



What Makes for Quality Education for English Learners in the 21st Century?

What Needs To Be Included and What Actions Can We Take:
Lessons Learned from the Past and New ideas for Today

Open Space Report: New York City

As a convener, we would like you to put together a short report from your group describing the following. When you're finished, please type in this report in one of the laptops and hand in this sheet. Thanks!

1. **Names of group members**

Xae Alicia Reyes, Miriam Yeung, Lisanne Kaplan, Vladimir Ashworth, Colleen Kubinski, Alla Kuznetskova, Mary Enright, Jean DiVincenzo, Trudi Durrell

2. **Issue/Topic/Activity**

CT Caucus: Issues & Concerns with CT ELLs

3. **Highlights of Discussion/Recommendations/Next Action Steps**

- 1) **Professional Learning:** for general ed teachers – need to extend this PD, cover the costs to districts & we need assistance getting both administrator & teacher participation AND buy in.
- 2) **SRBI (Rtl) & ELLs:** need to have proper assessments for ELLs and proper identification for placement in Special Education & **PROPER UNDERSTANDING** of WHAT Tier ELL is in Rtl model (Tier 1) as well as appropriate Tier 2/Tier 3 services
- 3) **Assessment:** changing the 10-month exemption for ELA assessment (increase it) & the **IMMEDIATE** (less than 10 month) Math & Science assessments

Using assessments for progress monitoring & finding alternative or more appropriate assessments other than the mandates ones for this purpose
- 4) **Teacher Ed:** using the media to communicate new trends & highlighting “Hollywood” teaching myths

Mandate coursework in ELL strategies/SLA for all pre-service teachers & teach them that students need tasks that utilize all 4 language skills
- 5) **Oral Language development:** need to stress this at the secondary level, where it gets lost to addressing the content

Need to differentiate between reading & oral language dev & stress the research that states that for ELLs, strong Oral language development leads to greater gains in reading achievement & overall academic achievement

- 6) **HS grad requirements:** need to be the same for ALL students, including ELLs, but time needs to be allotted for students to reach these requirements & proper support (sheltered content classes FOR CREDIT) needs to be provided for the ELLs to reach their full potential and to develop a full future of their careers
- 7) **We need a COMMON MESSAGE & COMMON DIRECTION** from CT Leadership (CSDE) for **ASSESSMENT ACCOMMODATIONS** & we need to have **COLLABORATION** among HIGHER Ed for teacher education

4. Available Resources

ConnTESOL / CAPELL (a comprehensive list of resources is listed on the website here also) / CREC / EASTCONN / Project EXCELL / each other!!

5. Follow-up requests

An email list went around & will be tyoed up/shared with participants to follow up; a Call for Proposals for ConnTESOL will be sent to all to try to increase Professional Learning & more voices

PLEASE have someone from OELA / TESOL K-12 represent ELLs in discussions about the ESEA Reauthorization & ASSESSMENTS