CCSD, Georgia, and the WIDA® Consortium Framework

The ESOL program in CCSD adheres to the federal and state mandates regarding providing services to students who are eligible to receive language acquisition assistance. In 2005, the state of Georgia joined the World-Class Instructional Design Assessment (WIDA). This consortium comprehends 33 states, the District of Columbia and the Northern Mariana Islands, dedicated to the design and implementation of high standards and equitable educational opportunities for English learners. Three additional states, Florida, Idaho and Indiana, have adopted the WIDA® English language proficiency standards.

The focus of WIDA® has always been on advancing academic development and academic achievement for English Learners. The WIDA® framework provides meaningful support to those who work to support the success of this diverse group of students. The five ELP standards are reflect the social and academic language expectations of ELs in grades K-12 attending schools in the United States.

Proficiency Levels

WIDA’s standards framework distinguishes five levels of language proficiency, defined by specific criteria. Level 6, Reaching, represents the end of the continuum rather than another level of language proficiency. In other words, level 6 represents language performance that meets all the criteria for level 5.

These levels describe the spectrum of a learner's progression from knowing little to no English to acquiring the English skills necessary to be successful in an English-only mainstream classroom without extra support. This final, exit stage for ELL status is designated Level 6 (formerly ELL). Within each combination of grade level, content area, and language domain, there is a Performance Indicator (PI) at each of the five points on the proficiency ladder, and the sequence of these five PIs together describe a logical progression and accumulation of skills on the path to full proficiency.
The 5 English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards

Social And Instructional Language
English language learners communicate for Social and Instructional purposes within the school setting

The Language Of Language Arts
English language learners communicate information, ideas and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of Language Arts

The Language Of Mathematics
English language learners communicate information, ideas and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of Mathematics

The Language Of Science
English language learners communicate information, ideas and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of Science

The Language Of Social Studies
English language learners communicate information, ideas and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of Social Studies

Language Domains

Within each of the proficiency levels, the WIDA® ELP standards also include the four language domains as follows:

Listening: process, understand, interpret, and evaluate spoken language in a variety of situations;

Speaking: engage in oral communication in a variety of situations for a variety of purposes and audiences;

Reading: process, understand, interpret, and evaluate written language, symbols and text with understanding and fluency; and

Writing: engage in written communication in a variety of situations for a variety of purposes and audiences.