

ELL English Language Learners

English Language Learner (ELL) services are provided for students who speak languages other than English at home. The goal is to provide English language support for students who may not have an adult in the home who can help with English class work, or who may not have the opportunity to speak much English at home. ELL services provide students further opportunities to practice speaking and learning English in a comfortable environment, with peers who are also learning English and may also speak their native language.

Students are identified as ELL based on the Home Language Questionnaire, which asks families six questions about students' primary home language.

Specific skills taught to our ELL students include test-taking strategies, grammar, spelling, reading, writing, speaking and listening. These skills are typically taught through the content areas.

Students exit ELL services upon reaching the following goals:

- A score of 70% or higher on the MCA's for both reading and math
- A score of 5 or higher (on a 6 point scale) on the WIDA assessment of reading, writing, speaking and listening
- ELL teacher's approval that the student is ready to exit ELL
- Core teacher's approval that the student is ready to exit ELL

The ELL department at New City School includes a Bilingual Somali assistant, a Bilingual Spanish assistant, and a full-time ELL teacher.

New City School May 2014