

Sterling Public Schools' Bilingual and ESL

Program Descriptions

BILINGUAL

Sterling Public School's Bilingual Program uses the students' home language, in addition to English, for instruction. Students are grouped according to their first language and teachers must be proficient in both English and the students' home language, if appropriate. Students receive instruction in two languages.

ESL/ELL

Sterling Public School's English as a Second Language (ESL)/English Language Learner (ELL) program teaches English to students from different language backgrounds, teachers do not need to be proficient in the students' home language(s). This specialized instruction designed to assist students whose home language is other than English in attaining English language proficiency.

Eligibility

ENTRANCE PROCESS

1. Students entering Sterling Public Schools for the first time will be administered a home language survey, for the purpose of identifying students of non-English background.
2. Students with a mark of "yes" on any of the questions of the home language survey are administered the English language proficiency screener within 30 days.
3. Students who score a proficiency level other than the targeted level will qualify for language support services. Students who score above the criteria are considered English language proficient.
4. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) must be notified in writing if the student qualifies for services.
5. If parents refuse they must sign a written statement that they are refusing services.

*** Students will not be denied instruction based on their inability to read or write in their home language.**

EXIT PROCESS

Students in Sterling Public Schools' Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade will not be exited except through parent(s)/guardian(s) withdrawal/refusal of services.

1. Students in grade 3 through 12 must achieve an overall composite of 4.8 and a 4.2 literacy proficiency level score or higher on the ACCESS test.
 2. If a student receives a proficient score on the ACCESS test then a majority of that student's teachers must also recommend that student to exit the program. (Emphasis will be placed on the opinion of the student's Bilingual/ESL/ELL teacher) Students who are exited from the Bilingual Program using this manner will be placed on a 3 year watch list.
 3. A student will be exited if the parent(s)/guardian(s) withdrawals/refuses services. If a parent(s)/guardian(s) withdrawals/refuses services they must sign a written statement refusing service.
 4. A student who is of adult age (18) may withdraw or refuse services. If a student withdraws/refuses services they must sign a written statement refusing service.
- **Students who are exited are still eligible to receive assistance through the Bilingual/ESL teacher if needed and may be reenrolled in the program if the district determines they have inadequate command of English and approval is received from the parent(s)/guardian(s).**

Sterling Public Schools' Bilingual and ESL

GRADE LEVEL PROGRAMS AND PERSONNEL

- **Kindergarten – 2nd Grade (Located at Jefferson Elementary)**
 - Kindergarten Teacher—Gina Jacobs* (Bilingual) and Melissa Willis (ESL)
 - 1st Grade Teacher—Elizabeth Cash* (Bilingual) and Christy Houck (ESL)
 - 2nd Grade Teacher—Lettie Arteaga* (Bilingual) Amber Garza (ESL)
- **3rd grade – 5th Grade (Located at Washington School)**
 - Bilingual Teachers—Valerie Hill* (Bilingual) and Christina Mogensen (Bilingual)
- **6th Grade – 8th Grade (Located at Challand Middle School)**
 - Bilingual Teacher- Julia Guerrero* (Bilingual)
- **9th Grade – 12th Grade (Located at Sterling High School)**
 - Bilingual Teacher—Karina Valdez* (Bilingual)

* Denotes staff certified to administer the ACCESS Screener

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND RESOURCES

Ana Salgado

Recruiter/Cross-Cultural Coordinator
Sauk Valley Community College
(ESL, GED, Certificate, Career & Transfer Programs)
173 IL Rt. 2
Dixon, IL
815/835-6432
algada@svcc.edu

Raquel Herrera

YWCA Outreach & Interpretation Program
412 1st Ave.
Sterling, IL 61081
815/625-0333
rherrera@ywsauk.org

Carlos A. Muñoz

Hispanic Resource Coordinator
Northwestern Illinois Center for Independent Living
Center
229 1st Ave. Suite #2
Rock Falls, IL 61071
815-625-7860 ext 13
Carlos@nicil.org

Theresa Hooper & Deborah Jacobs

Whiteside County Family Literacy Partnership
Family Class (English as a Second Language & GED)
Whiteside ROE
1001 West 23rd St.
Sterling, IL
(815) 625-1495

Nancy Vock

Whiteside County Health Department
1300 W. 2nd St.
Rock Falls, Ill.
815/626-2230

Janie Atilano

Hispanic Ministry Coordinator
St. Mary's Catholic Church
600 Ave. B
Sterling, IL
815/626-5735
jatilano@stmary61081.org

Lupita Bonnell

Hispanic Financial Service Representative
Community State Bank
210 W. Third St.
Sterling, IL
lupita.bonnell@commstbk.com

Elvira Brown

Personal Banking Officer
Amcore Bank
Sterling, IL
815-622-1338
elvira.brown@amcore.com

Laura Crawford

Family & Community Service Worker
Tri-County Opportunities Council – Head Start
Program
405 Emmons Avenue, P.O. Box 610
Rock Falls, IL 61071
815/625-7830

Benni Mendoza & Enedina Juarez-Batten

Truancy Caseworker
Whiteside County ROE Truants' Alternative Program
1001 West 23rd St.
Sterling, IL
(815) 625-1495

ANY PARENT INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE BILINGUAL ADVISORY SHOULD CONTACT SANDY ATTEBURY AT (815) 626-5050. THE ADVISORY MEETS ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH. (September-May)