



ELPA21 Parent Information

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Between February 13 and March 9, your student will be taking the English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century also known as ELPA21®.

The ELPA21 is an online assessment that is designed to measure the performance of English language learners as they progress through their K–12 education and achieve college and career readiness. The ELPA21 items are designed to gather evidence that students are progressing toward or meeting the English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards. These standards, highlight and amplify the critical language, knowledge about language, and skills using language in all content areas.

Information gained from the ELPA21 helps teachers identify a student’s strengths and identify areas that may need additional emphasis. The assessment data enables sound decision making and provides a focus for teachers to review and improve their instruction.

All ELLs in the state of Iowa are required to take ELPA21 on an annual basis including students whose parents/guardians have waived ELL services. The results of the assessment will help prepare your student for the next step on their educational path.

If you have any questions about the ELPA21, please contact your school’s ELL teacher.

Benefits of the ELPA21 Assessment:

- Measures language development in listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and identifies strengths and weaknesses in these areas
- Measures growth from year to year on a common scale
- Measures performance compared to other students across the district and nation



Think. Learn. **Grow.**

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