

# FOREST PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1201 SW 3rd Street; Boynton Beach, FL 33435  
561-292-6900

*A Title I & International Baccalaureate School*  
Home of the “ROARING TIGERS”



Sharonda Alleyne  
Principal

Alexis Valentin  
Assistant Principal

## Language Policy

### Forest Park Elementary Mission Statement

Forest Park Elementary aims to develop active, inquiring, and knowledgeable lifelong learners who achieve standards and who make a difference through intercultural understanding and respect.

### Vision

Forest Park Elementary envisions a dynamic, collaborative, and multi-cultural community where education and lifelong learning are valued and supported. Integrative technological modalities assist learners to reach their highest potential and succeed in global outreach, while providing experiences that prepare students to become productive citizens.

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the value of language diversity in the school and to support all language learners and their families.

### Languages Offered

The language of instruction and response language in the school is English.

The school offers the following language courses: Spanish as part of the Fine Arts Rotation

### School Population

We have a large ESOL population. Approximately 45% of the population is Haitian Creole and approximately 15% of the population is Spanish speaking. As a result we have a Haitian Creole and a Spanish Interpreter to assist with heritage language. We also have a Haitian Creole School Counselor.

### Mother-Tongue Support

We have two translators on campus: one for Haitian Creole and another for Spanish. We have several teachers that speak Creole and several who speak Spanish. All of our documents sent home are in Creole, Spanish, and English.

### **Communication with Non-English Speaking Parents and Guardians**

All of our documents sent home are in Creole, Spanish, and English. We have people on campus that can translate in the heritage languages of Haitian Creole and Spanish. In addition there are several teachers and other staff members that speak Spanish or Haitian Creole.

### **English Language Learners**

Title III of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 provides Federal funds to the School District of Palm Beach to supplement English language instruction in order to ensure that all English Language Learners, including immigrant children and youth, attain English proficiency, develop high levels of academic language proficiency in English, and meet the same challenging State of Florida academic achievement standards as all Florida students are expected to meet.

Title III in Palm Beach County provides:

- Supplemental instructional materials for students
- Supplemental professional development for teachers, administrators, and non-instructional staff
- Parent involvement calendars
- A summer language acquisition program for secondary English language learners
- Additional bilingual staff to support families and students

All of our elementary teachers are ESOL certified or are in the process of being certified. We have multiple teachers that provide push in support for our ESOL students in reading instruction and math instruction.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

All stakeholders, including students and parents, teachers, and administrators, agree to implement the language policy. They also agree to the following:

- ❖ Students: assist new students with language translation if needed
- ❖ Teachers: use pictorial representations to assist students in learning English
- ❖ Parents: read material in native language, ask questions when needing clarification.
- ❖ Coordinator: Continue to ensure all documents are translated into Spanish and Creole.

### **Terminology**

- ❖ **Language of instruction:** The language in which an IB World School delivers IB programmes and courses to its student population.
- ❖ **Response language:** The language in which IB students engage in internal or external assessment.
- ❖ **Language course:** In the MYP, DP, and IBCC, an academic course in which IB students acquire a new language, or improve their knowledge of a language and its literature.

### **Evaluation of Policy**

The IB faculty and administration remain deeply committed to ensuring the success of the language policy. Toward this end, the faculty and administration will review the policy regularly with an eye toward improvement. The policy will be reviewed annually by the IB Committee. This policy was last reviewed Fall of 2024.

### **Policy Distribution**

Copies available in the front office and on the school website.

### **Committee**

IB Committee for FY25 consists of the IB Coordinator, an Intermediate Teacher, a Primary Teacher and a Support Teacher.