

Program Elements and Teaching Practices for Fostering School Success in English Learners

Research to Practice

Presented by Jacqueline Lopez

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Key Features of Professional Development

Appropriate Content and Resources

- Second Language Acquisition and ELD Strategies
- Integrated Learning Approach
- Social and Cultural Competence
- Family Engagement

Training offers hands-on and built-in practice.
Face-to-Face Trainings with follow-up support

- One-to-One Customized Support/Coaching
- Web Tools - Highlight best practices
- Professional Learning Communities

Joint Reflective Curriculum Planning

Gaps and Challenges

Personal Beliefs and Misconceptions

- Address teachers' perceptions, attitudes and beliefs about bilingualism and language loss.

Research and Best Practices vs Actual Practice

School Leadership for English Learner Success

Greater Content Knowledge Gaps with Preschool Teachers

Training with Follow-up

- Limited human resources
- Teacher Release Time

Professional Learning Communities and/or Reflective

Curriculum Planning

- Time
- Shared Responsibility
- Access to current research/resources and best practices

Professional Development Needs

Build Teacher Competencies and Skills

- Social Competence
 - Positive Relationships with Children
 - Positive Relationships with Families
- Cultural Awareness and Sensitivity

Provide Strategies to Support Children and Families.

- Dual Language Support, Second Language Acquisition Process and/or English Language Development.
- Support Children's Social-Emotional Development
- Family Engagement

Addressing Home Language Support

Staff provides primary language instruction and/or support

Hire staff that utilize social interaction patterns familiar to children (i.e. Home-Based Teachers in Migrant Education Program)

Provide children's bilingual books, songs and chants reflecting cultural background

Staff do not forbid children, parents and other staff members from speaking home language.

Program staff and/or parents use children's home language in as many ways as possible.

Staff provides learning experiences that encourage and motivate children to learn multiple languages.

Family Engagement

Key Highlights:

- RESPECT!!!
- Build Positive Relationships and Family Partnerships (Recognize parents efforts and contributions to children's school success.)
- Help parents understand the second language acquisition process and the importance of maintaining home language.
- Share early literacy practices with parents and provide parents plenty of opportunity to practice (i.e. MESR Parent and Child Interactive Literacy Activities; Modeling through Home-Based Program, Home-School Libraries).

Research Overview

California's Best Practices for Young Dual Language Learners: Research Overview Papers (2013 by the State Advisory Council on Early Learning and Care)

Paper 3: “Program Elements and Teaching Practices to Support Young Dual Language Learners”

(Claude Goldenberg, PhD., Karen Nemeth, EdM, Judy Hicks, EdM, PhD. Candidate, Marlene Zepeda, PhD, Luz Marina Cardona, MA)