



March 15, 2021

Dear English Language Learning Students and Parents/Guardians:

The Illinois State Board of Education has scheduled the ACCESS for ELLs assessment for this school year. While we understand that this year is unique, state, and federal mandates are requiring all school districts to administer this assessment.

All identified Arbor Park ELL Students in kindergarten to 8th grade will be participating in testing beginning this week and concluding at the end of April. The ACCESS for ELLs assessment measures students' English language proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Beginning this week, families who have selected remote status will be contacted by a district staff member to schedule an appointment for your child to participate in the testing. We are asking families to bring their child to Kimberly Heights School on the date and time that has been scheduled. Your child will not be marked absent from their classes at their schools the date of their testing, nor will they be penalized for the testing day assignments.

Students who are currently attending school in person will have their assessment administered while in school.

- **Arbor Park Middle School** students will participate in testing during school hours on Thursday March 18th.
- **Kimberly Heights and Scarlet Oak** students will participate in the administration of their assessment during school hours starting on March 22nd.
- **Morton Gingerwood School** will participate in testing beginning April 19th.

We appreciate your support and understanding as we continue to modify procedures that are currently in place. Students and parents should note that while the information contained in this letter is accurate as of today, our school year is subject to additional guidance from the state and these details can change at any moment.

Testing Conditions for Remote Students:

Upon arrival to Kimberly Heights School, 6141 Kimberly Drive, parents/students will ring the bell at Door 1. The school nurse will greet families and will conduct symptom screening which includes a temperature check and symptom survey. If a student answers yes to any of the symptom screening questions, they will not be allowed in the school.

Face masks that cover both the nose and mouth are required the entire time the student is on campus. Students should bring all needed materials including their tech device, charger, and headphones.

Districtwide cleaning and disinfection plans will continue to be in place to ensure the safety of all students and staff. During this testing, tables in all locations will be spaced appropriately to maintain six feet of distance.

Please note that only the student will be allowed to enter the school. Parents will be given a time at which they should return for pick up.

Test Preparation

Information on test practice and sample items can be found here: [ACCESS Test Practice](https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/access/preparing-students/practice) <https://wida.wisc.edu/assess/access/preparing-students/practice>. Students who score a 4.8 overall or higher will be exited from services. Assessment results are received in August by the district at which time we will send parents their individual child's report.

Your cooperation in ensuring we meet federal requirements is greatly appreciated.

Please contact your child's ELL teacher if you have questions or concerns regarding this information.

Kind Regards,
Eliza Lopez
Multilingual Program Director