Overview of New York State Programs to Support Multilingual Learners, Including English Language Learners

presented to the Maryland English Language Learner Workgroup

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INTRODUCTION

"People don’t mind being challenged to do better if they know the request is coming from a caring heart."

~Ken Blanchard

Ms. Elisa Alvarez, Associate Commissioner
Office of Bilingual Education & World Languages
New York State Education Department
Of the approximately 2.6 million public school students in New York State, over 260,831 (10.0%) are ELLs.
Linguistically diverse state with over 200 languages spoken by our students.
Percent of ELLs with IEPs 2020-2021

Approximately 1 in every 4 ELLs has an IEP
- 51.3% of ELL with IEPs are in grades K-6
- 26.1% of ELL with IEPs are in grades 6-8
- 22.6% of ELL with IEPs are in grades 9-12

ELLs with IEPs
N= 58,924

Female, 34.2%
Male, 65.8%

Female
Male

77.2%
22.8%
New York State Education Law §3204: Instruction Required

“Pupils who, by reason of foreign birth or ancestry have limited English proficiency, shall be provided with instructional programs …to enable them to develop academically while achieving competence in the English language.”
Foundation of Education for English Language Learners in New York State

NYSED Blueprint for English Language Learners’ Success, 2013
1. All teachers are teachers of ELLs.
2. District and school leaders are responsible for ELLs’ academic, linguistic, and social needs.
3. ELL instruction is grade-appropriate, academically rigorous, and aligned with NYS learning standards.
4. Districts and schools recognize that bilingualism and biliteracy are assets.
5. Parents and families of ELLs are effectively involved in their children’s education.
6. The expertise of Bilingual, ENL, and World Languages teachers is recognized and leveraged to benefit students.
7. Districts and schools leverage ELLs’ home language, cultural assets, and prior knowledge.
8. Diagnostic tools and formative assessments are used to measure ELLs’ content knowledge and language development.
NYSED Parents Bill of Rights

- Right of children to receive free public education, including all core content, regardless of immigrant status and home language
- Right for a qualified interpreter/translator
- Right to receive information about child’s English language development and home language development in preferred language
- Right to meet with school staff annually to discuss child’s progress in English and overall learning
- Right to select Bilingual Education program where available
- Right for children to receive equal access to all programs and services
- Right to contact ELL Parent Hotline by phone or email
Foundation of Education for English Language Learners in New York State

Commissioner’s Regulations Part 154 Update, 2014

- ELL Identification
- Parent Notification and Information
- Retention of Records
- ELL Program Placement
- Program Requirements
- Provision of Programs
- Grade Span
- Program Continuity

- Dually Identified Students
- ELL Exit Criteria
- Intervention Support
- Former ELL Services
- Graduation Requirements
- Professional Development
- Teacher Certification
- District Planning and Reporting
1. Identification and assessment of language needs in a timely manner
2. A service model that is educationally sound and research based
3. Sufficient staff for language programs
4. Equal opportunity for ELLs to participate in school and district-wide programs
5. Avoiding unnecessary segregational practices and program models
6. Identification of ELLs with disabilities including their language needs in evaluation and services offered
7. Meeting the needs of ELLs who waive language support programs
8. Monitoring of ELLs who have reached proficiency
9. Monitoring and evaluation of language programs and student progress
10. Communication with parents
ELL Identification Process

ELL identification must be completed within 10 school days of enrollment
English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment

New York State English As A Second Language Achievement Test

- Speaking (1 session)
- Listening/Reading/Writing (3 sessions)
- Six grade bands
  - Kindergarten
  - 1-2
  - 3-4
  - 5-6
  - 7-8
  - 9-12

ELP Growth Accountability Indicator

Matrix for Determining ELP Growth: Identifies the ELP growth expected by individual English language learners/multilingual learners in order to be considered to have demonstrated sufficient growth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NYSESLAT Level Earned in Initial Year of Identification</th>
<th>Progress Target from Previous Year to Current Year for Students Who Have Been in ELL Status for:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entering</td>
<td>1.25 progress points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerging</td>
<td>1.25 progress points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitioning</td>
<td>1 progress point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expanding</td>
<td>Required to score Commanding to demonstrate progress</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MONITORING AND ENFORCING REGULATIONS

- Comprehensive ELL Education Plan (CEEP)
- Coordinated Monitoring Visits
- Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) schools
- Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) schools
- Corrective Action Plans (CAP)
WHO ARE OUR MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS (MLs)?

1) Current ELLs,
2) Students who were once ELLs but have exited out ELL status,
3) Students who were never ELLs but are heritage speakers of a language other than English, and
4) World languages students
Regional Bilingual Education Resource Networks (RBERNS)

NYS RBERN REGIONS

- Capital District RBERN
- Hudson Valley RBERN
- Long Island RBERN
- Mid-State RBERN
- Mid-West RBERN
- NYC RBERN
- West RBERN

NYS RBERN OnDemand

- NYS Language RBERN (Statewide)
- Capital District RBERN
- Hudson Valley RBERN
- Long Island RBERN
- Mid-State RBERN
- Mid-West RBERN
- New York City RBERN
- West Region RBERN
ELL Leadership Council is represented in over 40 Districts and 14 counties across New York.
Recognizing the need to prioritize equity and inclusion in every facet of our work, NYSED has developed the CRSE Framework and implementation Roadmap to promote successful outcomes for all students.

The **CRSE Framework** includes:

- A common definition of CRSE;
- Vision and guiding principles for CRSE;
- CRSE implementation guidelines for different stakeholders; and
- Supporting resources regarding CRSE.
PARENT/FAMILY COMMUNICATION

- Districts must comply with language access obligations under federal and state law. Schools have the responsibility to ensure that parents/guardians of ELLs have equitable access to information about their children.

- Communications must be provided in their parents’/guardians’ preferred language and mode of communication.

- School districts should provide interpretation and translation of critical communications through a qualified interpreter or translator in the languages most commonly spoken in the district, and at a minimum in those languages spoken by a large number and percentage of ELLs.
PR/HYLI is an annual conference that brings Latino students from across NYS to Albany to conduct a mock legislative session in the state Capitol and to meet with legislators. The institute’s goals are to:

- Develop students’ leadership skills;
- Provide students an understanding of citizenship and in-depth knowledge of the state legislative process;
- Promote a dialogue among youth and community leaders; and
- Allow students to interact with positive role models such as Puerto Rican/Latino elected officials, educators, and business leaders.
The New York State Seal of Biliteracy was adopted by the Board of Regents in 2012 and awarded to the first cohort of students in the 2015-16 school year.

- The Seal of Biliteracy formally recognizes a high school student who has attained a high level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English and one or more world languages.

- The Seal appears on a student’s diploma, and also as a notation on the official transcript.
Creating and maintenance of CR-ITIs

• NYSED funds 18 CR-ITIs at institutions of higher education;
• As of December 2019, 580 CR-ITI students completed coursework towards BE or ESOL certification.

Current CR-ITI Programs
- Adelphi CR-ITI ESOL/BE
- Clarkson CR-ITI ESOL
- College of New Rochelle CR-ITI ESOL/BE
- Fordham CR-ITI ESOL
- Fordham CR-ITI BE
- Hunter College CR-ITI-ESOL
- Mercy CR-ITI ESOL
- Molloy CR-ITI ESOL/BE
- Pace University CR-ITI-ESOL/BE
- Queens College Online Extension ITI
- Queens College Leadership and Bilingual Advanced Certificate Program
- St. Johns CR-ITI ESOL/BE
- SUNY Binghamton
- SUNY New Paltz
- SUNY Oneonta
- SUNY Stony Brook CR-ITI-ESOL/BE
- Teachers College CR-ITI-BE
- Touro CR-ITI ESOL/BE
OBEWNL Task Forces

OBEWNL has developed a number of task forces combined with staff from RBERNs and experts in the field to address the following needs:

- Project Based Learning and Performance Based Assessment
- Dual Language Programs
- ELLs with IEPs
- ELL Graduation/Dropout
- Digital Age Teaching for ELLs
OBEWL Links and Resources

Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL)

Our mission is to ensure that all New York State English Language Learners (ELLs) attain the highest level of academic success and that all Multilingual Learners (MLs) – which include ELLs, Former/Ever ELLs, World Languages students, and heritage speakers of World Languages – achieve the highest level of language proficiency in English and in one or more other languages.

- Office of Bilingual Education & World Languages
- OBEWL-World Languages Webpage
- NYS Seal of Biliteracy
- RBERN Contact Information
- The Blueprint For ELL/MLL Success
- Interpretation and Translation Supports
- NYSESLAT Cancelation Parent Notification Letter
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

- Materials developed through the ELL Leadership Council

- Collaboration with experts such as on Advanced Literacies with Dr. Nonie Lesaux

- Integrating Science and Language for All Students with a Focus on English Language Learners

- Classroom Practices for MLs and the Next Generation ELA Learning Standards

- World Language professional learning

- Monthly RBERN professional development calendar
OBEWL NEWSLETTER IS HERE!

- OBEWL is producing a monthly newsletter distributed through our listserv and posted on our website.

- If you want to be added to our listserv, please send your email to obewl@nysed.gov and indicate if you are a Bilingual, an ENL or a World Languages teacher or administrator.
Elisa Alvarez, Associate Commissioner
OFFICE OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND WORLD LANGUAGES

OBEWL@NYSED.GOV

ELL & ML Parent Hotline at 1-800-469-8224
nysparenthotline@nyu.edu

REGIONAL BILINGUAL EDUCATION RESOURCE NETWORKS
http://www.nysed.gov/bilingual-ed/regional-supportrberns
THANK YOU!