

The Why of Classes for English Learners

Did you know that Connecting Waters has a policy in place to help our English Learners attain English Language proficiency? This policy takes into account the state mandates, CWCS' mission and vision, and the needs of our student population. We take time every year to look at how our students are doing and talk about what we can do to best support this special population of students inside our school. A major component of this plan is our English and DELD (designated English language development) classes.

Our English and DELD classes work in tandem to support students as they become proficient in English. Our teachers use Integrated and designated English language development standards and techniques as they work through the curriculum with students. This extra support has helps students to achieve English proficiency. Having that credentialed expert that can teach important concepts in the ways that we know our English Learners need is vital!

One of the huge benefits of these classes is that the parents and teachers are working together to educate the students. The teachers work with students on three days of the week (two days as a large English class and one day just with our English Learners) and the parents come alongside the teachers to teach the other two days. This teamwork is essential to both the success of the students and the mission and vision of our school.

We have seen a tremendous amount of student success since these classes were put in place. Our students have stronger foundations and are reclassifying at a greater rate. Another positive aspect of these classes is the sense of community that is formed as the students, teachers, and parents work and grow together.