

# EL Parent Newsletter

January - February

## Quote

*"Cultural differences should not separate us from each other, but rather cultural diversity brings a collective strength that can benefit all of humanity." ~Robert Alan*



## Important Dates:

January 4th, 2023  
School Resumes

January 13th-16th  
**No School for Students-** Professional Learning Day/  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February 20th, 2023  
**No School-** President's Day

January 30th - March 24th, 2023  
**OELPA Testing Begins**

## Tips for Homework Help !!

Homework Tips for Parents of ELs Homework is important for students and their academic success, but helping children with homework can be difficult – especially if you are still learning English. Here are some ways you can make homework easier for everyone – and remember that your involvement is the key to your child's success, no matter what language you are using!

### **The homework routine :**

Help your child get organized Help your child pick out a special homework notebook or folder, and make sure your child has homework supplies, such as:

- pencils
- pens
- writing paper
- a dictionary

**Get into a routine:** Set a regular time for homework every day, and look for a homework area with good lighting. Help your child get into the habit of getting homework done before doing other activities.

**Limit distractions:** Turn off the TV and video games, and restrict phone calls and texting during homework time. If your child is using the computer for homework, check in periodically to make sure he is getting homework done.

## **OELPA Time!!**

The OELPA is an online test (paper is available for students who cannot test online). EL teachers will schedule time and provide appropriate equipment to administer the OELPA. The Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA) is the state summative test used to determine an English learner's proficiency level and to exit from the English language program. The OELPA is required for all English learners in addition to Ohio's State Tests. Districts may administer the OELPA any time during the test administration window and in any order. OELPA has four parts: Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing.

## **Test Taking Tips:**

### **PARENTS:**

- \* Make sure your children have eaten well on test days. Studies suggest that good nutrition is related to improved attention and concentration.
- \* Help your children by encouraging a good night's rest before exams. Children who are tired will have difficulty focusing on their work.
- \* Make the morning of test days pleasant. Stress will impair your children's ability to perform their best.
- \* Remind your children to dress comfortably, perhaps in layers, so that they are able to adjust to the temperature in the room.
- \* Ensure that your children make it to school on-time so that they do not miss any instructions and are allowed ample time to settle in and relax before the test begins.
- \* Have students attend school regularly and be on time every day.

### **STUDENTS:**

- \* Come to school prepared, rested, and ready to learn every day.
- \* Get a good night's sleep the night before the test.
- \* Eat a good breakfast before the test.
- \* Read/listen to the directions carefully. If something is unclear, ask for clarification.
- \* Read every possible answer--the best one could be last.
- \* If you get stuck on a question, mark it and move on. You can come back to it later.
- \* Make sure to record the answer in the correct place on the answer sheet.
- \* Only change an answer if you are sure the first one you picked was wrong. Be sure to completely erase changed answers.
- \* After completion of the test, use any remaining time to check your answers.
- \* Keep a good attitude. Think positively!

