



# Journey Middle School

English Learner Program 2025-2026



## Welcome to Journey

Madison City Schools is a diverse school system, and we have many families that speak a language other than English at home. Our English Language (EL) Program is designed to help our English learners become proficient in English, while encouraging families to maintain the use of their native language at home.

## HOW DO WE IDENTIFY ENGLISH LEARNERS?

At registration, every family completes a Home Language Survey. If a language other than English is indicated on the survey, students must take the WIDA MODEL/WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT). These assessment tools measure a student's English language proficiency on a scale of 1.0-6.0. We use the proficiency score, classroom teacher input, and other available assessment data to determine eligibility for our ESL program. Parents have a right to waive EL services.

## OUR PROGRAM

Our EL Program provides supplementary instruction to support language development and the attainment of the content standards. All instruction is provided in English and is adapted to the student's English proficiency level by highly qualified EL teachers. Students may be pulled from regular class time for small group instruction or EL teachers may work collaboratively in the general classroom setting to support individual student needs. Students take an annual assessment called the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 that measures listening, speaking, reading, and writing proficiency. Once a student scores an overall 4.8, they will exit the program. We monitor all exited students for 4 years to ensure academic success.

## Contact Us!

Karin Holley

[kmholley@madisoncity.k12.al.us](mailto:kmholley@madisoncity.k12.al.us)

Traci Cherry

[tmcherry@madisoncity.k12.al.us](mailto:tmcherry@madisoncity.k12.al.us)

## Languages Represented at Journey!

Arabic  
Burmese  
Vietnamese  
Spanish  
Chinese  
Japanese  
Portuguese  
Turkish  
Russian  
Ukrainian  
and many more!



Our Motto:

**One heart,  
many  
languages!**