



# Sobrato Early Academic Language (S.E.A.L.)

Presentation to the Board of Trustees

August 8, 2017

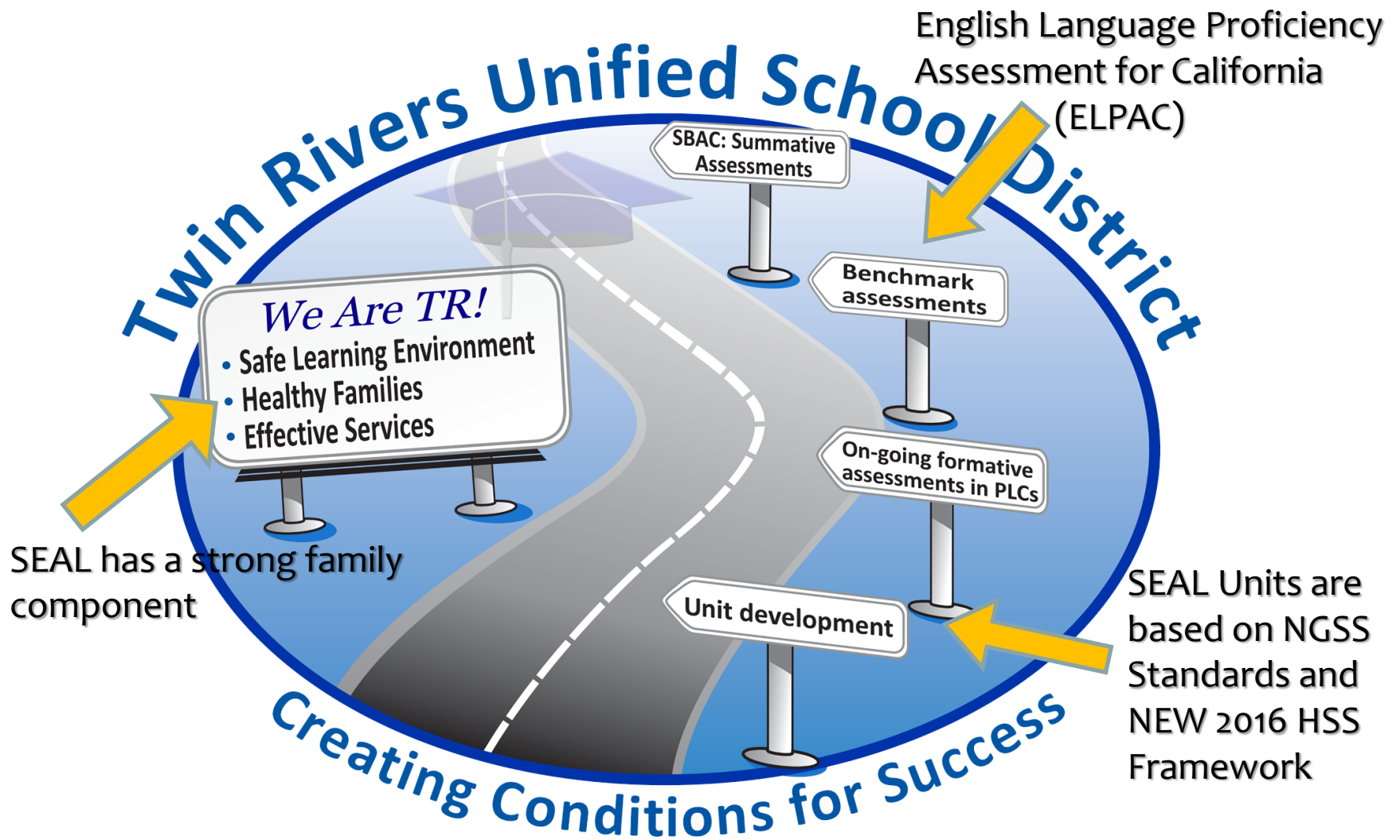
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# Purpose of Tonight's Presentation

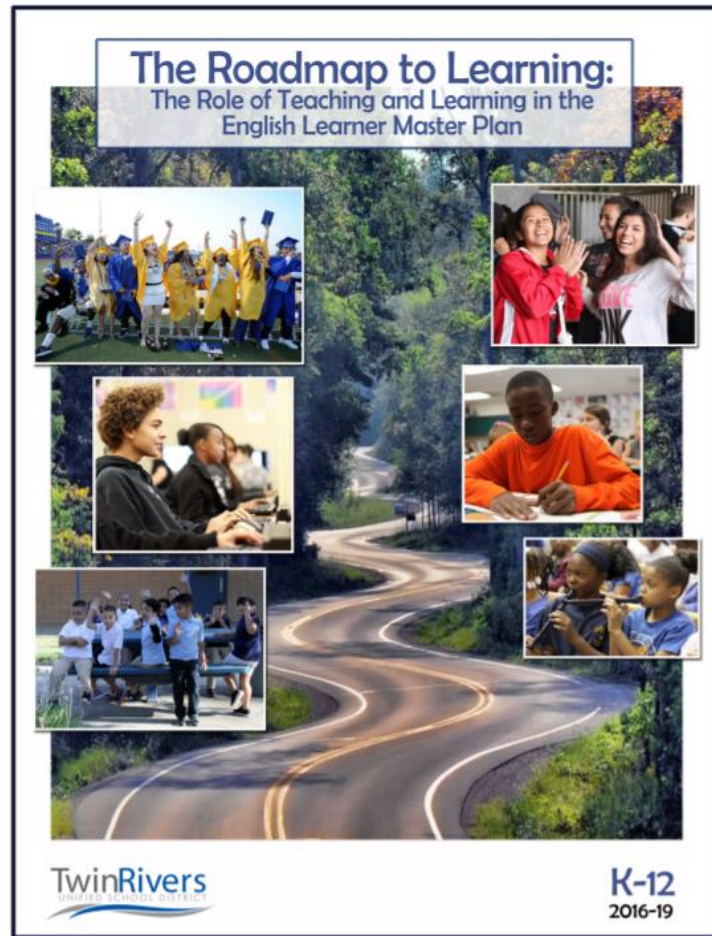


To provide Trustees an overview of the SEAL Program, our Progress, and Next Steps.

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The mission of Twin Rivers Unified School District Department of English Learner Services is to provide rich, meaningful, and highly effective programs for English Learners, based on research.



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# What is SEAL?

The Sobrato Early Academic Language Model (SEAL) is a program designed by Dr. Laurie Olsen to build the capacity of preschools and elementary schools to powerfully develop the language and literacy skills of young English Learner children.



- based on most current research on effective practices
- focuses on language and literacy throughout all subject areas



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# Why Are We Piloting SEAL?

- English Learners represent the fastest growing student population in the U.S.
- SEAL focuses on meeting the demands of the new Common Core standards while addressing the needs of English Learners, their parents, and their teachers.
- Focuses on supporting English acquisition in a student's earliest years.
- CA has the most ELs in the country (22.3% of student population) (National Center for Education Statistics, 2016)
- Castori and MLK (Grant attendance pattern) have significantly more Long Term English Learners (LTELs) than the rest of the district.

*About 25% of TRUSD students are English Learners.*

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# Research Supporting this Model

- 5 year longitudinal study done by Dr. Kathryn Lindholm-Leary
- 85% of SEAL students were early advanced or advanced on California English Language Development Test by entry into 4th grade

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# Who Benefits?

## Students Who Are English Learners:

- Academic Progress
- Rapid Acquisition of English
- Builds Cultural Understanding



## English Only Students:

- Scaffolded Instruction
- Thematic units of study benefit ALL students
- Academic Language Acquisition

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# Who Is Involved in SEAL?

- Preschool, TK, Kindergarten, First grade teachers (in collaboration with Montgomery Elementary in Davis)
- English Learner Services Department (ELSD)
- Teachers-on-Special-Assignment De Ann Karl and Leslie Moore



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# Activities and Progress in 2016-17

- 16 TK-1 teachers trained in Modules 1-3
- Collaboration between ECE/ELD depts and elementary schools
- Teachers created 4 thematic units built around NGSS and new HSS Framework Standards

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# What Does SEAL Look Like?



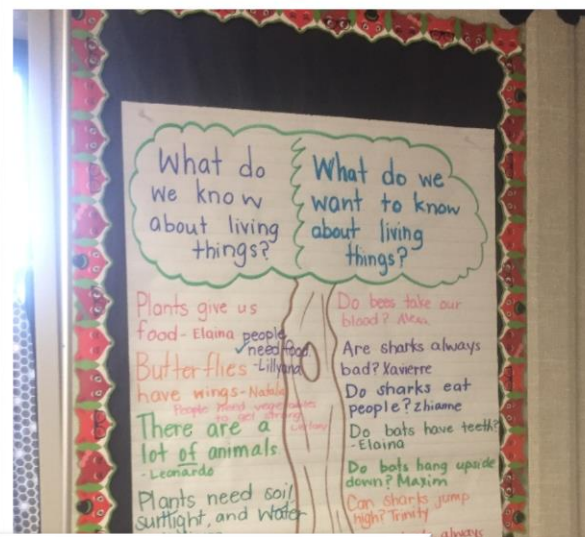
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# What Does SEAL Look Like?

New Word	Final Meaning	Language Extension
protection H: 10 NH: 6	A way to keep from danger or to stay safe	-tion (it changes a verb to a noun)
Clown fish use sea anemones for their <u>protection</u> .		



Living Thing	Description	Habitat
Bee	Insect 6 legs flies honey bees	in a hive in a field in a garden
Cilantro	plant herb green	in a garden in a field in a garden
Bat	animal flying nocturnal	in a cave in a field in a garden
Shark	animal fish ocean	in the ocean in a field in a garden



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# What Do Our SEAL Teachers Say?

“SEAL has transformed my students’ oral language. They are using more high academic vocabulary not only in their speaking, but also their writing. They are attuned to the new vocabulary and it’s wonderful to see them apply it in our discussions.”

-1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher, Strauch

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The goal of the SEAL model is to develop academically proficient and literate students who love reading and writing, express themselves articulately in two languages, and are actively engaged in their learning.

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# Looking Ahead

- 2016-17 TK-1 cohort will go through Training Models 4-6 in 2017-18
- 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> grade cohort added at Strauch and Castori 2017-18 – will be trained in Modules 1-3
- 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade SEAL is currently being developed and will be considered for future TRUSD implementation.

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Thank you for your interest in our  
SEAL program.

Questions or Comments

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