

ELL Tips for School Staff: Custodial & Maintenance

Here are some ways that custodians can support English language learners (ELLs).



Introduce yourself.

Greet students with a smile and introduce yourself. Let students and families know you are there to help them and where to ask questions.



Remind students of safety.

Help students understand safety rules. Use safety signs with visuals, and if possible, use bilingual signs. Keep in mind that students may be new to the school.



Address safety issues.

If you notice recurring safety issues, bring these issues up to a supervisor. Students or families may need more information or reminders in their language about specific policies.



Address bullying.

Address any bullying you see immediately. ELLs and their families may not be familiar with school policies related to bullying and they may be afraid to report any incidents.



Educator Voices: Ricky Robertson, Education Advocate

I worked in a building where the custodian had some of the strongest relationships with the students in the building because of the time he took to say hello, greet them, or to check in with them. He built trust and he built relationships. And I have no doubt that he positively impacted the lives of thousands of students over the course of his career. ([Video excerpt](#))

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