Advocating for English Learners

2014 National Professional Development Project Directors Meeting

March 10, 2014

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Advocacy as Leadership

• **TESOL P-12 Professional Teaching Standards**
  – Domain 5: Professionalism
    • 5.a – ESL Research & History
    • 5.b – Professional Development, Partnerships, and Advocacy

• **NBPTS ENL Standards**
  – IX – Professional Leadership & Advocacy
TESOL P-12 Professional Teaching Standards

• **Domain 5: Professionalism**

Candidates take advantage of professional growth opportunities and demonstrate the ability to build partnerships with colleagues and students’ families, serve as community resources, and advocate for ELLs.

*5.b – Professional Development, Partnerships, and Advocacy*
Accomplished teachers of ELLs contribute to the professional learning of their colleagues and the advancement of knowledge in their field in order to advocate for their students.
Types of advocacy

- Self advocacy
- Case/personal advocacy
- Cause/public/issue advocacy
Ripple Effect

Group of teachers advocating for ELs in district

Group of teachers advocating for ELs in school

Same teacher advocating for ELs outside classroom

One teacher advocating for ELs in classroom

Staehr Fenner 2013
Framework of advocacy

- Educate
- Organize
- Activate
- Currency
- Defensibility
- Futurity

_Herrera & Murry (1999)_
Knowledge is credibility

- Facts & issues
- Policies & procedures
- Options
- Resources
- Documentation
Rights

- Laws – Local, State, Federal
- Contracts
- Rules & Policies
- Preferences & Social Expectations
Spheres of influence

Professional

Private

Public
Strategies

• Personal expertise

• Opportunities for collaboration
  • Conversations
  • Observation
  • Modeling
  • Professional Development

• Mutual respect
Networks

• Who do I know?
  – Personal networks
  – Professional networks

• What resources do they have?

• Who do they know?

• Who are the other stakeholders?
Ingredients

- Networking
- Education
- Strategy

ADVOCACY
Success
“Let us not be content to wait and see what will happen, but give us the determination to make the right things happen.”

- Horace Mann