

# Mission Statement

## English Language Acquisition Department

The mission of the English Language Acquisition Department (ELAD) is to ensure that English language learners in the Mesa Public Schools gain the English literacy skills necessary to become productive members of society and to assure compliance with federal and state laws. In order to prepare students to take their place in society, ELAD will provide assistance to district personnel so that English language learners acquire:

- ❖ English listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- ❖ competence in basic skills
- ❖ emotional security and confidence in using English at home, at school, and in the community

### Direction:

The English Language Acquisition Department provides district personnel training and assistance on appropriate methodology and strategies used to teach English language learners. Information and support are offered to MPS educators regarding proper State certification required to teach in a Structured English Immersion classroom. The department makes available resources to implement effective strategies in these classrooms. ELAD staff provides assistance to students in maintaining links with their primary language and original community by including multicultural activities in academic and extracurricular settings.

### Major Focus of Elementary Program:

- ❖ develop communication skills in English
- ❖ develop literacy skills in English
- ❖ integrate use of technology in language instruction
- ❖ refine and expand literacy and communication skills, working towards the goal of English proficiency

### Major Focus of Secondary Program:

- ❖ develop ability to communicate with peers, teachers, and others in order to integrate students into their school and community
- ❖ develop literacy skills in content area classes
- ❖ integrate use of technology in language instruction
- ❖ encourage participation in content area classes, clubs, and other school functions
- ❖ identify and pursue student's purpose for enrolling:
  - earn a high school diploma
  - pursue post-secondary education
  - accommodate other goals of student