

Brick Township Board of Education District Policy Manual 1

Instructional Program

Series 6000

English as a Second Language / Bilingual Programs

Policy 6142.2

Date Adopted:

Date Revised:

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Date Reviewed:

The Board shall provide English as a second language (ESL) and/or bilingual programs of instruction for pupils who:

- A. Are not proficient in English and need instruction toward mastery of the English language;
- B. Speak a language other than English, are more capable of performing schoolwork in that language, and need their basic educational program taught in that language.

The Superintendent of Schools shall develop procedures in accordance with administrative code to determine which pupils would benefit from ESL and/or bilingual programs and to involve school staff, parents/guardians and community members in reviewing programs to determine which would best meet these pupils' needs.

The goal of ESL programs is to assist pupils to achieve fluency (including listening, comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing skills) in English. The goal of the bilingual program is to use both the native language and English to help pupils progress in the academic subject areas while developing their English language skills.

Parents/guardians of pupils of limited English speaking ability shall be notified by mail of the fact that their child has been identified as eligible for enrollment in a bilingual, ESL or English language services education program. This written notice shall include the information that the parents may choose to decline to enroll their child into the bilingual program. Communication with parents/guardians of pupils in these programs shall be in writing and in both English and their primary speaking language, whenever possible. Reports of pupil progress shall be made to parents/guardians on the same schedule as reports of pupils in the regular program.

The Superintendent of Schools shall direct development of an annual plan for ESL and/or bilingual education that is in compliance with state guidelines. The Board will review and approve the plan at a public meeting. The Board must adopt the courses of study for ESL and bilingual programs in the same manner in which it adopts the curriculum for the regular program.

Pupils enrolled in district bilingual or ESL programs shall be assessed annually for exit from such programs, using indicators described in the administrative code. Whenever it is determined that a pupil should exit from the bilingual program, parents/guardians shall be notified by mail.

Parents/guardians may remove a pupil who is enrolled in a bilingual education program at any time.

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The Executive County Superintendent shall approve removal prior to the end of the school year. If the Executive County Superintendent determines that the pupil should remain in the bilingual education program until the end of the school year, the parents/guardians may appeal that

decision to the NJ Commissioner of Education/designee pursuant to law. The Commissioner shall render a decision within 30 days of the filing of the appeal.

The Board may petition the Commissioner to waive the requirement for a full-time bilingual program when it can demonstrate that it would be impractical to provide such a program, due to the age range, grade span or geographic location of the eligible pupils.

Legal References

NJSA 18A:35-15 et seq. Bilingual education programs

NJAC 6A:5-1.1 et seq. Regulatory Equivalency and Waiver
6A:8-4.1 Statewide assessment system
6A:8-5.1 Graduation requirements
6A:9-1.1 et seq. Professional Licensure and Standards
6A:15-1.1 et seq. Bilingual Education
6A:30-1.1 et seq. Evaluation of the Performance of School
6A:32-2.1 Definitions
6A:32-12.1 Reporting requirements
6A:32-14.1 Review of mandated programs and services

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. 107-110, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.

Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts

New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC)