

English Language Learners in District 64

December 15, 2014
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Our work force and our entire economy
are strongest when we embrace diversity
to its fullest, and that means opening
doors of opportunity to the fullest to
everyone and realizing that the American
Dream excludes no one.

Thomas Perez

Updated Key Vocabulary

- ✧ “EL” English Learners
- ✧ “ESL” English as a Second Language Teachers
- ✧ “ESL” English as a Second Language Services
- ✧ “TPI” Transitional Program of Instruction

Components of Excellent EL Program

- ✧ Highly Qualified EL Instructional Staff
- ✧ Appropriate Identification Process
- ✧ Comprehensive Individualized Services
- ✧ Differentiated Instruction in all Settings
- ✧ Evidence of Effectiveness based on ACCESS Performance
- ✧ Informed and Engaged EL Parents

Who are ELL Students?

- ✧ Refugees, people who have been forced from their country and cannot return;
- ✧ Immigrants, people who are coming to the U.S. for better opportunities;
- ✧ Children who are born in the U.S. to parents whose first language is not English, or speak another language in their home;
- ✧ Older children who are adopted from other countries by Americans;
- ✧ Students whose parents are visiting the United States for educational or business purposes.

The Questions We Ask

Home Language Survey Questions for ISBE

- ✧ Is the student's native language something other than English?
- ✧ Is a language other than English spoken in the home, either by the students, by their parents or legal guardians?

Initial EL Assessment

If either of the survey questions are answered “YES”, a prescribed screening instrument must be administered within 30 days of enrollment

- ✦ The WIDA MODEL is the screening instrument prescribed by ISBE.
- ✦ This is administered individually to each student by an EL teacher.
- ✦ Students who score below level 5.0 on the screener are eligible for services.
- ✦ Based on the results of the screening, program eligibility and the appropriate level of EL services needed is determined.

Annual ELL Assessment

- ✦ The World Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) ACCESS Test is administered annually to EL students each spring.
- ✦ 5 age clusters and 6 levels of English proficiency
- ✦ 4 language domains
 - ✦ Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing
- ✦ Effective January 1, 2014 in order to be considered language proficient:
 - ✦ overall composite proficiency level of 5.0
 - ✦ reading proficiency level of 4.2
 - ✦ writing proficiency level of 4.2

EL Proficiency Process

- ✦ Basic Interpersonal Communication Skills is usually attained in about two years. This is the English required for verbal communication in social settings (ie: the playground).
- ✦ Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency in English, takes much longer to acquire. This type of language proficiency is necessary in order to perform successfully in mainstream academic classes. Typically this process takes five to seven years depending on the quality of the program and services
- ✦ Students who are literate in their first language (socially and academically) will acquire English at a quicker rate than those students who are not literate in their first language.

ISBE Program Models

- ✦ TBE Transitions Bilingual Education
 - ✦ Required by ISBE when a specific school has 20 or more students with the same home language and qualify for services
 - ✦ Student receive English language instruction as well as academic instruction in their home language in a separate homeroom class
- ✦ TPI
 - ✦ Applicable when fewer than 20 students speak the same home language and qualify for services
 - ✦ Pull out ESL instruction is provided to small groups of students , up to 1 hour per day for students with lower ACCESS scores

D64 Services Model

- ✦ Preschool Model
 - ✦ Preschool teachers are also ESL certified and provide instruction and support within the classroom
- ✦ K – 8 Model
 - ✦ TPI services are provided. ESL teachers provide pull out English instruction. In some cases, based on current staffing levels, they travel between buildings.
 - ✦ Consultation is provide to general education teachers.

Assessment Options

- ✦ Options:
 - ✦ ISAT / PARCC as a measure of Academic Achievement
 - ✦ Aimsweb (K-2) and NWEA MAP (3-8) as measure of Academic Achievement
 - ✦ ACCESS as a measure of English Language Proficiency

Recommended Option: ACCESS

Assessment is stable while other options are changing

Focuses directly on English Language Acquisition

Tool that ISBE uses for this purpose

50 Languages Spoken in our homes

- ✦ Languages with over 30 students speaking that language in their homes

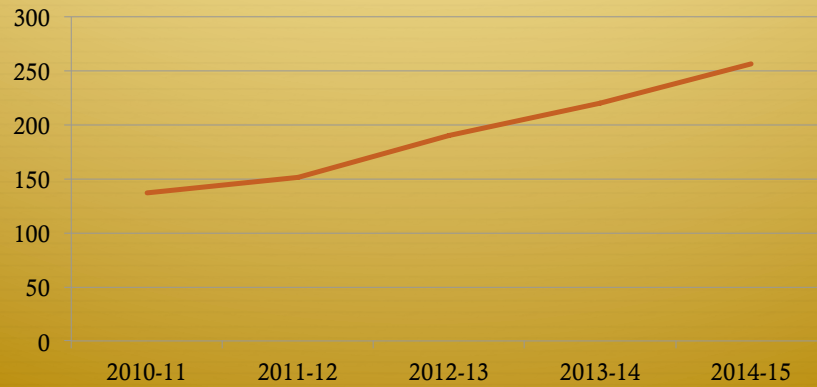
Greek	Arabic	Spanish
Polish	Serbian	Ukrainian
	Bulgarian	

2014-15 Data in District 64

✦ Students in District 64	4558
✦ Students with Second Language	924
✦ % Second Language	20%
✦ Different Languages	50
✦ Students Qualified for Services	256
✦ Students Receiving Services	202

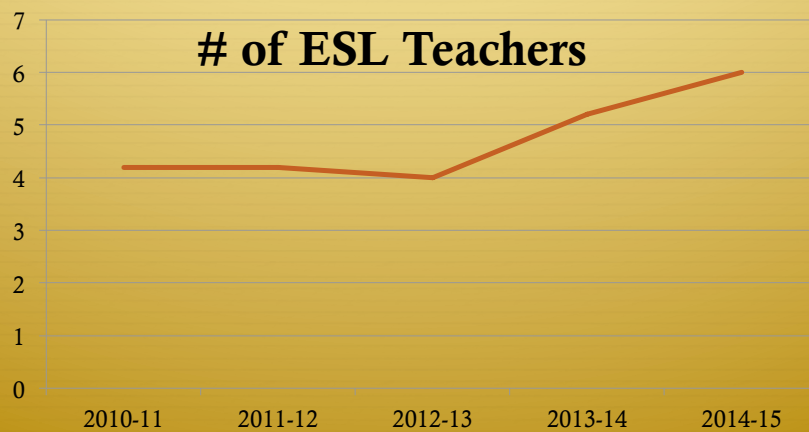
5 year Trend Data

of Students



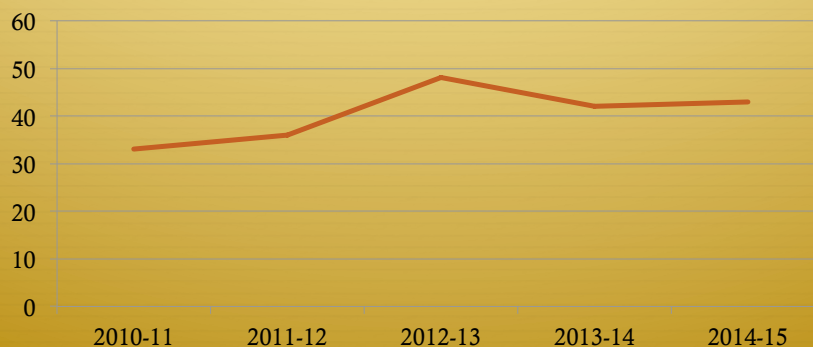
5 year Trend Data

of ESL Teachers




5 Year Trend Data

Staffing Ratio



Next Steps:

- ✦ Expand staff development opportunities for all teachers working with EL students
- ✦ Explore additional funding opportunities to support the EL programming in our district
- ✦ Consider this growth trend as we plan for staffing the 15-16 school year
- ✦ Beginning in the spring of 2015, use ACCESS data to monitor EL Program Effectiveness



**“ If we cannot end now our
differences, at least we can
help make our world safe for
diversity.”**

John F Kennedy