Parkway School District ESOL Program--Grades 9-12 – Central High School

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

***1. How do you decide which students get ESOL services?***

 🡪When students enroll in Parkway Schools, they are asked what language(s) they speak at home. If they do not speak English at home, they must be given an English test by an ESOL teacher. Students who do not get high scores on the English test are recommended for ESOL services.

***2. What is on the English test?***

 🡪This test assesses students’ listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English. The test also has both social English AND academic English parts. For example, students may be asked to read and answer questions about American history.

***3. How long is the English test?***

The more proficient a student is in English, the longer the test takes. It can take anywhere from 30 minutes to 2 hours.

***4. Which high schools have ESOL services?***

 🡪Parkway Central High and Parkway North High

\*Level 3

\*ESOL Essentials

***5. Which ESOL Level does my student need?***

 🡪Teachers use the students’ scores on the English test. Also informal conversations with students help teachers decide which level is best.

***6. How long will my student be in ESOL?***

 🡪It is different for all students. Most students follow the flow chart below:

ESOL Level 1 🡪ESOL Level 2 🡪 ESOL Level 3 🡪Regular English

***7. What do students do in each ESOL level?***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Class** | **Curriculum** |
| **ESOL Level 1** | Beginning Level* Present, Past, Future tense
* Units on topics such as: math words, clothing, opposites, animals, food, family, and more…
* Writing paragraphs
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| ESOL Level 2 | Middle Level* Conditional sentences, past perfect tense, relative clauses
* Personal Narratives, Shared Inquiry, Persuasive Writing
* *MacBeth*, non-fiction
* Writing essays and research papers
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| ESOL Level 3 | Advanced Level* Reading modified (easier) versions of regular English literature.
* Writing essays
* Idioms
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| ESOL Essentials 1(Students who have completed Level 1) | Improving English literacy* A lot of reading and writing
* Focus on reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing development
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| ESOL Essentials 2(Students who have completed Level 2 or3) | Improving English literacy* A lot of reading and writing, especially non-fiction
* Focus on reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing development
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**\*Essentials 1 is for students who are not yet ready for ESOL Level 2.**

**\*Essentials 2 is for students who are not yet ready for ESOL Level 3 or regular English.**

***8. What happens after my student is exited from the ESOL program?***

 🡪Once students are exited from the ESOL program, they are placed on “monitor status” for 2 full years. Students on monitor status:

* Can continue to receive help from ESOL teachers if needed.
* Have their grades and progress checked regularly by ESOL teachers.
* Do not take ESOL English or ESOL sheltered classes.

***9. What are ESOL sheltered classes?***

 🡪ESOL sheltered classes are school subject classes only for ESOL students. These classes are taught by an ESOL teacher AND a school subject teacher. At Parkway Central we have sheltered classes in:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| School Subject | ESOL Sheltered Classes |
| Social StudiesC:\Documents and Settings\erauch\Local Settings\Temp\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\ZAG0LZX6\MP900446438[1].jpg | * ESOL American History
* ESOL World History
* ESOL American Government
 |
| ScienceC:\Documents and Settings\erauch\Local Settings\Temp\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\0YXMML9K\MC900233971[1].wmf | * ESOL Biology
* ESOL Matter (chemistry)
* ESOL Forces (physics)
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| MathC:\Documents and Settings\erauch\Local Settings\Temp\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\K4TDK82T\MC900332680[1].wmf | * ESOL Math (pre-algebra)
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| HealthC:\Documents and Settings\erauch\Local Settings\Temp\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\0YXMML9K\MC900366622[1].wmf | * ESOL Health
 |
| Businesshttp://t0.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcQhGDDk2BCNRVsMy4MywVV-DZIai36ae9k5aPnaH8NEg2mXuATbiw | * ESOL Personal Finance
* ESOL Keyboarding
 |

 Sheltered classes are for Levels 1 and 2 only.

***10. How can I find out my student’s bus information?***

🡪All bus information can be found online.

1. Search “Parkway School District”

2. Click "Bus Route Information" on the left.

3. Click "elink Transportation information"

 Username:  guest

 Password:  guest

4. Click on **Advanced Search (**or else it will give them an attendance area bus stop).

5. Enter Grade, School-**Central High**, Program-**ESL**, Address

***10. Will my student have homework every day?***

***12. Will my student have homework?***

🡪 Yes. But, every teacher and class may be different. Homework is often listed on teachers’ webpages. All teachers’ webpages are on the Parkway Central High School webpage.

***11. How can I check my students’ grades?***

 🡪The Parkway School District uses a program called *Infinite Campus*. Students and parents must sign up and create a username and password for *Infinite Campus*. Instructions are online.

Search “Parkway School District Infinite Campus Parent Portal.” Click on “Portal Instructions.”



***12. How is the American school environment?***

* More relaxed and informal.
* A lot of group work ![C:\Documents and Settings\erauch\Local Settings\Temp\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\UCR4NJNS\MC900297565[1].wmf]()
* A lot of projects (power points, posters, charts) ![C:\Documents and Settings\erauch\Local Settings\Temp\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\K4TDK82T\MC900078768[1].wmf]()
* Teachers want to know **how** students got the right answer. 

**Other Important Info!**

* Once a month (the first Wednesday of the month), students will have “Late Start Days.” On these days school starts exactly 2 hours later at 9:35am. Students’ buses will pick them up exactly 2 hours later from their normal pickup time.
* Snow Days! If there is heavy snow or ice, Parkway School District will cancel school. You should receive an automatic phone call that says, “Due to inclement weather, the Parkway School District will be closed on date.” If you do not receive a phone call, you can check the Parkway School District’s website, or check local news on TV.
* Free/Reduced Lunch Form—Ask your ESL teacher.

OR

Apply online. Search “Parkway Free and Reduced Lunch”

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Event** |
| **August 9** | **New Student Orientation 8am-11am** (Come to school, get your schedule, meet your teachers and see where your classrooms are.) |
| **August 10** | **First Day of School!** |
| **August 18** | **Open House 7pm** (Come to PCH and follow your child’s schedule. Meet the teachers.) |
| **September 5** | **Labor Day-NO SCHOOL** |
| **September 10** | **Homecoming Dance** (Back to school dance in cafeteria of PCH; not mandatory) |
| **September 22** | **Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences 3-8pm –**Talk to your child’s teachers about his or her progress |
| **September 28** | **Day of Service** (All students will participate in volunteer work for different charities. Regular classes will not be held.) |
| **October 7-10** | **No School (Fall Break)** |
| **November 1** | **Early Release (Students go home at 12:30.)** |
| **November 7-8** | **No School** |
| **November 23-27** | **Thanksgiving break; No School** |
| **December 6** | **Early Release (Students go home at 12:30.)** |
| **December 19-22** | **Semester 1 Final Exams** (Students go home at 11:35 on Dec 20-22.) |
| **December 23-January 8** | **Winter Break; No School** |
| **January 16** | **Dr. Martin Luther King Day-No School** |
| **January**  | **Register for classes for next school year** |
| **January-February** | **ACCESS test given to all ESOL students.** Test measures speaking, listening, reading, writing in English. Results arrive in April or May. |
| **January 31** | **Early Release –** (Students go home at 12:30pm.) |
| **February 17-20** | **No School-Presidents’ Day** |
| **February 22** | **Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences 3pm-8pm** |
| **March 10-19** | **Spring Break-No School** |
| **April 4** | **Early Release** (Students dismissed at 12:30pm) |
| **April 14** | **No School** |
| **April 19** | **ACT test (free for all students in grade 9-11)** |
| **May 12** | **Last Day for Grade 12** |
| **May 16-19** | **Semester 2 final exams** (Students go home at 11:35 on May 22-25.) \*May 25 is the last day. |