



# ***What Makes for Quality Education for English Learners in the 21<sup>st</sup> 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**  
Facilitators: Helaine Marshall and Ellie Palewonsky

2. **Issue/Topic/Activity**  
SIFE students: placement and promising practices

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

We need to recognize what they bring to learning. Need a paradigm that helps them connect transition to American way of schooling as that is what is required for success.

**Key Points:**

Find out what prior learning they have- not necessarily formal education  
There is NOT higher incidence of special e din this group  
System needs to move them when they are ready, not after a given amount of time

**Issues:**

Do guidance people have info and skills?  
National policy of only recognizing 4 year HS completion is a barrier  
Tech centers need ELL support  
Undocumented students are limited in jobs and post-secondary schooling

**Models: Accept these conditions for learning**

Oral tradition  
May need relevance  
Interconnectedness  
Learn in the present- what you need today  
Move to independence a value for teachers, not necessarily students

**Processes: Combine their ways of learning and ways of American schooling**

Rely on one another  
Oral transmission vs written word  
Use pragmatic tasks in context of doing  
Since we must test, teach the task that is tested

**4. Available Resources**

Elle reviewed new website she has been working on:

Guidelines for Educating ELL/LEP/SIFE students

<http://bit.ly/Ino0Bn> or go to

[www.nysed.gov](http://www.nysed.gov)

Office of Bilingual Education

Resources

Guidance Documents

Guidelines for Educating LEP/ELL/SIFES

**5. Follow-up requests**