**Draft**

Sample Parent Notification Letter

(Print on school letterhead.)

**­­**

To the parent(s)/guardian(s) of: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Primary Language: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**English Learner (EL) Identification**

Under Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964*, U.S. schools are required to identify English Learners (ELs) and assess their English proficiency level in order to provide language instruction educational program (LIEP) services. A language other than English has been indicated on your student’s enrollment documents. Therefore, an English language proficiency screening assessment was administered to your student:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**English Language Proficiency Screening or**

**ACCESS for ELLs Assessment Results**

Based on your student’s score of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, he/she is designated an English Learner (EL) and is eligible to receive LIEP services.

Your student’s English language proficiency is identified as:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **√** | **Student’s English proficiency level** |
|  | **1** | **Entering** |
|  | **2** | **Emerging**  |
|  | **3** | **Developing** |
|  | **4** | **Expanding** |

A general description of each English language proficiency level according to the WIDA Performance Definitions is listed below:

WIDA Performance Definitions
[Listening and Reading](http://www.doe.mass.edu/ell/curriculum/definitions.pdf) – Grades K-12

[Speaking and Writing](https://wida.wisc.edu/sites/default/files/resource/Performance-Definitions-Expressive-Domains.pdf) – Grades K-12

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1**  | **Entering** | * words, phrases, or chunks of language;
* single words to represent ideas;
* general content-related words and everyday social or instructional phrases;
* simple questions or declarative sentences; and
* simple grammatical constructions and single statements or questions.
 |
| **2** | **Emerging** | * multiple related simple sentences or phrases;
* emerging expression of ideas;
* compound or formulaic grammatical structures with repetitive sentence patterns across content areas;
* general content words and expressions including cognates; and
* social and instructional words and expressions across content areas.
 |
| **3** | **Developing** | * short and some expanded sentences with emerging complexity;
* related ideas specific to particular content area;
* compound and some complex grammatical constructions;
* specific content-area language and expressions; and
* words and expressions with multiple meanings across content areas.
 |
| **4** | **Expanding** | * short, expanded, and some complex sentences
* organized expression of ideas with emerging cohesion related to a particular content area;
* compound and complex grammatical constructions;
* specific and some technical content-area language; and
* words and expressions with multiple meanings using collocations and idioms across content areas.
 |

**Language Instruction Educational Program (LIEP)**

The goal of LIEP services is to assist ELs in becoming fully proficient in English and meeting the same challenging state content standards as all other students are expected to meet.

***Insert a description of your school division’s LIEP model(s) including:***

* ***The method of instruction used in the program in which the child is, or will be, participating, and the methods of instruction used in other available programs, including how the programs differ in content, instruction goals, and the use of English in instruction.***
* ***How the program in which their child is, or will be, participating will meet the educational strengths and needs of their child.***
* ***How the program will specifically help their child learn English and meet age appropriate academic standards for grade promotion and graduation.***

***(See Title I/Title III Notification Requirements for LEP Parents document posted on the VDOE Title III Web page)***

**Exit Requirements**

School divisions in Virginia use the ACCESS for ELLs assessment to determine the English language proficiency of EL students. The four language domains of listening, speaking, reading, and writing are incorporated into the state’s definition of “proficient” in English through the WIDA**®** English Language Development (ELD) standards.

ELs will be considered proficient when they earn a composite score of 4.4 or above on the ACCESS for ELLs assessment. ELs who have met the proficiency criteria will be considered former EL for two years, during which time their academic achievement will be monitored.

**Expected Rate of Graduation**

School divisions may choose to use the state or school division four-year on-time cohort graduation rate for high school students.

**EL Students with Disabilities**

If your student is determined to have a disability, LIEP services will be provided in coordination with your student’s Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or a 504 Plan plan.

**Parent Rights**

Parents have the right to: 1) “opt-out” the student from LIEP services at any time during the school year; 2) re-enroll the student in LIEP services at any time during the school year; and 3) choose other LIEP models [if available] for the student with the assistance of [INSERT NAME OF SCHOOL DIVISION].

*󠆶* ***I consent to my student’s placement in LIEP services.***

*󠆶* ***I do not consent to my student’s placement in LIEP services.***

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

***Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian Date***

**For parents who “opt-out” the student from LIEP services, please provide contact information so division/school staff can contact you to discuss alternative program options.**

**Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**School division staff are available to meet with you to discuss your student’s LIEP placement and educational program options at any time. We strongly encourage you to contact us if you have any questions. Interpretation services are available at your request. Please contact the division/school contact person listed below:**

**Name of school/division contact: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please contact Stacy Freeman, Title III Specialist, with any questions about the parent notification letter or process at 804-371-0778 or** **Stacy.Freeman@doe.virginia.gov****.**