



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: Charlotte

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

*Presenter / Nadja Trez	Bridget Wilson	Helen Atkins
*Presenter / Kathy Meads	Ivanna Mann Thrower	Linda Lippitt
Annalee Taylor	Christine Mayhill	Rui Zhao
Lucy Spence	Minda Searcy	
Holly Shellenberger	Ira Bottoms	

2. Issue/Topic/Activity Dual Language

Dr. Meads began the discussion by asking participants to tell the group a little about themselves and to describe the knowledge they had about Dual Language Schools. She then reviewed the CMS journey with regard to the dual program at Collinswood Elementary School in Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools. In the 90s we had Spanish emersion. (VP Collier's research centered on the Positive Effect of Dual Learners at Collinswood Elementary School as a Dual Language Elementary School) CMS received a grant to establish a dual language elementary school. It was exciting but presented some difficulties.

Collinswood Elementary School is now the leading elementary school in the district.

3. Highlights of Discussion/Recommendations/Next Action Steps

Nadja Trez, CMS ESL Specialist, discussed how the dual language program is managed at Collinswood.

- Kindergarten is taught entirely in Spanish
- English is gradually introduced in Grades 1 and 2 throughout the school day
- In grades 3-5 math is taught in Spanish
- Math curriculum investigations in Spanish / 4th and 5th grade
- This coming year (2011/2012) we will move into 6th grade
- Spanish teachers move to 6th grade
- Tiered teacher professional development / TWIOP / Spanish facilitator
 - Teacher B / Has more experience / Professional Development based on teacher needs and experience
- Students' academic language, CALP, was so high, they needed to speak BICS in cafeteria to develop the social language.

Participants discussed their respective school/system and whether or not they are a Dual Language School.

Ivanna Mann Thrower's Input Regarding NC LEAs with Dual Language Schools

- NC DPI Longitudinal Study
 - # of Schools in the study? 6

- # of Schools in the study 10
- # of Schools in the study 10+

Phase I

- Started with 6 LEAs
- Looked at dual language schools
- Looked at non dual language schools

Phase II

- 07-10 Added 4 LEAs
 - Looked at dual language schools
 - Looked at non dual language schools
 - Added well implemented SIOP

Phase III

- Looking at more LEAs
- Dual Language
- Non dual language
- SIOP in more in depth

- 2007-08/Data Started
 - Results
 - ELLs dual language students
 - Non dual language students in a dual language school
 - Non dual language students in a non dual language school
 - 3-8 grade state mean and dual language mean is about the same
 - Non dual language student
 - MFLEP student dual language / non dual language state “means” and MFLEP at or above the state means
- Dual language learners are above State “Mean”.
- Why are non dual language students so much lower?
- Cognitive stimulating environment

How does the school attract teachers?

Placing the right person in the right place at the right time / principal sets the tone

Principal related that all of her students were TD, high expectations

Open House is conducted with parent advocates every day.

Community Resources

Chamber of Commerce

Community Support

How is Spanish taught to English families? The same as the LEP students.

Keys:

- Don't stress about it
- Homework in Spanish
- Communications go home is in English as well
(Caldwell County / K and 1 students / Parents did not understand homework / Yet students benefited from total immersion into Spanish program)

4. Available Resources

- English speaking parents at Collinswood share their resources / Network

- It is critical to a successful program to have the right teachers
- The students adapt to cultural differences / cultural enrichment is provided from parents to child to other students
- Work on assessing the target language students in Spanish?
- Use the Spanish version of Dibbles

5. Follow-up Requests.

- Is it possible to start a school within a school?
 - Caldwell County started with 1 kindergarten class the first year.
 - Continued the following year
 - Important to have parents of both languages buy into it.
- Start “Tiny”
 - Begin afterschool program with Heritage Languages?
 - Start small and build on existing program (Asheboro is also doing this.)
- Why isn't the district supporting more dual language schools?
- Must offer services other than pull-out?
 - DPI and Federal government cannot mandate this / it is a local choice.