#### *How will the success of these programs be measured?*

Your child's teacher will regularly measure your child's developing English skills and ability to do other school work in English. Careful testing practices will provide you, your child's teacher and the district with timely, reliable information on your child's progress in learning English and other school subjects.

### How can I get more information about my child's program?

Your child's teacher can answer any questions you may have. You may also talk to the principal or call the district office. Consider joining one of the school's various parent groups. Helpful phone numbers are listed on the back of this brochure.

#### K-6 Report Cards

English Language Development categories explanation:

Phonology - Student knows letters and sounds

**Morphology** - Student understands and demonstrates the use of root words, words within words, verb tenses, suffixes, affixes, etc.

**Lexicon** - Student has a working mental list of words; regularly utilizes words from this list; adding new words all the time to expand knowledge.

**Semantics** - Students understand the meaning of used vocabulary; vocabulary is varied and rigorous.

**Syntax** - Students understand/demonstrate rules of how words work together to create meaning.

School	Principal	Phone	
Luther Elementary Email: pbains@lousd.k1		695-5450	
Live Oak Middle School Email: pvirk@lousd.k12		695-5435	
Live Oak High School Email: awalton@lousd.k		695-5415	
ADVANCED GRAMMAR TAUGHT AT:			
Encinal Elementary Email: mpage@lousd.k1	• 0	695-5458	
Live Oak Alternative Sc Opportunity School Email: ghouston@lousd	Glenn Houston	695-5430	
Independent Study & Valley Oak Continuation Email: awalton@lousd.k	v	695-5430	

District Office	Phone	
Mathew Gulbrandsen	695-5400 ext. 123	
Superintendent		

Superintendent Email: mgulbran@lousd.k12.ca.us

# Instructional Programs for English Learners

2201 Pennington Rd. Live Oak, CA 95953

Phone: 530-695-5400 x 123 Fax: 530-695-5403 E-mail: esaldana@lousd.k12.ca.us

### Instructional Programs for English Learners



### A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Live Oak Unified School District

# What programs does the district offer for students who are learning the English language?

The Live Oak Unified School District offers three programs in which students who are learning English may participate. Consistent with the district's goal of educating every student for success in today's global community, each of these program emphasizes the development of highlevel English language skills and academic achievement. The district's three instructional programs are:

- Accelerated Language Program
- Transitional English Support Program
- Mainstream Program

#### How are students placed in these programs?

The primary consideration for placement in these programs is a student's English language ability. As you can see in the diagram below, each program is designed to help students of different English language abilities. The chart below shows how students are placed.

- Students with minimal English: Accelerated Language Program
- Students with intermediate English: *Transitional English Support Program*
- Students with advanced English: Mainstream Program

#### What is the Accelerated Language Program?

This program is designed to help students learn English as rapidly as possible while at the same time giving them special assistance in learning to read, write, do math, and learn about science and history. This program is for students who need an intensive English learning program. It is designed to last one year and features the provision of specialized English language instruction by teachers who have been specially trained. In this program, your child will receive intensive instruction in English and other subjects. After students have completed this program they are then enrolled in the Transitional English Support Program.

### What is the Transitional English Support Program?

This program is designed for students who have made great progress in learning English but who still need specialized English language development in the area of grammar. In this program students continue to study the English language, along with other subjects like math, social studies and science appropriate to their grade level. These classes are taught by teachers who have special training to make these subjects understandable. The Transitional English Support Program is designed to last a maximum of two years after which students transfer to the Mainstream Program.

#### What is the Mainstream Program?

This program is for students who have grade appropriate English language skills. These students have already passed all of the district criteria to be "reclassified" as Fluent English Proficient (R-FEP). Instruction in this program is at grade level and is designed for students with full proficiency in English. Advanced Grammar skills are taught once students are placed in a mainstream program English class. Contact your child's principal or the district office for more details about Advanced Grammar.

#### How did these new programs come about?

Like many districts in California, the Live Oak Unified School District is always seeking ways of helping students to learn English and do well in other subjects. After careful study and in collaboration with various groups, these three distinct program options will be available at all district sites. The programs were implemented at Luther Elementary and Live Oak Middle School in January of 2009, with full district implementation by 2011. The district's board of trustees fully supports these programs. These programs are also compliant with state and federal laws and guidelines.

### How are these programs different from past years?

In the past, we have provided our English Learners with a combination of ESL (English as a Second Language) and limited instruction in their home language. These approaches were not always successful. Our new programs focus school and district resources on helping students master the foundational English language grammar skills that are necessary for reading and writing in school and in the workplace. The new program began January of 2009, and the students of Live Oak Unified are experiencing great success in acquiring English as their second language.

## How will my child learn English in these programs?

To learn a new language you must study and practice that language. In all of the district's instructional programs for English learners, students are speaking and practicing English every day. After daily lessons with the teacher, student will be encouraged to practice English with friends and other students as they learn subjects, such as math, science and history.

#### How can I support my child's English acquisition and school success in these educational programs?

Parents are a student's first and best teacher, so encourage your child to practice English with others. Practice will speed up the process and give him/her even more confidence. You can also help by showing your child how you use English in your job, with friends, or to accomplish daily tasks. Of course, your child's first language will remain an important part of his/her activities, which the district appreciates and encourages.