

TETON SD 401 / ELL UPDATES – August 15, 2017 - Doug Tedford, EdD - ELL Coordinator

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Hi! Here is a fairly comprehensive update on ELL affairs within the school district. There may be one or more areas of special interest. Please contact me with your comments, questions or corrections. I look forward to meeting and working with you.

1. IDENTIFICATION OF CURRENT AND INCOMING ELL STUDENTS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF ACQUISITION GOALS

- Reminder to principals to please send out the **home language survey** with any **newly enrolling potential ELL students**.
- Please send me a **name, grade level, and teacher for each newly enrolling potential ELL**. I will language screen the student within the state's **placement notification time frame**.
- Intake Language Screen: After completion of certification for **WIDA online screener Sept. 8 and (K-1 W-APT paper)** I will arrange for **screening of all newly enrolling potential ELLs**.
- I will check **new Access 2.0 online previous year data** for scores for students who will enter grades 2 through 12 and investigate **W-APT paper test scores for K-1 (semester 1)**. Once I log on I can share this data with you if wanted.

2. ANNUAL ELL ASSESSMENTS AND PROGRESS MONITORING

- **Access 2.0** testing of identified ELL students will occur between **late January through early March of 2018**. I will follow up with you mid-Fall for planning.
- WIDA is the state mandated evaluation system. I will introduce a **language observation tool** that ELL teachers and paras can use to report an intermittent informal progress score. More soon!
- **Holistic scoring of ELL writing samples** is a very positive option to explore for progress monitoring at all grade levels. Other numeric data can be also considered.

3. ENGLISH LEARNING PLANS, MONITORING PROGRESS AND ELP MEETINGS

- I will soon deliver to principals the **K-2 Newcomer/ 3-5 Newcomer** teacher and student manuals for **Pearson Language Central** (ordered last year).
- After interacting in August/ early September with the ELL teachers at each grade level, will disperse the **Pearson LC student worktexts and practice books** with auxiliary materials.

4. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – ELL STANDARDS OF PRACTICE – BEST PRACTICES – CURRICULAR DECISIONS

- We will interact online and in person to **review and share knowledge of ELL teaching methodologies**, and modifications for students at **progressive levels of English proficiency**.
- We will set goals and **describe best practices for self, peer ratings** and in preparation for (state/ federal) **ELL program reviews**.

5. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL TEACHERS: WIDA ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

- A **planned program of ELL professional development** is ready to present, in segments throughout the year. It will be modified to focus specifically on implementation within the school district – dates to follow.

6. K-12 EXIT PROCESS (REDESIGNATION PROCEDURES) AND IDAHO APPROVED DATA BASED DECISION MAKING
 - Presently the **Access 2.0 ELL midyear summative tests** are designated to determine eligibility – **WIDA level 6 of 6**. Test rigor is increasing. Additional measures may be included. More soon!
7. REGULARLY SCHEDULED ELL PARENT MEETINGS – COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT
 - Planning mid-September dates for **7 p.m. ELL parent meetings in three locations – Tetonia, Driggs and Victor**. Will contact you again within the week to confirm or adjust dates.



QUICK INTRODUCTION

This is my family and I in Western Guatemala where we have been volunteering since 2007 with a foundation to develop better English skills for rural teachers. I have lived and worked for 10 years in Mexico City in the ELL publishing industry, 10 years in US ESL public education settings, and 9 years with Migrant/ Seasonal Head Start serving low-income Hispanic preschool children and families. We returned to the US to live in Idaho in 2014. (left to right): daughters Emily, Allison, Laura and wife, Rebeca Chávez).