Office of English Learner (EL) Services



How We Serve the Division

- Provide guidance and support to schools in meeting the needs of EL students and complying with federal and state law.
- Register students who have a language other than English spoken in the home, assess for English proficiency, evaluate transcripts from countries outside the United States, and connect families with community resources and services.
- Provide training, coaching, and support to teachers in assisting EL students with language acquisition and in promoting success in the general education curriculum.
- Coordinate translation/interpretation services and dual language programs for ACPS.

Major Responsibilities:

- Ensure compliance with federal and state regulations related to EL students.
- Register, assess for English language proficiency, determine EL program eligibility, and provide community resource information for linguistically and culturally diverse families.
- Provide coaching, professional learning, and instructional support for teachers of EL students.
- Coordinate language access services and dual language programs for ACPS.



Dr. Bethany Nickerson, Executive Director

703-619-8334

bethany.nickerson@acps.k12.va.us

Services Available to Schools

- Instructional strategies capacity building for teachers of EL students
- Observation, modeling, coaching, and support to teachers of EL students, using the EL Best Practices Framework
- Support for implementation of culturally responsive teaching and learning practices, cooperative learning structures and Guided Language Acquisition Design (GLAD)
- Training in implementation of English Language Development curricula for EL students: Accelerated Academic Language (AAL) at the elementary level and English for Academic Purposes (EAP) at the secondary level
- Integrated professional learning and support for teachers of ELs, designed in collaboration with content area specialists, specialized instruction and other partner providers
- Analysis and use of Access for ELLs language proficiency data
- Strategic scheduling of services for EL students
- Strategies to foster collaboration between co-teaching pairs
- Collaborative analysis of problems of practice and development of solutions