PROGRAMS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

I. The District shall provide a quality, non-biased program for students who possess limited or no command of the English language. The purpose of this program is for these students to improve their level of English proficiency which will enable them to achieve to the best of their abilities. The program shall include the following elements:

   A. identification of limited English language learner (ELL) students;
   B. assessment of the student’s abilities;
   C. programming format;
   D. assessment of student progress; and
   E. program exit procedures.

II. The District believes that four language skills contribute most to the desired proficiency in English language skills for ELL students in the classroom: reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

III. The language proficiency of ELL students shall be assessed using Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) approved English proficiency assessment instrument and students shall be classified by language group, grade level, age, and English language proficiency. Personnel shall obtain other pertinent information regarding these students as well.

IV. The result of both State-required tests and alternate assessments shall be used consistent with District policies and State guidelines in making instructional, promotion, and graduation decisions. Test results may not be used as the sole criteria in re-classifying an ELL student from a bilingual-bicultural education program or in determining grade promotion, eligibility for course or programs, eligibility for graduation or eligibility for participation in postsecondary education opportunities. Exemption of an ELL student from taking a State-required test may also not be used as the sole criteria for making such determinations.

V. State requirements will be followed, and precautions shall be taken to avoid exiting these students prematurely from their program. Pre-determined criteria and procedures shall serve as the determining factors for making decisions regarding completion of programs.

To meet State law requirements, the Board shall establish a bilingual-bicultural program when a sufficient number of students are identified as having limited English proficiency and are of the same language group.
Legal References:
Sections 115.96, 115.97, 118.13, 118.30 Wis. Stats.
PI 13, Wis. Adm. Code
No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

Cross References:
Board Policy 2261 – Title I Services
Board Policy 2260 – Nondiscrimination – Access to Equal Educational Opportunities
Board Policy 2623 – Student Assessment

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Revised: 3/12/15

The Port Washington-Saukville School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Special Services, Port Washington-Saukville School District, 100 W. Monroe Street, Port Washington, WI 53074 - Duane.Woelfel@pwssd.k12.wi.us