



August 2018

ELL Parent Center Newsletter

The English Language Learner (ELL) Parent Center serves as a resource for parents to support them in advocating for their children's academic achievement. The Center offers English classes, access to community services, and uniquely designed workshops, crafted to meet parent needs and encourage involvement and leadership in the community at large.



Welcome Back!

We are getting ready for another great semester, and have lots of exciting things going on. Our ESL Classes start in September, and we have several weekday morning and evening options to choose from. Fliers with more information are at your schools, and can be found at our website: www.ellparentcenter.org.

We are also excited that the [Parent Mentor Program](#) is coming back for its 7th year in the Niles Township. This program helps to bring together parents and their school communities by placing parents as volunteers in their child's school with a teacher, 3 days per week for 2 hours a day. There is a 4th day with a professional development training where parents learn about community resources, school programs, and how to build relationships with school administrators. If you are interested in participating and have a child in District 68, 69, 72, or 7.35 call for more information. Read about one of our success stories on the next page!

Community Member Gathers Donation for ELL Parent Center

Kristina Perez Thomas wants to give back to her community. She has lived in Skokie for 6 years and though she's a busy working mother with 2 children, she makes time for community involvement. Kristina reached out to us over the summer looking for a volunteer opportunities and other ways to help. She successfully organized neighborhood donation drives in the past, and decided to work with her friends and neighbors to gather school supplies for both parents and children who come to the ELL Parent Center. The donation was more than we could have ever expected. We received pens, notebooks, backpacks, markers, binders, and much more! We are very fortunate to live in a community whose residents value diversity and believing in helping each other. Thank you, Kristina, and thank you to all of our community supporters.





Tseggy with her PMP Teacher, Ms. Yom

Parent Mentor Program Success Story

The ELL Parent Center has served over 200 parents across the Niles Township through the Parent Mentor Program. One of them is Tsetseggama Gomez, or Tseggy. She is originally from Mongolia and volunteered at Meyer School in District 73.5 during the 2013-14 school year. Tseggy is now entering her 5th year as an instructional aide at John Middleton School, and though she still feels the jitters in August, her position brings out the best in her and she finds it very rewarding.

Fall 2018 Classes:

Intensive ESL: This class meets 3 weekday mornings/week, from 9:30a-12:00p. We have levels Basic-3, taught by Oakton Community College teachers.

Level 4 ESL & Advanced ESL: Our classes are growing! For students in higher levels of ESL, classes meet Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:30a-11:30a.

Family Literacy: Learn about the American school system through this ESL class offering both basic and advanced levels. Class meets Monday and Wednesday from 5:30p-7:30p.

Evening ESL at District 69: For those who need evening classes, this class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00p-6:30p at Madison School in D69. It is open to all D219 and Skokie parents!

Citizenship Preparation Class: If you have your citizenship interview date or just want to start studying for it, join us Thursday evenings from 5:00p-6:30p.

ESL Café: Practice speaking and listening to English at this drop-in conversation class. Hosted at the Skokie Public Library, this class meets Wednesdays from 12:30p-2:00p. No previous registration required to attend.

If you would like to reach out to us, you can call Diana Juarez at 847-568-7611

or email at djuarez@skokie68.org.

