

January 13, 2012

Dear Parents/Guardians:

We would like to inform you that we will begin the annual testing of English as a Second Language for students in grades K-12 who receive direct or consultative ESL services.

The WIDA ACCESS is the test mandated by the State of North Carolina and it is designed to measure a student's English proficiency in four domains: speaking; listening; reading; and writing. The test will be given in three sessions. The speaking portion of the test is one-on-one and takes about 10 minutes. The listening, reading and writing will be given on two separate days and will take about an hour each day.

All four tests will be given during February and March 2012. Teachers and other ESL Program staff will give the tests.

It is important to inform you that all LEP students **receiving or not receiving services** will be included in this evaluation. Only students who have formally been Exited from the ESL program are not evaluated.

We will send you information on your child's WIDA ACCESS results within thirty days of the ESL department receiving the ACCESS results. The ACCESS results are utilized to determine what, if any, ESL Program services will be provided to your child in the 2012-2013 academic year.

If you have any questions regarding the administration of the WIDA ACCESS test, please feel free to contact Wanda Rittenhouse at 919/732-3622, ext. 41907.

Sincerely,

Wanda Rittenhouse  
ESL Program Specialist

Ann Winer  
AIG/AVID/ESL Coordinator

cc: Principals