



Multilingual Learners Newsletter

August 2023

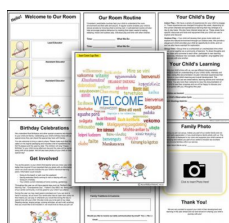
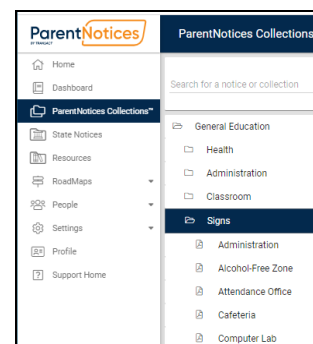
Rule 15: Welcoming and Identifying English Learners



Nebraska State guidance in [Rule 15](#) states that all districts have a home language survey and a valid and reliable English language proficiency assessment to ensure that all students who have a language other than English have an equal opportunity to achieve academically. While not all districts in Nebraska currently have students who are English learners, ALL school districts need to have a plan in place.

When new students arrive, how are they welcomed? The [Rule 15 Canvas Course](#) has a section dedicated to welcoming English learners. When students feel welcomed, they develop

a sense of belonging and want to be in school. A little preparation and an awareness of translation resources can be a great way to welcome students and families. Some ideas for welcoming English learners and their families include a welcome booklet with pictures of important places and people in the school, translated copies of important documents, and building tours with signage in multiple languages. (Check out [TransACT ParentNotices](#)).



Additional ideas might include pictures of elective courses that students can choose, interview questions (Sample [4-S Questions](#)) that provide more information for teachers about the students, and helping all staff learn a few key phrases in multiple languages.

Students and families feel welcomed and respected when their previous course work is recognized. [ValidateMe!](#) is a resource that can assist in this area.



Students feel welcomed when they enter the classroom and the teacher has a smile, has a place for them to sit, and possibly a student partner to help them. Lunch can be a scary time for a new student at any age. It is extremely welcoming when there is a plan for the new student to have someone help them and sit with them during lunch. Paying attention to these details will go a long way in welcoming new English learners to your school.



Spotlight:. Allyson DenBeste

*New Role - NDE Academic Officer and Office Administrator for Teaching and Learning



Congratulations to Allyson as she embarks on her new role at the NDE! As the new Academic Officer and Office Administrator, Allyson will provide leadership to digital learning, statewide assessment, and content area standards and instruction within the state. While we will miss Allyson as the Title III Director, we know that she will continue to advocate for these students in her new role. She will continue to be a valuable asset at NDE and we are so grateful for her leadership! We wish Allyson all the best in her new position!

Guidance: [Nebraska Rule 15](#), section 009.01 Each school district shall comply with the provisions of this Chapter as a condition for accreditation under 92 NAC 10. Failure of a school district to comply with this Chapter shall be treated as if it were a violation of a provision of 92 NAC 10, and may subject the district to loss of accreditation as provided in that Chapter.

Parent and Family Engagement Opportunity with the Family Leadership Institute (FLI) Through Project ASSETS

- Our next session begins October 5th - for details, check out the Flyers ([English](#), [Spanish](#))



NAELPA Webinar: Leading your District EL Program to a Strong Start



August 8, 2023
3:00 CT, 2:00 MT
Register for this free Webinar!
bit.ly/NAELPAQ3Webinar

Additional Resources:

- [Home Language Survey \(HLS in Multiple Languages\)](#)
- ELPA21 Screener, see the [NDE EL Website](#)
- [Implementation Guide for Rule 15](#)
- US Department of Education [Newcomer Toolkit](#) (Updated June, 2023)
- A Binational Symposium was held on June 29, 2023. See an [article](#) (pdf) about it!



Questions: Please contact us with any questions or concerns regarding your MLL students or program.



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