	Description:

ESOL classes integrate language skills with content-based learning and are based on broad themes so that students learn academic information, English skills, and learning strategies that will enable them to be successful in mainstream classes. Whenever possible, ESOL teachers select themes that are common to mainstream classes. Activities within a typical theme-based unit include reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

Occasional bilingual input may be used to help students comprehend material if an ESOL teacher speaks that language or if a more English fluent student speaks the same language. English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) is the official model used by the ESOL Program.

Your child's English proficiency will be assessed every year. Your child will exit the ESOL Program following State Department of Education guidelines.