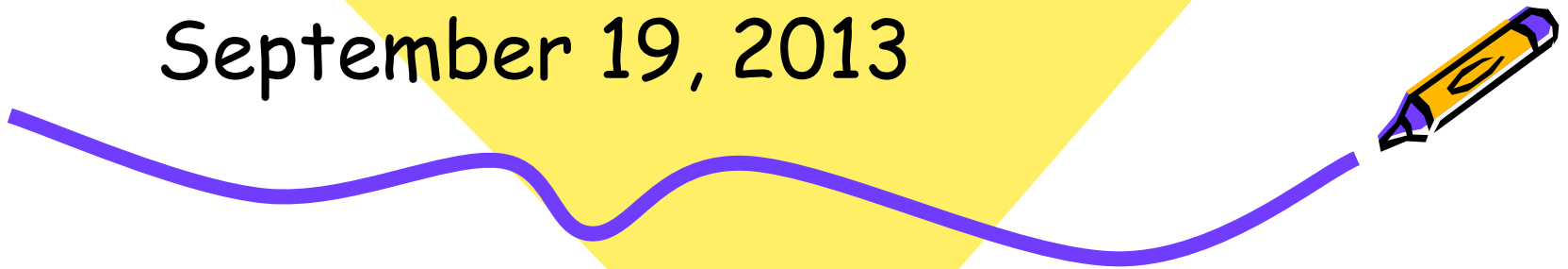


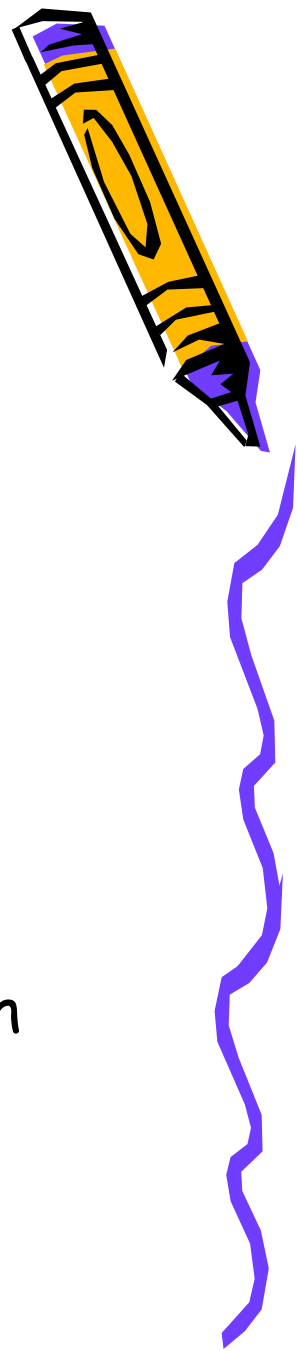
English as a Second Language & Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee Meeting

September 19, 2013



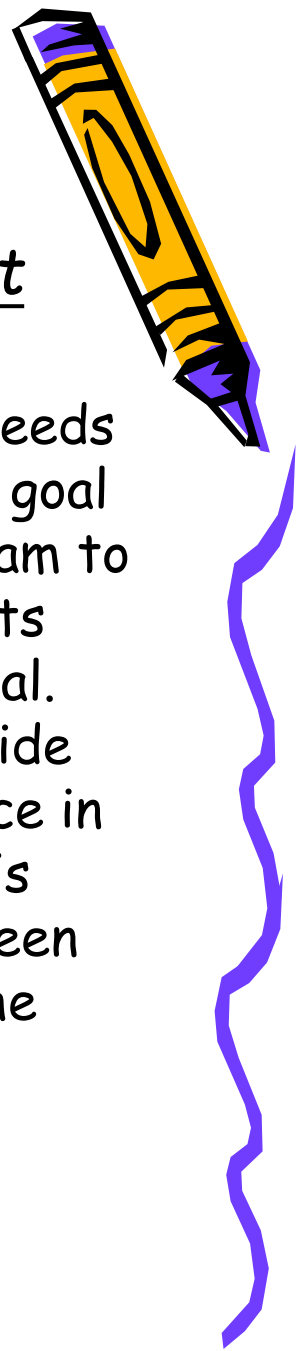
Welcome!

Introductions:



- **Brian Latwis**- supervisor of Pupil Personnel Services
- **Amy Dolan**- ESL Teacher at Pre-k, Bolger Middle School and Keansburg High School
- **Michele DeVirgilio**- ESL Teacher at Pre-K and Caruso
- **Clare Russo**- ESL Teacher at Port Monmouth Road School
- **Monica Kolesa**- Bilingual Teacher at Port Monmouth Road School





- Parent Advisory Committee Mission Statement

The Keansburg School District is striving to meet the needs of its increasingly diverse student population. It is the goal of the English as a Second Language and Bilingual program to provide our students and their families with the supports that the students require to reach their fullest potential. The parent advisory committee was established to provide the parents of limited English proficient students a voice in the development and review of program objectives. This committee also serves to disseminate information between the Board of Education and the community served by the ESL education program.



Our ESL & Bilingual Program



- The Keansburg ESL program has students in each school in the district.
- Students are initially identified for this service or the bilingual classroom if a language other than English is spoken at home or if the student has a native language other than English. This information is obtained from the language survey filled out when the student registers in the school.
- One of the ESL teachers will administer a screener test to evaluate the student's level of English. If the student is eligible he or she will receive ESL or ESL/bilingual services daily.



Our Bilingual Program



The Bilingual Education Act (N.J.S.A. 18A:35-15 and P.L. 1974, c.197) was enacted to ensure that students of limited English proficiency (LEP), are provided instruction in their native language in order to develop academic skills while acquiring English language skills.

Our district has a large and growing population of native Spanish speakers so we are trying to fulfill the needs of these students by providing them with bilingual instruction. Currently our bilingual program provides services to kindergarten Spanish-speaking students and First and Second ~~grades~~ ^{grades} who are still acquiring English language skills.



- Research has shown that students who are instructed in their native languages have a high success rate throughout their educational careers. A recent study by George Mason University recognized the benefits of native language instruction. The researchers, who studied the performance of more than 40,000 LEP students over 13 years, concluded the following: LEP students who receive English-only instruction take 7-10 years to catch up to their English-speaking peers in all subjects; however, students taught in their native language, with some instruction in English, reach and exceed their peers in all subjects after 4-7 years in a bilingual program. This is half the time as an English-only program. (COLLIER, VIRGINIA P. 1992. "A Synthesis of Studies Examining Long-Term Language Minority Student Data on Academic Achievement." *Bilingual Research Journal* 16 (1&2) 187-212.)

- The goals of our bilingual program are: to enhance fluency in both languages, English and Spanish, as well as a development in subject knowledge **while** students are improving their English skills.

- Students will transition out of the program by receiving partial bilingual instruction when their English skills have further improved or possibly the following year if their level of English is not at a certain level.



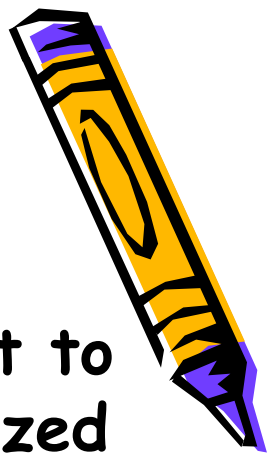
WIDA ACCESS for ELLS test

- Once a year the state requires the district to administer the ACCESS for ELLs standardized test to every ESL student. This test monitors each student's progress in speaking, listening, reading and writing English.

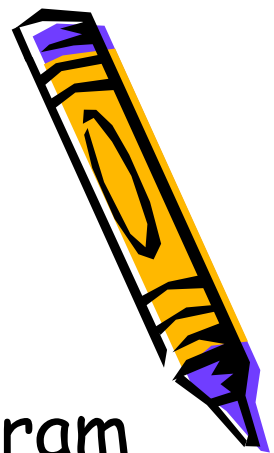
The ACCESS for ELLs will either be given to a small group of students at a time or individually depending on the grade level requirements.

This year, the ESL teachers will begin administering this test the week of March 3rd and complete them before April 18th.

The results of this test will be sent to each parent the following September.



Exit the ESL/Bilingual Program



- A student exits the ESL/ Bilingual Program when one or more of the following criteria are met:
 - » Score on the ACCESS test
 - » Classroom performance
 - » Reading Ability
 - » Performance on other standardized tests
 - » Teaching Staff Recommendations



Parental Involvement



It is very important that you as a parent are involved and informed about every aspect of your child's education. Research has shown that students' education and success is greatly influenced by parent involvement.

We encourage you to attend parent conferences and read all information sent home. The school website provides you with the school calendar, this shows the dates of report cards and parent/teacher conferences. Other important information will be sent home in your child's Thursday folder each week.

If you have access to a computer, each school in the district has a website, <http://www.keansburg.k12.nj.us/> which lists all events that are going on both in school and after school for that month. If you ever have a question about any event please send in a note or contact your child's classroom teacher or one of us.



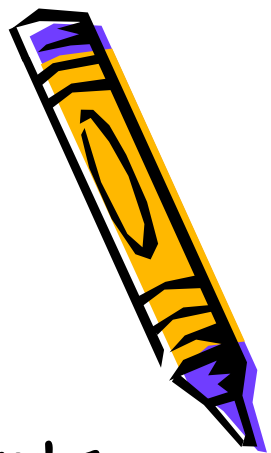
Arrival Procedures

Arrival procedures:

Morning program: There is a morning program open for all students. Students may arrive between 7:05-7:30. These students remain in the library until 8:15 with teacher supervision.

At 8:11 the school doors open and remain open until 8:30.

If your child arrives after 8:30 you must go with them to the office, they will be considered late and will get a late pass to go to class.



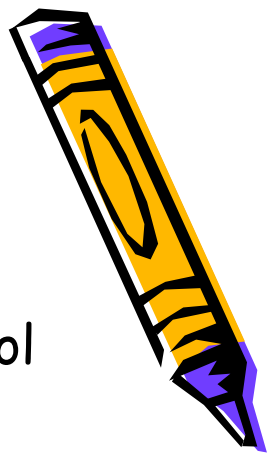
Attendance

Absence from school is discouraged since it may affect the education of your child. If your child is absent the school requires a note from the doctor/dentist or it will not be considered excused.

Each child is permitted to be absent 12 times in a year then a note will be sent home requiring the parents to go to court.

If you need to bring your child to a doctor or dentist for a regular checkup, it is recommended that you sign your child out of school during the day so he or she does not miss a full day and be considered absent.

Each child is permitted 5 early dismissals or late arrivals before that is counted as an absence.



Should you ever have an issue that the ESL/
Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee could help
you with please feel free to contact one of the
ESL teachers at any time. We always appreciate
your input. We feel that you as parents have
valuable information that could improve our
program and your child's education.



Should you have a question about the program or a
service please contact Brian Latwis at Pupil
Personnel Services at (732)787-2007 ext. 3300.

We thank you for being involved in your
child's education.

Please continue to help them succeed!

