Dear Parent/Guardian,

In February and March 2017, your child participated in the English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century (ELPA21). ELPA21 is an assessment that measures student’s English Language Proficiency as identified within the West Virginia English Language Proficiency Standards.

Included with this letter is the ELPA21 Individual Student Report. This report gives you a better understanding of your child’s performance on the ELPA21. In working with your child’s teacher and school, you can use this information to build on strengths that your child possesses and work on skills where improvement is needed.

Results from this test are not part of the school’s grading system and will not appear on your child’s report card. However, the ELPA21 scores do become part of each student’s permanent record.

Included with this letter and your child’s individual student reports, you will find an information sheet outlining descriptions of each test. If you have questions about these results or you need further information, please contact the school or your child’s teacher.

The West Virginia Department of Education is dedicated to the academic success of each student in West Virginia. Thank you for your efforts and support in the education of your child. Together, we can ensure our children will be prepared for global success in college, in the workplace and in life.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Paine, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

SLP/MP:MI

Enclosure
**Description of Tests**

**English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st century (ELPA21)** is the English language proficiency assessment that West Virginia uses to measure the growth of English Learners (EL) students’ English proficiency. It measures growth of K-12 students in the domains of:

- Listening,
- Speaking,
- Reading,
- Writing,
- Comprehension.

In addition, it also yields a composite score that represents the overall level of the student. The ELPA21 has five levels of proficiency:

- Level 1 – Pre-functional
- Level 2 – Beginner
- Level 3 – Intermediate
- Level 4 – Advanced
- Level 5 – Fully English Proficient

This assessment helps determine students' English language development and better prepares them to function in mainstream content classrooms. ELPA21 is a test of English proficiency, not of academic content. Therefore, there are no content areas or prior knowledge requirements to score well on ELPA21.

Steven L. Paine, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Schools