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Announcements and Reports

Ohio's Plans for Developing English Language Proficiency Standards that Correspond to the Common Core State Standards

In June 2010, the Ohio Board of Education adopted the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics which was developed as a multi-state effort across the United States. The board also adopted more rigorous versions of Ohio's academic content standards in science and social studies called the new Ohio Learning Standards. All four sets of standards will underpin teaching in Ohio classrooms by school year 2014-2015. The purpose of these new standards is to provide students common understanding of what knowledge, skills and abilities they are expected to learn in order for them to be competitive in a global economy. It also helps teachers and parents know what they need to do to help children perform and compete.

Because of changes in the rigor, depth and complexity of content standards, the Ohio Department of Education is also planning to develop new English Language Proficiency (ELP) Standards that correspond to Ohio's new academic content standards. For this purpose, Ohio has joined a multi-state consortium working with the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) to develop new ELP standards as well as an assessment aligned with the new ELP Standards. The consortium submitted a proposal for funding through the Enhancement Assessment Grants (EAG) from the U.S. Department of Education to support this effort.

The new ELP standards are expected to become available in school year 2013-14 for the beginning of phase in, and the new ELP assessment is expected to be operational by 2016-2017. In the meantime, Ohio schools are expected to continue use of Ohio's current ELP Standards for instruction of English language learners and continue the administration of the Ohio Test of English Language Acquisition (OTELA) for assessing students' progress in English language acquisition.

Resources for additional information:

http://engageny.org/resource/common-core-standards-and-english-language-learners/

http://www.corestandards.org/assets/application-for-english-learners.pdf

> Third Grade Reading Guarantee

Excerpted from the August 6, 2012 issue of EdConnection (click here to access current and previous 2012 issues of EdConnection)

ODE has created a Web page with guidance and resources for districts, educators and families to better understand the new requirements. These resources can be found by clicking <u>here</u>.

The Third Grade Reading Guarantee is designed to ensure that all Ohio's students are reading at grade level by the end of third grade. Students must receive diagnostic assessments so that those who are not on track for reading at grade level can get the extra time and help they need to overcome their reading deficiencies.

Some key points from the new requirement include:

- All K-3 students will undergo annual diagnostic tests to determine reading ability;
- If a student is not on track to read at grade level, the school district must create a reading improvement and monitoring plan that details the student's reading deficiencies, describes needed interventions and includes parents in the improvement plan;
- Unless students are exempted for reasons stated in law, those who have not reached grade-level reading by the end of the third grade will be retained. Students who are retained will continue to receive intensive remediation, including at least 90 minutes of reading instruction daily; and
- These provisions take effect this fall, but student retention under the new criteria will not occur until the 2013-14 school year.

For additional information about the Third Grade Guarantee, refer to the <u>attached</u> copy of the special edition of Ides of ODE, August 29.

Information on how the Third Grade Guarantee will impact English Language Learners will be provided at a later date.

Federal policy on immigration may prompt increased requests for school records

Excerpted from the August 20, 2012 issue of EdConnection (click here to access current and previous 2012 issues of EdConnection)

Because of recent federal actions to defer deportation proceedings for undocumented immigrants who meet certain criteria, schools may be receiving requests for copies of school records from some students.

In June 2012, the federal government announced that it will offer "deferred action" to immigrants who were brought to the United States as children and who meet other specific

requirements. The program grants two-year deportation deferrals and work permits to illegal immigrants who were brought to the U.S. as children.

Starting last week, individuals are allowed to apply for "deferred action." Part of the application process requires individuals to show evidence of having lived in the U.S. continuously since June 15, 2007. It also requires them to show that they are currently in school or have graduated, obtained a certificate of completion from high school, or a GED. The application also may include proof of diplomas, GED certificates, report cards and school transcripts.

Click <u>here</u> for more information about the "deferred action" policies. The website also contains information about enrolling students in public schools, regardless of their citizenship or the immigration status of their parents, a fact sheet, and questions and answers for school districts, parents and community members.

➤ English Language Learners and Former English Language Learners: Performance Data on Ohio Assessments

The <u>attached</u> data chart shows that ELL students in Ohio who have successfully completed the ELL program and are officially mainstreamed into regular classrooms score proficient or higher on state academic content assessments at a very high rate. The chart provides the percentage of students scoring proficient or higher on Ohio's state assessments (Ohio Achievement Assessments –OAA and Ohio Graduation Tests –OGT) in reading and mathematics in school years 2007-2008 to 2010-2011.

Professional Development Opportunities

> September 2012 – July 2013 - Professional learning series focuses on "Moving Standards into Instruction"

Teachers throughout Ohio are looking at how Ohio's new learning standards will change classroom teaching in the 2013-2014 school year. To support this shift in instruction, ODE is offering four training sessions for curriculum and instruction supervisors, professional development facilitators and other district leaders on how to implement the shifts at the district and classroom levels.

Participants will learn about the common instructional shifts expected for all subject areas and types of learners, as well as shifts within specific subjects. They also will take away modules they can use to facilitate implementation in their districts; examine examples of model

classroom units based on the instructional shifts; and join fellow educators in designing their own high-quality instruction.

Information, including an overview of the series and details about the four trainings are available here. To register for the regional sessions, see the dates, times and locations in STARS.

> September 24, 2012; November 15, 2012; March 15, 2013 – Series of ELL sessions held at the Summit County Educational Service Center

Refer to the <u>attached</u> document entitled "Summit County ESC – ELL 2012 Flyer" for further information regarding the ELL session series.

 October 10-12, 2012 - Ohio Association of Administrators of State and Federal Education Programs (OAASFEP) Title I/Federal Programs 2012 Fall Conference "Leaders for Learning"
 Hyatt Regency, Columbus, Ohio

Conference and registration information can be accessed via the following Website: http://www.oaasfep.net/Conferences/conferences.html

- October 13, 2012 The Ohio Parent Forum This free event will take place from 10am to 2 pm at the Bowsher High School, 2200 Arlington Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43609. The purpose of the forum is to inform, educate and train parents; to equip them for their roles as partners in the learning process of their children. The forum is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education in partnership with the Ohio Department of Education. See the Save the date notice and register at parent.congress@tps.org
- November 9-10, 2012 Ohio TESOL Fall Conference in conjunction with the Lau Resource Center

This year's conference will be held at the Ohio State University's Student Union in Columbus. Registration and other conference information will be available the second week of September at the Ohio TESOL website (click here).

Articles

Can Bilingualism Counteract Effects of Poverty? by Leslie Maxwell Source: Education Week, August 29, 2012 – click on the following link: http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/learning-the-language/2012/08/can bilingualism counteract ef.html

Court Rules That Alabama Can't Check Student Immigration Status by Leslie Maxwell Source: Education Week, August 21, 2012 – click on the following link: http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/learning-the-language/2012/08/court rules that ala cant chec.html?cmp=ENL-EU-NEWS2

Resources

Parent informational documents in English and other languages from the Lau Resource Center

The following parent informational documents are posted on the Lau Resource Center page of the Ohio Department of Education website (click here).

- Information (in English and other languages) regarding parent notification requirements when their children are identified as English Language Learners
- Letters (in English and other languages) to parents whose children have been identified as English Language Learners
- Letters (in English and other languages) to parents of students who have met criteria for exiting the LEP program.
- Information (in English and other languages) regarding Title III of No Child Left Behind

> English Language Learners in Ohio

The <u>attached</u> document provides information regarding the following topics: characteristics of English Language Learners, legal obligations of all districts serving ELLs, Title III of No Child Left Behind, factors that may impact ELLs' acquisition of English and academic progress and Resources on ODE website for school districts serving ELLs.

> SchoolsMovingUp – WestEd: Spotlight on English Language Learners

This update highlights some key resources focused on supporting English learners, especially long term English learners, a large and underserved group of students. http://www.schoolsmovingup.net/cs/smu/print/cs bmsg/673

Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's Services (BRYCS)

Bridging Refugee Youth and Children's Services (BRYCS) provides national technical assistance to organizations serving refugees and immigrants so that all newcomer children and youth can reach their potential. For more information, click on the following link: http://www.brycs.org/

Parents' Guide to Student Success (in English and Spanish)

National PTA developed the Parents' Guide to Student Success (in English and Spanish) in response to the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics that

more than 40 states have adopted. Created by teachers, parents, education experts, and others from across the country, the standards provide clear, consistent expectations for what students should be learning at each grade in order to be prepared for college and career. The Guides include:

- key items that children should be learning in English language arts and mathematics in each grade, once the standards are fully implemented.
- Activities that parents can do at home to support their child's learning.
- Methods for helping parents build stronger relationships with their child's teacher.
- Tips for planning for college and career (high school only).

To access the Guides, click on the following link: http://www.pta.org/4446.htm

Monthly Teacher Guide

To access the current issue of the Teacher Guide and to sign up for free monthly e-mail, click on the following link: http://www.monthlyteacher.com/

Recognitions

> Recently retired Ohio ELL educators

The Lau Resource Center of the Ohio Department of Education acknowledges the many years of service of the following colleagues who have helped enhance the ELL profession and the quality of education provided to Ohio's English Language Learners. Our understanding is that although our colleagues listed below have retired from certain positions, they plan to continue to serve as resources in the area of ELL education. We salute you!

- Lillian Acker, retired as ESL teacher with Gahanna Jefferson City Schools
- Brenda Custodio, retired as Assistant Principal with Columbus City Schools
- Jeannette Dawes, retired as member of the Ohio ELL Advisory Committee
- René Phillips, retired as ESL Coordinator with Southwestern City Schools)
- **Elenny Tuleta**, retired as Department Head of Language Services with Cleveland Heights-University Heights City Schools.

Please share with us the names of other retirees who meet the following criteria: 1) lifetime of teaching/administration ELLs, 2) active in sharing information and networking in the ELL community. Send information to lau@education.ohio.gov

To unsubscribe from the *Updates from the Lau Resource Center*, please send email with the heading "unsubscribe" to lau@education.ohio.gov