



CITY SCHOOLS OF DECATUR

ESOL NEWSLETTER



Issue No. 6 | February

ACCESS Testing: What You Need to Know - Continued



ACCESS for ELLs

ACCESS for ELs testing has started in City Schools of Decatur and is continuing on schedule. Please remember, during testing it is important for students to get a full night's sleep, eat a nutritious breakfast and arrive at school on time.



As a reminder, please see the individual CSD school testing window below.

ACCESS Testing Schedules by Schools

- **Clairemont**
January 24 – February 11
- **Decatur High**
January 25, 26, and 27
- **Fifth Avenue**
January 20 – February 11
- **Glenwood**
January 24 – February 11
- **Oakhurst**
January 20 – February 11
- **Renfroe Middle**
January 25 – February 22
- **Talley Street**
January 20 – February 11
- **Westchester**
January 24 – February 11
- **Winnona Park**
January 25 – February 22

Understanding Your Child's Scores



The Individual Student Report shows your child's ACCESS for ELLs scores in eight different categories. Four of these categories are the language domains of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing. These scores are combined and they make up four additional categories: Oral Language (Listening & Speaking), Literacy (Reading & Writing), Comprehension (Listening & Reading), and Overall (Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing).

Questions You May Ask



- What does this score mean? Who will see this score and how will it be used?
- How do this year's scores compare with previous scores?
- Is my child making progress in building English language skills?
- What other information do you use to measure progress?
- Will this score change the instruction or support my child receives? How do you decide when my child stops receiving language support?

Homework Tips For Parents of English Learners



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!



Need More Information About ACCESS Testing?

You will receive a notification letter from your child's ESOL teacher, informing you about the test and the testing schedule for your child's school.



If you have additional questions please contact your child's ESOL teacher:

- **Janet Arenas** (Winona Park/Renfroe Middle School) jarenas@csdecaur.net
- **Maura Burke** (Decatur High School) mburke@csdecaur.net
- **Alice Gerstel** (Clairemont/Westchester/Glenwood) agerstel@csdecaur.net
- **Alexis Edwards-Williams** (Oakhurst/Talley/FAVE) aedwards-williams@csdecaur.net

Need Information Translated?

Translation for any communication on the CSD website can be done following these 3 easy steps: [How To Translate Information from your School's Website](#)

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, etc.

Get into a routine

- Set a regular time for homework every day, and look for a homework area with good light. 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.

TO BE CONTINUED.....

Highlights and Upcoming Events

REMINDER

CSD Board of Education Meeting

Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Title I Virtual Reading Parent Workshop

- Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The 5:00 p.m. will be a repeat of the 10:00 a.m. (Flyer linked [here](#).)

ESOL & Federal Programs with SouthState – Finance 101: Part 1

- Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. (Flyer linked [here](#).)

Register by Thursday, January 27, 2022.

Registration form linked [here](#).

