Welcome!

FACTS ESOL INFORMATIONAL FAMILY NIGHT

MARCH 2014
Agenda

- 5:30-5:40: Greetings and Introduction
- 5:40 -5:55: Parental and Student Rights, Basics on Second Language Acquisition, and Monitoring Progress of an English Language Learner
- 5:55 -6:10: FACTS Program Model
- 6:10 - 6:20: Questions and Answers
- 6:20-6:30: Parent Survey
ESOL Team

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What is ESOL?

- English Speakers of Other Languages or English as A Second Language (ESOL) = a program that provides targeted instruction to students with limited or developing language proficiency.
- ESOL instruction is a basic core curriculum.
- ALL instruction must be appropriately modified to meet the needs of the individual student.
- English Language Learners (ELLs) must have the opportunities to demonstrate the proficient level of the standards through a variety of assessment strategies.
- ELLs should be graded on the modified objectives determined by teachers.
Who Do We Serve?

- English Language Learners (ELLs) = students learning or developing English language skills.
- Newcomers = Students with limited English language proficiency, because of the length of time they have been enrolled in a U.S. school system
- Parents and Families
Flexible Model = A combination of push-in and pull-out instruction; Determination is based on student needs

- Push-in Model = Teacher provides ESOL instruction in the general education classroom.
- Pull-out Model = Teacher provides instruction 1:1 or in a small group outside the general education classroom.
- Co-teaching = More than one teacher teach together per lesson. Lesson is pre-planned prior to the delivery.
Parental Rights

- A Home Language Survey is required for families to complete in every school in the United States. The Home Language Survey is an initial tool used for determining if a student may qualify for ESOL services.
- Every school must have an ESOL program handbook developed regardless of ESOL enrollment. The handbook must be made available to teachers, community members, and families.
- Parents may request for information in their home language.
- A parent cannot deny ESOL services.
- An annual report of a student’s progress must be shared with parents.
Student Rights

- Students who have exited an ESOL program must be monitored. FACTS monitored students for two years.
- ELLs cannot be retained due to lack of English language proficiency.
- ESOL instruction must continue for ELLs placed in a special education program.
- ESOL instructor must be fully certified.
- ELLs cannot be denied or discriminated against because of their English language proficiency.
- If you feel your rights or your child’s rights are not being protected, please contact the ESOL coordinator or principal.
Basics on Second Language Acquisition

- Development of any language is a process. People learn at different rates.
- It takes 5-7 years to develop proficiency.
- Learners develop the social language much sooner than the academic language that is required for the overall success in a school setting.
- Fossilization is when learners acquire non-targeted language features, because it was not corrected.
People immigrate to the United States for many different reasons, such as economic or educational opportunities, while others arrive to escape political distress or to gain religious freedom. Whatever the reason, it is rare that a child made the decision to leave the familiarity of their home to begin a life of uncertainties. Therefore, it is the role of administrators and educators to provide equal and equitable education to all our students.

**Affective Filter:**

The affective filter is a screen of emotion that can block language acquisition or learning if it keeps the users from being too self-conscious or too embarrassed to take risks during communicative exchanges.
Two Types of Language

- **BICS** (Basic Interpersonal Communicative Skills) or social language is everyday conversational and survival language
  - Ex. Where is the bathroom?
  - BICS takes 1-2 years to acquire

- **CALP** (or academic language is the language of school tasks)
  - Ex. What is the sum of 4 + 5?
  - CALP takes 5-7 years to acquire
Language Acquisition
James Cummins Iceberg Model
Monitoring the Progress of English Language Learners

- Looking at the annual WIDA test results can help tell if the student is making progress toward English proficiency.
- Students in the earliest stages of language acquisition make the most dramatic progress.
- If you are interested in hearing about your child’s progress, please see your ESL teacher.