

WIDA - ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

Written by Ms. Natasha

I'm excited to share that we have recently gained membership to the WIDA International School Consortium. Now that we have access, we will begin to use WIDA - World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment - to support our English Language Learners (ELLs) at Berkeley!

Why use WIDA?

- University-based, non-profit research center
- Develop assessments, teaching resources, research
- WIDA tools used in 41 US states & over 100 countries
- Serve a global network of over 500 international schools
- Committed to equity and social justice
- Supports high-quality English Language Development (ELD)

From August 2023, we will begin to use the WIDA system to assess, teach, collaborate, and focus on what our ELL students CAN DO!

We will use the WIDA MODEL; this is an English language development interim assessment that measures students' proficiency in the four language domains of Speaking, Listening, Writing, and Reading.

By administering this progress monitoring tool, we'll have an additional data point for our multilingual learners during the year. This data gives us a real-time indication of our students' proficiency levels, and it can help to guide instruction, monitor student language growth, and inform our decisions about curriculum and programming.



More information will be coming soon. For now, here is what you need to know:

- In May 2023, K3 will take part in fun oral language conversations to assess listening and speaking skills to support their transition into Grade 1
- From August 2023, we will use WIDA to support students English language development from Grades 1+
- We will be administering the WIDA MODEL assessment to any current learning support students who are not yet proficient in the English language

As we know, for students who are multilingual learners, it is important to not only monitor their academic growth but also their progress toward English language proficiency. Implementing WIDA and the WIDA MODEL will allow us to do just that!



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