

MLL Services @ Jing Mei Elementary School

What is MLL and how do you qualify for MLL services?

MLL stands for Multilingual Learners. Families whose response to Question 2 or 3 on the Home Language Survey includes a language other than English are eligible to take the screener to determine the level of English proficiency. If your child is in Grade K and 1, s/he must achieve an overall score of 4.5 and a minimum of a 4 in each domain (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) to be determined ineligible for services. If your child is in Grade 2-12, s/he must achieve an overall score of 5 and a minimum of a 4 in each domain to be determined ineligible for services. (For more information about the screener assessment itself, please visit: <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/screener>)

What is WIDA?

Washington State has adopted the [WIDA English Language Development Standards](#) and will transition into using the new standards and related assessment in the 2021-2022 school year. WIDA is a 40-state consortium that promotes educational equity for multilingual learners through language development standards and assessment. During mid-winter and early spring, WIDA ACCESS for ELLs Online, a computer-based adaptive test that responds to student performance is given to all MLLs. This annual assessment measure students' English language proficiency, both knowledge and skills, in reading, listening, writing, and speaking. Results from this test determine which students remain eligible to continue receiving MLL services.

What does MLL service look like at Jing Mei?

K-2nd students who qualify as MLL will receive the same English instruction as non-qualifying MLLs. They will have 120 minutes of English instruction per week (please see our Dual Language Model in the About -> Mandarin Dual Language section); in 2nd Grade, that time increases to roughly 200 minutes per week. 3rd -5th students receive 50% English and 50% Chinese language instruction.

How do I ensure my MLL student is on track for English language development?

Jing Mei teachers are highly qualified to teach in both Mandarin Chinese and English. We align our English instruction with the Common Core State Standards (<http://www.corestandards.org/>) and the [WIDA English Language Standards Framework](#). Bilingualism and biliteracy is a pillar for Dual Language Education and we strive to provide best practices for instruction in both languages. Please refer to the Can-Do statements to create language goals for your students. Research by Cummins (1996) indicate that it can take an MLL 5-7 years to reach the same level of English proficiency as his or her age-equivalent peers in non-dual language programs

We believe in giving students equal opportunity to receive high-quality instruction. We affirm student identity, promote additive bilingualism through the dual language program, and structure our work for integration of all voices. Please contact Xing Wei, MLL Facilitator, (weix@bsd405.org) or Tina Bogucharova (Bogucharovat@bsd405.org) if you have further questions about MLL services.