

Delay of Testing Parent Letter

Date: _____

Dear parents of _____, Student #: _____

You are receiving this letter because at registration, you answered “yes” to one of the three-language survey questions.

- Is a language other than English used in the home?
- Did the student have a first language other than English?
- Does the student most frequently speak a language other than English?

We thank you for completing the Home Language Survey when you enrolled your child in our school. We have not tested his (her) proficiency in English yet, but we will complete this task within the next four weeks. Since Florida educational laws require that your child be tested within 20 days, we regret the delay and will complete this requirement as soon as possible.

Florida law mandates that each Florida district assess students that upon registration answered yes to one of the Language Questionnaires. This assessment is to provide the best opportunity for an equal education.

The Consent Decree (also known as the META or ESOL Consent Decree) of 1990 is Florida’s framework for compliance with federal and state laws and jurisprudence regarding the education of ELLs. It addresses the civil rights of these students, with the primary right of equal access to comprehensible instruction. The Consent Decree is the result of a class action complaint filed by Multicultural Education, Training, and Advocacy, Inc. (META) on behalf of a coalition of eight minority rights advocacy groups in Florida, including the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), and a number of students.

Beginning in 1990-91 each student, upon initial enrollment in a school district, shall be surveyed at the time of enrollment by being asked the questions identified in the three- language survey questions. Students whose initial enrollment in the district was prior to the 1990-91 school year shall also be surveyed unless they have been previously classified as LEP or unless they have been surveyed with the survey questions provided in the three- language survey questions. The survey questions may be included on a registration form or on a separate survey. In either event, the survey shall be maintained in accordance with Rule 6A-1.0955, FAC.

Sincerely,

The CCPS EL Department

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