

The Advanced Learning Department is committed to transforming the Advanced Learning program, so every student has access to the learning services that help them thrive, with a focus on students who are Native American, BIPOC, Students who are Multilingual, receive Special Education services, or who receive FRL/MKV services.

Eligibility Decisions – How are Decisions Made?

Eligibility Decisions are made using a Multiple Criteria of Evidence. Teams of professionals review the data for each student and make the following eligibility decisions: More detail about minimum of two criteria:

- **Highly Capable (HC)** – Students with the greatest need for accelerated content in both Reading and Math.
- **Advanced Learner (AL)** – Students with the need for differentiation above grade level in either Math and/or Reading in their neighborhood school.
- **Continuing Advanced Learner (CAL)** – Students who were AL and did not have data showing a need for HC services.
- **Not Eligible at this time (NE)** – Students are not eligible for AL/HC due to lack of data or evidence of a need for services.

2022 Eligibility Decision Information:

- Decisions will be made on **Friday, April 29** and shared with families on **Thursday, May 5**.
- Principals/AP's will receive the link to their eligibility decision file on **Tuesday, May 3**.
- Appeals are due on Friday, May 20. Appeal decisions will be sent to families on **Friday, May 27**.
- Families with HC eligibility will complete a form giving permission for services and choosing either the Cohort/Pathway School or neighborhood school where they will participate in their school's Advanced Learning Opportunities.

How Can Building Leaders and Teaching Staff Advocate for Students?

- Once Families have their Eligibility Letters, any staff member can advocate for their students through the appeal process. We strongly encourage support of **families furthest from educational justice** in the appeals process.
 - For students who didn't have a teacher Demonstrated Performance data piece or students who are missing Reading or Math data (K-2 students require a strong F & P or other evidence of being a strong reader), a teacher comment and description of the child's strengths is also strong evidence.
- Support families who need your advocacy with completion of the HC Forms.
- Communicate with families whose student received an AL or CAL eligibility that you will share more in the fall about services available in your building.
- Encourage families who received the NE eligibility that their kids have amazing strengths and the AL department will be sharing the information gathered in this process with schools to inform instruction.

Each Building Leader will receive a copy of the eligibility letters and the appeal form to share with their staff.

As the new service delivery model is phased in over time, we will provide teacher training and support, engage families thoughtfully and regularly, and provide tiered support in every neighborhood school. The Advanced Learning Team looks forward to supporting you in the weeks and months ahead.