

# **GUIDELINES FOR DECLINATION OF LANGUAGE SERVICES FROM BILINGUAL OR ESL PROGRAMS**

According to the NJ Administrative Code 6A:15 Bilingual Education Act {sub category} **The Parental Consent Amendment:**

## ***Elementary and Middle School Students:***

1. Any parent of a child who has been screened and deemed in need of Bilingual/ESL language services has the right to decline Bilingual and ESL services or ESL only services for his or her child. No child's program placement will be changed without the necessary signed documentation by the child's parent. Declination forms can be completed at the Office of Bilingual Education/ESL/World Languages (OBE/E&WL).
2. If a child qualifies for bilingual services, but the parent does not want his or her child to be taught in a bilingual setting, the parent still can choose an ESL only option which would still require the parent to meet with a qualified staff member of the Office of Bilingual Education/ESL and World Languages (OBE/E&WL) to complete an ESL only option form. No student program placement will be changed without the necessary signed documentation by the child's parent.
3. During the first year of a child's participation in any program, the OBE/E&WL recommends that any declination of Bilingual/ESL services be issued at **the end of the school year,** to take effect at the beginning of the following school year.

## ***High School Students:***

Parents of high school students expressing a desire to decline language services (Bilingual and or ESL) must complete the necessary declination of language services form. Declination forms can be completed at the Office of Bilingual Education/ESL/WL. No student program placement will be changed without the necessary signed documentation by the child's parents.