



## **ESL Modifications/Accommodations** **Notice**

One result of the Lau vs. Nichols 1974 Supreme Court Decision is that students who do not speak English as their first language **must be provided instructional and assessment modifications** so they have the opportunity to be academically successful (Ovando, Collier, & Combs, 2006).

NCLB (No Child Left Behind) **requires** that ELLs receive the same high quality content that mainstream students learn (Gottlieb, 2006).

Accomplishing these goals is a challenge for teachers who are typically not prepared in how to accommodate English Language Learners (ELLs) in assessment or instruction. Many (ELLs) are now mainstreamed into regular classrooms. Increasingly mainstream teachers are faced with teaching students who speak English as their second language along with their native English speaking students.

According to NCLB, **the teacher is responsible for teaching grade level content to ELLs and for assessing ELLs on content areas**. Busy mainstream classroom teachers are often overburdened with many responsibilities that leave them little time to prepare special accommodations for ELLs.

Despite this, mainstream teachers are responsible for preparing ELLs to take standardized and teacher-made tests and assessments.

School systems need mainstream classroom and ESL teachers to indicate on progress reports that their ELL students are receiving appropriately accommodated instruction and assessment.

If you need assistance with ESL Students and modifications, please contact your locally assigned ESL teacher or Todd Goforth, ESL Specialist at 321-2553 or [tgoforth@scsk12.org](mailto:tgoforth@scsk12.org).