



ELL Networking Meeting - September 15, 2009 – CESA 2

Grouping Arrangement Participants self-selected a small group to participate in which is similar in size, or percentage of free/reduced lunch (poverty) **Districts – Beloit-Turner, Burlington, Deerfield, DeForest, Salem,**

Topic 1.0 -

Share two positive aspects of your ELL program. Other than budget, what challenges and/or barriers does your ELL program face in your school district?

Responses

Positive Aspects of ELL Program

- Bus to one location for one hour/day.
- Diversity
- Family/school connections – Slight improvement - need improvement.
- Strong elementary support program.
- Intentional decision to hire mainstream teachers who have can speak other languages.
- Parental involvement
- Staff training
- Staff willing to learn to meet the needs of kids.
- Flexibility of staff – going into classrooms. Not pulling them out.
- Full time aide last year – this year 1.5 (Supportive School board)
- State is helping out with ACCESS for ELL test costs.

Topic 1.5 -

Other than budget, what challenges and/or barriers does ELL face in your school district?

Responses

- Translate handbooks, etc., free software – odyssey?
- Too many “*hands in the pot*” – who does what?
- Cost of workshops – budget cuts
- Only one person trained in ACCESS for ELLS
- Staff do not know how to use a support.
- Find a good workshop to meet needs (Classroom Strategies)
- Not following through switching job descriptions.
- Working with very young children - What level are they at?

Topic 2 -

What topics, discussion, activities, and resources does the consortium need to provide to take your consortium to the next level with your ELLS?

Responses

- Translating web sites – WW
- Interpreter call centers – WW
- School districts would like translated materials
- User friendly materials for teachers “How to....”
- Staff training opportunities
- Translator service
- Consultant to districts
- Guidelines on how to approach ELL students
- ACCESS Training
- More guides and packets like ELL Resource Guide for ELL Coordinators, administrators, and classroom teachers.
- Organize network meetings.
- How to get all ELL Parents involved