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LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

333 South Beaudry Avenue, 25th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90017
Telephone: (213) 241-5582 | Fax: (213) 241-7561

ALBERTO M. CARVALHO
Superintendent

ALISON YOSHIMOTO-TOWERY
Chief Academic Officer

LYDIA ACOSTA STEPHENS
Executive Director

August 15, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the new school year! The Los Angeles Unified School District values the languages and cultures that students bring to our classrooms. The District provides various Master Plan program options for students to achieve academically and learn one or more languages.

State and federal laws require all school districts to give a state test of English proficiency to students whose primary language is not English. In California public schools, all students entering a school for the first time will be assessed with the Initial English Language Proficiency Assessments for California, or “Initial ELPAC,” if upon enrollment the Home Language Survey shows that a language other than English is spoken at home. This assessment will determine if a student is an English Learner or is Initially Fluent English Proficient (IFEP).

Upon initial enrollment of your child, you indicated on the Home Language Survey that a language other than English is spoken at home. Therefore, your child will be administered the Initial ELPAC within the first 30 days of the 2022-23 school year. To ensure academic success, instructional support in English Language Development (ELD) will be provided until your child’s proficiency in English is officially determined through the Initial ELPAC.

Students are tested with the Initial ELPAC on listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Your child’s voice will be recorded as part of the speaking test. All recorded responses will be destroyed after the scores are validated.

You are an important part of your child’s education and can help them get ready for the test. You can:

- Read to your child or have them read to you on a regular basis in any language.
- Use pictures and ask them to tell you what is happening in each picture in any language.

To learn more about the ELPAC, review the California Department of Education’s *Parent Guide to Understanding* at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/ca/documents/elpacpgtu.pdf>. You can also look at sample test questions for the ELPAC practice tests, which can be found on the ELPAC website at <https://www.elpac.org/resources/practicetests/>.

We appreciate your support in determining the right instructional program for your child. If you have any questions about the Initial ELPAC or the English Language Development services provided, please contact your child’s school to discuss your child’s academic journey and instructional program.

Sincerely,

Alison Yoshimoto-Towery
Chief Academic Officer

Lydia Acosta Stephens
Executive Director