

## **Working with Limited English Proficient (LEP) Students**

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Did you know that in Broward County the LEP population has grown by 150% within the last 10 years? Our challenge as educators is to prepare all students to succeed, including those who enter schools with a language other than English. Below are some considerations for working with LEP students.

### **Communicating with LEP Students:**

- Speak simply and clearly to the students.
- Use prompts, cues, facial expressions, gestures, visual aids, and concrete objects.
- Establish oral/aural routines.
- Communicate warmth to the students.
- Encourage students to use English as much as possible.
- Provide native language assistance when possible.
- Keep talking to the students; it is normal for the students to experience a "silent period."

### **Meeting the Social and Academic Needs of LEP Students**

- Ensure that LEP students feel comfortable and secure.
- Establish a "buddy system."
- Include LEP students in as many activities, lessons, and assignments as possible.
- Provide learning experiences that will enable LEP students to feel productive, challenged, and successful.

### **Techniques, Instructional Materials and Resources for LEP Student**

- Maintain high expectations for LEP students.
- Establish a relationship with other staff members, such as the reading coach, who may provide resources and ideas.
- Bilingual and picture dictionaries are essential for academic support.
- Use ESOL strategies, such as cooperative groups and flexible settings, as appropriate.

For resources on working with LEP students, visit the Bilingual/Foreign Language/ESOL Education Department website at [www.broward.k12.fl.us/esol](http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/esol).