



A Guide to PUSD Schools

For English Learner Families

Peoria Unified #11

6330 West Thunderbird Road

Glendale, Arizona 85306

Telephone: (623) 486-6000

<http://www.peoriaunified.org/>





Welcome to the Peoria Unified School District!

In Arizona, every child has the right to free public education. Peoria Unified employees across the district partner with families to support students in various aspects to further ensure that they are provided supportive and high quality education. As a parent or guardian, you play key roles in the success of your child’s education. Further knowing and understanding the Peoria Unified School District and how it works can aid in this great duty.

This student and family guide has been created to help you better understand the Peoria school system and offers suggestions in increasing interactions with your child’s school staff to support their learning. There is information about how to enroll a child in school, opportunities for parents, schools by grade, and more. If you need more specific information, you can contact your child’s school or refer to the PUSD “Student and Parent Elementary School Handbook” on the [PUSD website](#). Additionally, you can find school contact information at the end of this Guide. If you need further language assistance, be sure to communicate with the school staff to better understand this guide or additional rules and procedures.

The Peoria Unified School District is here to support both you and your child in their success in education.

Table of Contents

I. Connecting with Your Child’s School	1
What do I need to know when engaging with my child’s school?	1
II. Enrolling in School	2
1. How can I enroll my child in school?	2
2. What do I need to bring with me?	2
3. What else can I expect when I enroll my child for school?	3
III. English Learner (EL) Program	3
What kind of support will my child receive to learn English?	3
1. Who is an English Learner?	3
2. How does the school or district know my child is an English learner?	3
3. What is the AZELLA?	3
4. What happens if my child qualifies to receive English language support?	4
5. What steps do I need to take if I do not want my child to receive EL services?	4
IV. Early Childhood Education	4
If my child is younger than five, what opportunities are available for learning?	4
What are the options for early education programs?	5
V. Schools by Grade Levels	5
What does school look like for different ages in the United States?	5
1. What will my child experience in kindergarten?	5
2. What will my child study in elementary school?	5
3. What will my child study in middle and high school?	6
4. How does my child graduate from high school?	6
5. What education opportunities are available for my child after high school graduation?	6
VI. Other School Programs and Services	7
1. What should I do if I believe my child may require special education services?..	7
2. What programs are available for gifted and talented students?	7
3. What other school-based learning programs are available?	7
VII. School Policies	8
What rules do schools in PUSD follow?	8
1. What should I do if my child is absent from school? What if my child is late to school or needs to leave early because of a medical appointment or other urgent matter?	8
2. How do I know if my child’s school is closed or opening late?	9
3. Can I volunteer to help at my child’s school?	9

VIII.	Student Support Services	9
	Who are the people who work in student services?	10
IX.	English Learning Opportunities for Parents	10
	What programs are available for me to learn English in my community?	10
X.	People Who Work in the School	12
	Who are the people who work in my child’s school and what do they do?	12
XI.	Appendix	13
	1. Writing Notes to School – Sample forms and letters	13
	2. Helpful Acronyms	15
	3. Resources for Families	17
	4. District Contact Information	23

I. Connecting with Your Child's School

What do I need to know when engaging with my child's school?

PUSD teachers and schools want to partner with you to support your child's education. This can be accomplished in several different ways. Engaging with your child's teachers and campus can further help you understand all aspects of life at school for your child, thus allowing you to help them succeed.

Five Tips for Engaging with Your Child's School:

1. **Communication:** Please do your best in strengthening communication with your child's school. This can be accomplished through phone calls or school visits. If there is a language barrier, emailing or messaging through ParentSquare can work great – as typed messages can be translated into another language. Ask the school for translation or interpreting if you need it. You have the right to request information in your native language so that you may better understand.
2. **Clarification:** There may be times when your signature is needed for school paperwork. Be sure to ask for clarification prior to signing in case there may be something you do not understand.
3. **Visitation:** Do not hesitate to visit your child's school. You can ask for a school tour or for additional understanding of where your child will be every day.
4. **Information:** Ask for information about any changes in school schedules or about the school calendar. You can also refer to the district or school's website for quicker access.
5. **Share:** Be open in sharing information that you are comfortable with about your family, with the school or your child's teacher. Tell them if you have any challenges that would limit your engagement with them. Clarify what would work best for your family to feel more comfortable.

II. Enrolling in School

The Peoria Unified School District is comprised of 34 elementary schools, 7 high schools, 1 non-traditional high school and 11 different Choice Programs. There are several different options for your child to have a unique and excellent educational experience.

If you have any questions about enrollment or need further assistance, please contact the district office at (623) 486-6000 or reach out to one of our schools.

1. How can I enroll my child in school?

For kindergarten students, the child must be five (5) years old on or before August 31st of the current school year to enroll. The PUSD Governing Board allows children who turn five (5) in September or October to be assessed for early entry.

You can enroll your child in person at your local school or online. PUSD offers open enrollment schools and welcomes students from across the valley to schools where enrollment capacity is present. In addition, there are several links and FAQ pages on the district website to start the online enrollment process for your child.

The district website can be translated through an option on the top lefthand side of the page that reads “Translate Language.” Click the drop-down menu and select your preferred language.

Here is the link for the PUSD website’s Enrollment Information page: [Enrollment Information / Overview \(peoriaunified.org\)](#)

You can find the enrollment packet in **Spanish** [here](#).

2. What do I need to bring with me?

When you enroll your child, there will be several registration forms to fill out. As mentioned earlier, be sure to ask for clarification of paperwork prior to signing if there is something you do not understand.

Here are a few of the documents that you may be required to bring:

- Parent/Guardian Picture Identification: driver’s license, government issued photo ID, valid passport, etc.
- Proof of Residency: utility bill, apartment or home lease, proof of home ownership, etc.
- Proof of Student Birthdate and Parent/Guardianship: birth certificate, court document naming you as legal guardian, etc.

- School records or transcript from student’s previous school.
- Immunization record, if available: a health record that shows your child’s medical history.

3. What else can I expect when I enroll my child for school?

- **Home Language Survey (HLS)**

Upon registering your child, you will be asked to complete a Home Language Survey (HLS). This survey is vital for students who may speak another language. It helps to identify those students who may need additional English language support. Your responses to the survey will be used to determine whether your child should be tested to potentially receive English Learner (EL) services. This test is called the Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA), and its results will determine if the student qualifies for services.

- **Free and Reduced Meal Application**

During registration, the school staff may additionally ask you to complete a Free and Reduced Lunch Application. This application is used to see if your child may qualify to receive free or reduced breakfast and/or lunch. A new application must be filled out every school year. You can also apply online and check the status of your application. You can see additional information by clicking [here](#).

III. English Language Learner Services

What kind of support will my child receive to learn English?

1. Who is an English Learner?

An English learner is a student who does not have an Overall Proficiency Level in speaking, listening, reading, and writing English. Additionally, these learners usually live in homes where languages other than English are spoken.

2. How does the school or district know my child is an English Learner?

Upon registering for school, your family will complete the Home Language Survey to see what language your child learned first, what language they speak the most, and what language is spoken in the home regardless of what the child speaks. This will see if the student needs to take the AZELLA Placement Test. When the student takes the AZELLA Placement Test and the student does not test Proficient, the student will qualify for EL services.

3. What is the AZELLA?

The Arizona English Language Learner Assessment (AZELLA) is a standards-based assessment that measures the proficiency of a student’s English language. As mentioned previously, a student’s score on the AZELLA determines if they are eligible to

receive EL services. Students who do not score Proficient on the AZELLA Placement Test and receive EL services will take the AZELLA Reassessment Test every Spring until they achieve proficiency. Even students who do not receive EL Services and do not test Proficient on the Reassessment Test will still have to take it once every Spring until they do test Proficient. Those students who score Proficient on the Reassessment Test are then monitored for two years to aid in ensuring their success in a mainstream classroom.

4. What happens if my child qualifies to receive English language support?

If your child qualifies to receive English language support, the student will receive services based on the SEI “Pullout Model” for instruction in their classroom. Before the student can receive EL support, you will first be sent a Parental Notification and Consent Form (PNC) to consent to them receiving services. The Pullout Model means students are taught a certain amount of time exclusively, while the rest of the day is spent with their peers. It does not mean they necessarily need to be pulled out of the classroom; it is encouraged that an EL group is taught in the classroom setting by the classroom teacher. This way, EL students do not miss vital core content, electives, or even recess to receive their EL targeted minutes.

5. What steps do I need to take if I do not want my child to receive EL services?

You have every right to agree to receive or refuse EL services no matter what proficiency level your child scores on the AZELLA. If you want to refuse EL services, you must contact the school or your child’s teacher to communicate your decision. From there, you will then need to complete and sign a “Parent Request for Withdrawal” form. Even though your child will no longer receive services, they will continue to be monitored and given the AZELLA Reassessment Test every Spring until they score Proficient.

IV. Early Childhood Education

If my child is younger than five, what opportunities are available for learning?

If your child is younger than five, Peoria Unified School District offers two distinctive preschool programs that your child could enter.

If you have questions about childcare programs, parent-child activities, or additional resources, you can contact the [PUSD Family Resource Center](#) for further assistance as they help families with children birth to five (Spanish-speaking staff present).

What are the options for early education programs?

Early Childhood Center for Excellence in Learning (ECCEL): [Preschool / ECCEL \(peoriaunified.org\)](https://www.peoriaunified.org/peoriaunified.org)

The ECCEL Preschool Program provides flexible programming that meets the needs of your child as a whole – socially, academically, and emotionally – to prepare them to enter kindergarten. Young students between the ages of three and four can learn through discovery and play in a language and literacy-based environment that not only challenges thinking but builds vital skills as well. In addition, typically developing and developmentally delayed three- and four-year-old students have their individual needs met through interaction with therapists and general and special education teachers.

Child Oriented Occupational Program (COOP): [Preschool / COOP \(peoriaunified.org\)](https://www.peoriaunified.org/peoriaunified.org)

COOP classes are a full-day, tuition-based program that is offered at several high schools across the district. The classes consist of four-year-old students enrolled in the program. These programs are staffed by high school students who have taken Child Development classes and are interested in a career working with young children. The high school students are under the guidance of the COOP director who is a certified teacher and the morning and afternoon COOP directors. DES benefits are accepted in some programs.

V. Schools by Grade Levels

What does school look like for different ages in the United States?

1. What will my child experience in kindergarten?

Kindergarten is a new and exciting experience for a student. It serves as a foundation for their future. Here at Peoria Unified, we offer a free, full-day kindergarten program that is designed to ensure your child is valued, challenged, known, and cared for. In Kindergarten, your child will gain skills that will help them learn how to read and write. They will learn social, emotional, and listening skills along with concepts in mathematics, social studies, and literacy. Additionally, they are exposed to physical education and classes like art and music.

2. What will my child study in elementary school?

Elementary school covers grades K-5 and spans a wide range of child development. Kindergarten builds your child's foundation for school moving forward. As your child progresses through elementary school, basic math, reading, and foundational

concepts are the primary goals of curriculum for them to fully understand. In upper elementary, they begin to explore more complex subjects like U.S. history, the sciences, and economics. Elementary curriculum is vital in learning and exposure to non-core subjects like physical education, fine arts, languages, and much more.

3. What will my child study in middle and high school?

In both middle and high school, your child will have the opportunity to take different classes taught by different teachers. They will have a schedule that will allow them to change classes throughout the day. The curriculum in middle school plays an important role in transitioning your child from elementary school to high school. Middle school students begin to choose a multitude of diverse courses that explore more non-core subjects. By the time they reach eighth grade, school counselors, administrators, and teachers work with the student and their parents or guardians to help determine the student's course of study leading into high school.

High school offers a large variety of diverse courses that your child can choose from. Some of these course offerings include Honors, Advanced Placement, the IB Diploma program, Dual Enrollment, or a program focusing on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering Math Magnet) concepts. High School students can also choose classes that focus on Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that allow them to get real world education, on the job training, and technical skills that will better prepare them for college or careers.

4. How does my child graduate from high school?

In Peoria Unified School District, your child needs **28 Credits** to graduate. Every high school has a school counselor that will assist your child with a graduation plan so they know what requirements must be met to earn their diploma. Additionally, a student must answer at least sixty (60) of the one hundred (100) questions listed on a test that is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test that is used by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

5. What education opportunities are available for my child after high school graduation?

Depending on your child's scheduled classes, they are provided with many academic, technical, and workplace experiences during high school that allow for success after graduation. Students have a variety of options after high school to continue their education. They can apply to a college, university, vocational or technical college or they could pursue a certification in a skill or trade.

It is vital that your child schedules a meeting with their school counselor as early as possible if they are interested in continuing their education after graduation. The

school counselor can aid in finding post-secondary success by further looking into schools that your child is interested in and helping them throughout the application process. The school counselor will additionally be able to answer any questions your child may have and help guide them and you throughout the process.

Although post-secondary education may seem like the only option. Choosing a career in the military or entering the workforce after graduation are options as well. No matter what your child wants to do after they graduate, they have a variety of options to continue succeeding in their adulthood.

VI. Other School Programs and Services

1. What should I do if I believe my child may require special education services?

If you believe your child requires special education services, please contact the district office or your local school. Peoria Unified provides a full continuum of special education services for each eligible student in the least restrictive environment. An Individual Education Plan (IEP) will be put in place if your child is determined to need special education services. From there, the IEP team will evaluate and consider your child for a specific level of service depending on their needs.

For additional information, please visit: [Special Education / Services \(peoriaunified.org\)](https://www.peoriaunified.org/special-education-services)

2. What programs are available for gifted and talented students?

Peoria Unified has provided a comprehensive and challenging K-12 Gifted Education Curriculum to meet the needs and enhance the talents of students deemed gifted learners.

Even if your child is receiving EL services, they are still eligible to be identified and receive Gifted Education services as well. They are recommended by their teacher if they believe that they may qualify for the program. If you feel that your child may qualify for Gifted Education, but their English may be a barrier, please contact their teacher.

For more information on Peoria Unified Gifted Education, please visit: [Gifted Education / Overview \(peoriaunified.org\)](https://www.peoriaunified.org/gifted-education-overview)

3. What other school-based learning programs are available?

If you believe that additional learning support is needed for your child, please reach out to their school to learn about any available options. Schools and districts may offer different programs that can aid in improving your child's learning like after

school tutoring, computer-based programs, or even weekend programs that your students can access. School staff will be happy to assist with anything that can further support your child's success in education.

VII. School Policies

What rules do schools in the Peoria Unified School District follow?

Every child has the legal right and the opportunity to attend school in the United States. Each district in the state of Arizona has a defined set of policies to support staff, students, and families to experience quality education and safety at every campus.

For additional information about enrollment or school and district policies, please refer to the Student and Parent Handbooks for both elementary and high schools:

Elementary: [Welcome Students](#), [Welcome Students \(Spanish\)](#)

High School: [PUSD High School Handbook](#)

1. What should I do if my child is absent from school? What if my child is late for school or needs to leave early because of a medical appointment or another urgent matter?

If your child is absent or late for school, it is vital that you notify their school as soon as possible by calling the 24-hour attendance line. This will save time and protect your child. If you do not call your child's school early in the morning, the school will call you to verify your child's absence. For your child's absence to be excused, you must contact their school. Once your child can return to school, it is their responsibility to ensure that all their work is requested for the days they were absent and done in an appropriate time and manner.

If your child is late for school (after the tardy bell rings), they must report to the front office before going to their classroom. The student will be given a tardy pass to give to their teacher. If your child has continued tardiness, you will be notified, and your child may have to make the time up during lunch, recess, or after school hours.

If your child needs to leave school early for any reason, you must first go to the office, provide a picture I.D., and then sign your child out. Office staff will then call the student from the class. Your child's school will not allow a student to leave early because of a note or telephone call from parents. Additionally, no child will be

released to a parent, guardian, or any other person who is not listed on the Emergency Contact card in their file.

2. How do I know if my child's school is closed or opening late?

If your child's school is closed or will be opening late, it will be announced on the school or district website. Some schools may also use a recorded telephone message or email that will notify you of any school closures or late starts.

3. Can I volunteer to help at my child's school?

You are more than welcome to volunteer at your child's school. We encourage and appreciate your interest and value your time assisting in any aspect of your child's school day whether it be in the classroom or even on a field trip. Peoria Unified offers a vast range of volunteer opportunities. Whether you would like to volunteer at an elementary or high school, all volunteers must be 18 years of age or older and provide a new volunteer application every year, even if they are a returning volunteer.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or would like to read more on the qualifications, please apply online through our Microsoft Form on our district website by clicking [here](#). There are two levels of being a volunteer: Level 1 and Level 2.

Level 1 volunteers do not need a background check or fingerprint clearance card as they are not working with students outside of the supervision of a PUSD employee. These applications must be submitted **two weeks** prior to volunteering.

A **Level 2** volunteer will need a background check and fingerprint clearance prior to volunteering as they will not always be under the supervision of a PUSD employee. These applications must be submitted **one month** prior to volunteering.

VIII. Student Support Services

PUSD has established a district-wide Student Support Team to support the need for social emotional learning across each one of our schools. The district has adopted a comprehensive model to better serve the needs of the students. This model contains multiple levels of support that address the need for support from the district, school, teachers, students, parents, and even community partners.

Who are the people who work in Student Support Services?

School Counselors: They provide services in every school to all students on a variety of topics that cover school success, decision making, and student social and emotional wellness. They provide support and guidance on academic and post-secondary planning. Additionally, Counselors work with parents and school staff to provide a safe and supportive learning environment.

School Psychologists: They provide students with assessments as well as educational, behavioral, and mental health services. They work with families, school administrators, educators, and other professionals to aid in creating a supportive social and educational environment for every student.

School Nurses: They support health and wellness along with learning. School nurses evaluate the health and wellness needs of the school community. They provide health services, counseling, and education to support these needs across campus. If you or your child have any concern about your child's health, you can contact your school's nurse for additional help and resources.

School Social Workers: They are found in many schools across the district. School social workers provide social and emotional counseling and development along with connecting schools and families with community agencies and organizations as needed.

School Safety Staff: Overall, school safety staff aid in keeping the school safe and may also play a part in student support services.

IX. English Learning Opportunities for Parents

What programs are available for me to learn English in my community?

Arizona offers a variety of English as a Second Language (ESL) opportunities for parents or guardians who have limited English skills. Below are a few organizations across the valley that offer classes for any adult looking to learn or improve their English skills.

Free English and Citizenship Classes at IRC Phoenix:

Students must be 16 years or older (not enrolled in school), English language learners, and lawfully present in the United States.

You do not need to be preparing for U.S. citizenship to learn in the program.

Register here: <https://sites.google.com/view/englishlanguage-citizenship/home>

Free English Training for Refugees:

English Language Training has been contracted by the Department of Economic Security (DES) to provide integrated skills instruction to adult refugees, asylees, and special immigrant visa holders who have lived less than five years in the U.S.

Students in these classes learn contextualized language skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking).

Interest and Eligibility Form: <https://www.friendlyhouse.org/program-enrollment>

ACYR Adult Education Program:

ESL, or English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), is designed to provide English language instruction from the basic to intermediate level for students aged 16 and older.

The program integrates the four components of English learning (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) with job readiness skills such as resume writing and interview skills.

Sign up here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd7eXDr1-ILSU9I_5555ls-DLA4nlg90UQxE0c2N6aDZlkbg/viewform

Glendale Community College (GCC) Non-Credit ESOL Classes:

GCC offers a variety of paid, non-credit classes to improve your English skills from “basic” to “intermediate” to “advanced” if you would like to continue to improve your English skills.

To take the classes, you must first take the Combined English Language Skills Assessment (CELSA) placement test and pay the non-credit class fee.

For more information on how to apply and the requirements to do so, please see this informational flyer with instructions, prices, class times, and steps to take: [fall24-esol-flyer.pdf \(gccaz.edu\)](#)

Free English Classes at Friendly House:

Friendly House offers English language classes from basic to intermediate levels. Their goal is to provide English Language learning as well as support for transitioning students into the job market or higher education.

The program integrates listening, speaking, reading, and writing in the English language as well as job readiness skills. Additionally, you must be 16 years of age and above, legally present in the US, and a current resident of Arizona.

For more information, please visit: [Free English Classes | Friendly House](#)

X. People Who Work in the School

Who are the people who work in my child's school and what do they do?

Below are some of the common titles of the adults and staff that may work in your child's school.

- **Principal:** In all schools, they oversee all school operations, including daily activities. They serve as the instructional lead as well.
- **Assistant Principal:** Lead daily activities, interact with students, staff, and parents, and work with other administrators to help run the school.
- **Classroom Teacher:** Teachers work with students in different settings to provide instruction in one or more subjects.
- **Librarian:** Maintain a school's library collection and resources. They lead classes in the school library or media center and help students find reading materials for independent reading or to do research.
- **Office Assistant:** Works in the school's front office. They answer the telephone, help visitors, and keep records of the students for the school. They are the first person you see when you enter your child's school.
- **Custodian/Building Engineer:** Maintains the school buildings by keeping them clean, fixes things that need to be fixed, and takes care of the routine maintenance around campus.
- **Food Service Worker:** Prepares food to serve to the students for breakfast and/or lunch daily.
- **School Safety/Resource Officer:** Helps keep school staff, students, and the overall campus safe.
- **School Nurse:** Provides support for student wellness, health, and additional learning.

XI. Appendix

This section includes examples of letters that you can use to communicate with your child's school when they are going to be absent or late and when they need to leave school early. There is also an example of what you can write when you would like to meet with your child's teacher or another school staff member.

1. Writing Notes to School – Sample forms and letters:

Your child is absent from school:

Dear Ms./Mr. _____ (<i>name of your child's teacher</i>),
Please excuse _____ (<i>your child's name</i>) from school on _____ (<i>date of absence</i>). He/she was absent because _____ _____.
Thank you.
Sincerely,
_____ (<i>Parent/Guardian Signature</i>)
Phone number: _____
Email: _____
Date: _____

Your child comes late to school:

Dear Ms./Mr. _____ (<i>name of your child's teacher</i>),
Please excuse _____'s (<i>your child's name</i>) late arrival to school today. He/she was late to school today because _____ _____.
Thank you.
Sincerely,
_____ (<i>Parent/Guardian Signature</i>)
Phone number: _____
Email: _____
Date: _____

Your child needs to leave school early:

Dear Ms./Mr. _____ (*name of your child's teacher*),

Please excuse _____'s (*your child's name*) from school at _____ (*time they are leaving*) on _____ (*date*).

He/she has a

___ Doctor's appointment

___ Dentist's appointment

___ Other: _____

Thank you.

Sincerely,

_____ (*Parent/Guardian Signature*)

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Date: _____

You would like to meet with your child's teacher or another school staff person:

Dear Ms./Mr. _____ (*name of school staff member*),

I would like to make a time to talk with you about my child, _____ (*name of your child*). I am available on _____ (*date*) at _____ (*time*). Please contact me to know if you are available by _____ (*note, email, message, phone call, etc.*).

Thank you.

Sincerely,

_____ (*Parent/Guardian Signature*)

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Date: _____

2. Helpful Acronyms:

Acronym	Description
PUSD	<p>Peoria Unified School District: The district that your child’s school is in. It is one of the largest districts in Arizona and serves more than 36,000 students in 34 elementary schools, 7 high schools, and 1 non-traditional school.</p>
USDE	<p>United States Department of Education: The department in the U.S. government that establishes education policy across the country, administers federal financial assistance, and enforces federal education laws.</p>
ADE	<p>Arizona Department of Education: The Arizona Department of Education works to implement educational standards and policies for Arizona schools to provide quality education for students across the state.</p>
EL	<p>English Learner: A student who does not have an Overall Proficiency Level in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in English. They are students who did not test proficient on the AZELLA Placement Test.</p>
ELA	<p>English Language Acquisition: It is the process of gaining knowledge, becoming aware of, and further understanding the English language.</p>
OELAS	<p>Office of English Language Acquisition Services: This office operates within the Arizona Department of Education to develop guidelines for monitoring schools and school districts to ensure they are compliant with federal and state laws regarding EL students across the state. Additionally, they develop programs to enhance aspects of training for school staff, publish EL policy guidelines, and provide further assistance to implement structured English immersion programs.</p>
AZELLA	<p>Arizona English Language Learner Assessment: It is a standards-based assessment that meets state and federal requirements to measure a student’s English language proficiency. It is used for both placement and reassessment purposes.</p>
Alt ELPA	<p>Alternate English Language Proficiency Assessment: It is an alternate assessment designed for EL students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Students must be determined eligible for alternate assessment by the district’s IEP team.</p>
ELPS	<p>English Language Proficiency Standards: These Standards provide prerequisite English language skills for EL students to access academic content. They provide foundational linguistic knowledge for these students.</p>
ELD	<p>English Language Development:</p>

	Instruction that is specifically designed for EL students to develop their skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English,
SEI	Structured English Immersion: The SEI Program is an intensive English-language teaching program for EL students that is designed to accelerate the learning of the English language in the classroom.
A.R.S.	Arizona Revised Statute: The statutory laws in the state of Arizona.
LEP	Limited English Proficient: It refers to a person that is not fluent in the English language. Oftentimes it is because English is not their native language.
HLS	Home Language Survey: A survey given to parents/guardians upon a child's enrollment to school. It is used by the school to provide the most appropriate instructional programs and services for the student. The responses to the questions on the form will determine if a student takes the AZELLA.
PNC	Parental Notification and Consent: A form given to parents/guardians stating that their child did not score proficient on the AZELLA, thus is eligible to receive EL services. Parents/guardians have the right to decline their student's placement in an EL program or have their child withdrawn from an EL program. The PNC must be provided no later than 30 calendar days after the beginning of each school year or within the first two weeks of placement in an EL program.
ESS	Exceptional Student Services: These services ensure that Arizona public education agencies have special education programs, policies, and procedures that are complicit with the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and its implementing regulations. In addition, they ensure that eligible children and youth with disabilities have access to free appropriate public education (FAPE).
IEP	Individualized Education Plan: It is a legal document that is mandated by the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that defines the individualized goals of a child who has been found to have a disability, as defined by federal regulations.

3. Resources for Families:

Resources	
Learning English for the Whole Family	<p>Articles:</p> <p>FluentU: “15 Great Tips for Learning English Quickly and Easily” https://www.fluentu.com/blog/english/tips-for-learning-english/ This article lists some useful general tips for learning English. It includes linked resources and focuses on self-paced learners.</p> <p>“Five ways to improve your English by yourself” https://www.abc.net.au/education/learn-english/five-ways-to-improve-your-english-by-yourself/9085604 This article offers some tips for those looking to supplement their education or learn English at home.</p> <p>“Parent Guide for English Learners” https://educationnorthwest.org/resources/parent-guide-english-learners-english-and-spanish-versions Education Northwest offers a bilingual EL guide for families.</p> <p>Reading Rockets: “Reading Tips for Parents in Multiple Languages” https://www.readingrockets.org/literacy-home/literacy-tips-activities/parent-reading-tips-multiple-languages This resource provides some general reading tips for EL families.</p> <p>Apps, Quizzes, and Games:</p> <p>Babbel https://www.babbel.com/ Babbel helps you learn English by focusing on everyday use. It offers short lessons of 10-15 minutes supported by linguists and professional educators.</p> <p>Busuu https://www.busuu.com/en/mobile This app offers language teaching lessons that do not require an internet connection. Exercises include grammar and pronunciation.</p> <p>Duolingo https://www.duolingo.com/</p>

Duolingo offers language training programming within a gaming environment. Use an intuitive, personalized platform that adapts as you go.

Studycat

<https://studycat.com/products/english/>

Designed with children and young people in mind, this resource offers English language learning through games and other interactive experiences.

Communities and Support Groups:

Dave’s ESL Café

<https://www.eslcafe.com/>

A comprehensive EL center, this site offers searchable database for learning opportunities. It also hosts an active discussion forum.

Unilang

<https://forum.unilang.org/>

Unilang hosts several language-specific discussion forums. Participants can ask questions and receive grammar tips.

Videos, Podcasts and Audiobooks:

Learn English with Mister Duncan

<https://www.youtube.com/user/duncaninchina/featured>

Mr. Duncan’s platform is one of the most popular English-language YouTube channels. Offers short, engaging videos to help students increase their proficiency.

Podcasts in English

<https://www.podcastsinenglish.com/>

This site hosts free conversational podcasts in English. EL students can search for episodes by topic and level.

Storynory

<https://www.storynory.com/>

This online library focuses on resources for hearing learners. It includes novels, short stories, fairy tales, poems, and even music.

VOA Learn English

<https://www.youtube.com/voalearningenglish/#p/a>

This YouTube channel takes news reports in American English and offers subtitles read at slower speeds.

<p>Knowing Your Rights</p>	<p>Equal Education Opportunities for English Learners https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/frontpage/pro-students/issues/roi-issue03.html</p> <p>Information for Limited English Proficient (LEP) Parents and Guardians and for Schools and School Districts that Communicate with Them https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/dcl-factsheet-lep-parents-201501.pdf Available in 13 different languages.</p> <p>Department of Justice and Department of Education Dear Colleague Letter: English Learner Students and Limited English Proficient Parents https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/letters/colleague-el-201501.pdf Available in 7 different languages.</p> <p>What Parents and Caregivers Can Ask and Do to Help Children Thrive at School: A Parent Checklist https://www2.ed.gov/documents/family-community/parent-checklist.pdf</p>
<p>Community Resources</p>	<p>AZ Health Care cost Containment System (AHCCCS) www.azahcccs.gov</p> <p>Arizona Department of Housing www.housing.az.gov www.facebook.com/azhousing</p> <p>Housing Authority of Maricopa County www.maricopahousing.org</p> <p>2-1-1 Arizona Services www.211arizona.org</p> <p>Peoria Community Center www.peoriaaz.gov/communitycenter</p> <p>Peoria Fire-Medical Administration Non-Emergency www.peoriaaz.gov/fire</p> <p>Peoria Police Non-Emergency www.peoriaaz.gov/police</p>

	<p>Peoria Unified School District Family Resource Center www.peoriaunified.org/Page/490 PUSDFamilyResourceCE@pusd11.net</p> <p>Association of Arizona Food Banks www.azfoodbanks.org</p> <p>Bird’s Nest Pantry Heritage Elementary School</p> <p>Hope For Hunger http://hopeforhungerfb.org/Home-Page.html</p> <p>West Valley Community Food Pantry www.stjchurch.org</p> <p>St. Mary’s Food Bank Alliance www.firstfoodbank.org</p>
<p>Immigrant and Refugee Resources</p>	<p>Arizona Refugee Resettlement Program https://des.az.gov/refugee-resettlement</p> <p>International Rescue Committee https://www.rescue.org/united-states/phoenix-az Languages Spoken: Amharic, Arabic, Arabic (Egyptian), Armenian, Bengali, Bosnian, Burmese, Cantonese Chinese, Croatian, Dari, Dutch, English, Farsi, Filipino, French, Haitian, Creole, Iraqi, Japanese, Kirundi, Korean, Kurdish, Malay-Indonesian, Mandarin Chinese, Nepali, Pasto, Persian, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Serbian, Serbo-Croatian, Somali, Spanish, Sudanese, Swahili, Tagalog, Taiwanese, Thai, Tigrinya, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese, Bembe, Chaldean, Chin (various dialects), Chinese (Hakka), Dhalou, Dinka, Ewe (Togo), Karen, Karenni, Kibembe, Kinyarwanda, Kiswahili, Kunama, Lingala, Malagsay, Mina (Togo), Nuer, Saha (Eritrea), Sango, Shan, Somali (Maay Maay, Bantu). Access to Interpretation Services: Yes</p> <p>Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest https://lss-sw.org/refugeeservices Languages Spoken: Amharic, Arabic, Bosnian, Burmese, Croatian, Dari, Farsi, French, Hindi, Kirundi, Nepali, Pashto, Polish, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Somali, Spanish, Tigrinya, Urdu, Chaldean, Assyrian, Karen, Chin, Dzongkha, Bhutanese, Kunama, Kinyarwanda, Lingala, Kiswahili, Kibembe</p>

	<p>Access to Interpretation Services: Yes</p> <p>Arizona Immigration and Refugee Services https://airsaz.org Languages Spoken: Arabic, Burmese, English, French, Portuguese, Spanish, Swahili Access to Interpretation Services: Yes</p> <p>RICE Community Services https://www.riceaz.org/ Languages Spoken: Arabic, Dari, English, Hindi, Pashto, Turkish, Uzbek Access to Interpretation Services: Yes</p> <p>Friendly House: Launching Lives Further https://www.friendlyhouse.org/ Languages Spoken: English, Spanish Access to Interpretation Services: Yes</p> <p>Arizona All Nations Refugee Resource Center (AARRC) https://aarrc.org Languages Spoken: languages from the regions of Northern and Central Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia, English, French, Spanish Access to Interpretation Services: Yes</p> <p>Catholic Charities: Community Services Refugee Assistance: https://www.catholiccharitiesaz.org/refugee-assistance Immigration Assistance: www.catholiccharitiesaz.org/all-locations/immigration Languages Spoken: English, Spanish Access to Interpretation Services: No</p> <p>The Young Center for Immigrant Children’s Rights http://www.theyoungcenter.org/ Languages Spoken: English, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish Access to Interpretation Services: Yes</p> <p>Florence Immigration and Refugee Right’s Project (Phoenix Office) http://www.firrp.org/ Languages Spoken: English, Spanish Access to Interpretation Services: No</p>
--	--

	<p>Chicanos Por La Causa https://cplc.org/hhs/immigration.php Languages Spoken: English, Spanish Access to Interpretation Services: No</p> <p>Arizona Dream Act Coalition https://theadac.org/ Languages Spoken: English, Spanish</p>
<p>Take Home Activities</p>	<p>Printable ESL Vocabulary Worksheets https://www.esltower.com/vocabularyteachers.html</p> <p>ESL Resources for Kids, Young Learner TEFL Lesson Plans https://www.esl-galaxy.com/Kids.htm</p> <p>English 4 Kids: worksheet for Teachers http://www.english-4kids.com/worksheet.html</p> <p>Games to Learn English https://www.gamestolearnenglish.com/</p> <p>ESL Games World – Fun Games for ESL/EFL Lessons http://eslgamesworld.com/</p>
<p>Free Bilingual Books Online</p>	<p>International Children’s Digital Library http://en.childrenslibrary.org/library/books_by_language.html</p> <p>Storybooks Canada https://www.storybookscanada.ca/about/languages/</p> <p>World Stories https://worldstories.org.uk/library</p> <p>Unite for Literacy https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/</p> <p>Bilinguis http://bilinguis.com/book/</p> <p>Global Storybooks Portal https://globalstorybooks.net/</p> <p>Bilingual-Picturebooks https://www.bilingual-picturebooks.org/en/books</p>

	<p>Maguaré https://maguare.gov.co/leer/</p> <p>Spanish Mama https://spanishmama.com/fables-fabulas/</p> <p>StoryWeaver https://storyweaver.org.in/en/stories?query=&sort=Ratings</p> <p>WorksheetsPDF: 50 Libros de Lectura para Niños (Descargar PDF Gratis) https://portaldeeducacion.com/50-libros-de-lectura-para-ninos/</p> <p>Bilingual Fiction http://learn-spanish-with-bilingual-stories.weebly.com/menu-of-free-parallel-texts-spanish-english.html</p>
--	---

4. PUSD Contact Information:

District Administration Center
6330 W. Thunderbird Rd.
Glendale, AZ 85306
623-486-6000

Cactus High School
6330 W. Greenway Road
Glendale, AZ 85306
623-412-5000

Cheyenne Elementary
11806 N. 87th Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-487-5100

Country Meadows Elementary
8409 N. 111th Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-412-5200

Desert Palms Elementary
11441 N. 55th Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85304
623-412-4600

Frontier Elementary
21258 N. 81st Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85382
623-412-4900

Alta Loma Elementary
9750 N. 87th Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-412-4575

Canyon Elementary
5490 W. Paradise Lane
Glendale, AZ 85306
623-412-5050

Copperwood Elementary
11232 N. 65th Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85304
623-412-4650

Coyote Hills Elementary
21180 N. 87th Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85382
623-486-6200

Desert Valley Elementary
12901 N. 63rd Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85304
623-412-4750

Heritage Elementary
5312 W. Mountain View Road
Glendale, AZ 85302
623-412-4525

Apache Elementary
8633 W. John Cabot Road
Peoria, AZ 85382
623-412-4875

Centennial High School
14388 N. 79th Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85381
623-412-4400

Cotton Boll Elementary
8540 W. Butler Drive
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-412-4700

Desert Harbor Elementary
15585 N. 91st Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85382
623-486-6200

Foothills Elementary
15808 N. 63rd Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85306
623-412-4625

Ira A. Murphy Elementary
7231 W. North Lane
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-412-4475

Ironwood High School
6051 W. Sweetwater Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85304
623-486-6400

Liberty High School
9621 W. Speckled Gecko Drive
Peoria, AZ 85383
623-773-6525

Oakwood Elementary
12900 N. 71st Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85381
623-412-4725

Paseo Verde Elementary
7880 W. Greenway Road
Peoria, AZ 85381
623-412-5075

Peoria Flex Academy
11200 N. 83rd Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-412-5475

Pioneer Elementary
6315 W. Port au Prince Lane
Glendale, AZ 85306
623-412-4550

Santa Fe Elementary
9880 N. 77th Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-486-6475

Sundance Elementary
7051 W. Cholla Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-412-4675

Sunset Heights Elementary
9687 W. Adam Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85382
623-773-6650

Career and Technical Education
6330 West Thunderbird Road
Glendale, AZ 85306
623-486-6000

Kachina Elementary
5304 W. Crocus Drive
Glendale, AZ 85306
623-412-4500

Marshall Ranch Elementary
12995 N. Marshall Ranch Drive
Glendale, AZ 85304
623-486-6450

Oasis Elementary
7841 W. Sweetwater Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85381
623-412-4800

Peoria eCampus
11200 N. 83rd. Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-412-5345

Peoria High School
11200 N. 83rd Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-486-6300

Raymond S. Kellis High School
8990 W. Orangewood Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85305
623-412-5425

Sky View Elementary
8624 W. Sweetwater Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85381
623-412-4850

Sunrise Mountain High School
21200 N. 83rd Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85382
623-487-5125

Vistancia Elementary
30009 N. Sunrise Point
Peoria, AZ 85383
623-773-6500

Lake Pleasant Elementary
31501 N. Westland Road
Peoria, AZ 85383
623-773-6575

MET Professional Academy
11200 N. 83rd Ave.
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-773-6700

Parkridge Elementary
9970 W. Beardsley Road
Peoria, AZ 85382
623-412-5400

Peoria Elementary
11501 N. 79th Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-412-4450

Peoria Traditional School
21180 N. 87th Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85382
623-412-5350

Sahuaro Ranch Elementary
10401 N. 63rd Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85302
623-412-4775

Sun Valley Elementary
8361 N. 95th Avenue
Peoria, AZ 85345
623-412-4825

Sunflower Center
5490 W. Paradise Lane
Glendale, AZ 85306
623-412-5050

Zuni Hills Elementary
10851 W. Williams Road
Sun City, AZ 85373
623-412-5275