Utilize bilingual faculty and support staff
Hire Spanish speaking teachers and support staff to take advantage of Spanish home-language fluency. These human resources can support math learning and English language acquisition both formally through the curriculum and instruction, and informally through classroom interaction.

80% of the 5.5 million English Language Learners in public schools speak Spanish as their first language.

Set high expectations with a rigorous curriculum
With Latino ELLs, educators should hold high expectations for every student, work flexibly to meet individual student needs, and avoid adopting a deficit model of student performance.

Implement personalized, individualized, and blended models
Leveraging anytime, anywhere, self-directed learning with the support of technology in and out of the classroom is a powerful way to increase access and provide equal access to quality education.

Use assessment that’s balanced and dynamic
NCTM suggests that a best practice for ELLs in math is empowering them to demonstrate and explain their understanding in multiple ways.

Increase engagement and motivation
Lessons and classroom experiences that require active involvement can motivates ELLs to engage more deeply with the learning process. Connections to authentic and meaningful contexts can support the development of concepts and core skills in a more meaningful way.

Myth: “Math isn’t language dependent”
Fact: A respectable body of research indicates certain kinds of language may cause difficulty for ELLs in mathematics.