

**Clark  
County  
School  
District**

# English Language Learner Program

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## Director's Message

### ELL Student Enrollment on the Rise

With the rise in enrollment of English language learners, the ELL program has looked for strategies to improve schooling for all children through changes in instruction and assessment. We support programs and practices that call for all staff members to be involved and all students to be included. Research supports that in districts with increasing diversity, those teachers that were knowledgeable about the learning needs and characteristics of English language learners were able to improve student scores.

ELL believes that these students should be neither programmatically nor physically isolated, rather that they be an integral part of the school and that they receive appropriate services. To meet the needs of our ELL students and their teachers, the ELL program is providing staff development opportunities using a method called High Quality Sheltered Instruction. All five regions in our district are in various phases of HQSI staff development. The English Language learner program is committed to providing information that will promote action and support for ELL decisions about assessment, teacher preparation, curriculum, and professional development. Please feel free to contact your region coordinator or any of the directors at 799-2137.

## CCSD Dual Language Schools

### What is Dual Language?

The Clark County School District currently has Dual Language Programs at four area schools. But what are Dual Language Programs?

Dual Language Programs are programs in which native English speakers and English Language Learners are grouped in classrooms and learn literacy skills in both English and Spanish. Students are shared between two teachers, one delivering instruction in English and the other in Spanish. Students acquire academic and social vocabulary in both languages.

The Dual Language Program has three goals: Students will acquire a second language or become bilingual/biliterate; students will develop oral and written vocabulary in both languages, which will then be applied to reading and writing; and students will gain an appreciation of other cultures and cross-cultural awareness.

Students in the program are learning language through content-based instruction. English as a Second Language (ESL) strategies as well as Spanish as a Second Language (SSL) strategies are utilized in the classroom. Academic content core curriculum is presented through a 50/50 dual language program model with half of the instructional time delivered in English and half of the instructional time delivered in Spanish. Lessons are not translated when switching from one language to the other. Rather, students learn language through content. The classroom environments are language rich, always supporting the language development of students by using visuals, manipulatives, graphs, models, visual aides, and technology.

Students considered for placement in a Dual Language Program must live within the attendance zone of the designated school or be granted a zone variance.

If you are interested in learning more about Dual Language, please contact Gail Welch, Dual Language Program Coordinator, at 799-2137 or email [Patricia G. Welch@interact.ccsd.net](mailto:Patricia.G.Welch@interact.ccsd.net).

### English Language Learner Program

**Phone: 702-799-2137**

**Fax: 702-799-2132**

**3950 S. Pecos- McLeod  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
89121**

Visit us on the WEB!

[www.ccsd.net/ellp](http://www.ccsd.net/ellp)



# Coordinators' Corner

## Field Trip for Dual Language Professionals

In November representatives from each of the CCSD schools with a Dual Language Program attended the La Cosecha conference in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico. The conference focused on the many tools that dual language practitioners, including teachers, administrators and parents, use to augment and foster the growth of their students.

Prior to the official start of the conference participants visited local schools with established programs to see if they could pick up any helpful insights into how to make their own programs more successful. CCSD educators divided into three teams so that different programs could be viewed. When notes were compared, similar traits were found in the outstanding programs. Teachers worked as collaborative partners. Strict adherence to a peer language model within the classrooms was observed. And teachers used sheltering techniques to make input in both languages comprehensible for the students.

Dr. Alma Flor Ada was the opening's keynote speaker, sharing stories of diversity, multicultural literature and the efficacy of Dual Language Programs. Many of the breakout sessions were devoted to improving student achievement and to comparing the achievement of program students to that of the general student population. All in all, CCSD personnel felt the Dual Language Programs in Clark County, although in their infancy, compared favorably to those in New Mexico and the rest of the country. However, exposure to other programs and learning of their successes and missteps can only serve to strengthen ours.

## Southeast Region

### Southeast Region News

High Quality Sheltered Instruction (HQSI) Training of Trainers was provided for cadres at 20 schools in the SE Region in October — SNVTC, Del Sol HS, Basic HS, Laughlin MS/HS, Schofield MS, Cannon MS, Mannion MS, Glen Taylor ES, Elise Wolff ES, Wiener ES, Harmon ES, Whitney ES, Sewell ES, French ES, Tomiyasu ES, Beatty ES, Hill ES, McCaw ES, Roberts ES, and Treem ES. These schools have all had their initial site-based kickoffs for staff. In addition, Cortney JHS is beginning their second year of the HQSI initiative.

Eight TeachFirst schools are beginning their second year of this site-based professional development model for teaching literacy to ELL and regular students. One new school, Hummel ES, has come on board for the 2004-2005 academic year.

An "Everything ELL" training was held on December 7 at the SE Region Office Conference Room for assistant principals and deans in charge of ELL. They were given a packet and explanations of how to access, read and interpret the weekly active list; how to request a waiver form, how to reclassify students, how to fill out and use the information in the twice yearly monitoring forms; the duties of registrars in coding and correctly placing ELL students when they enroll, Special Education and ELL; and some useful websites for teachers, among other items. The training was conducted by Jean Lewis, SE Region Coordinator. Twenty-five schools were represented.

Three schools — Bass ES, Cunningham ES, and Silvestri JHS — have undergone ELL Program Reviews.

The ELL Think Tank Committee met on December 3<sup>rd</sup> to review the status of the SE Region ELL Graduation Plan that was developed in 2002-2003.

## Southwest Region

### Southwest Region News

The SW region is working hard to ensure that ELL students receive an adequate and equitable education. Schools in the region are including effective ELL strategies in their staff development programs. Bell ES and Cashman MS are implementing HQSI as a school-wide instructional model. SW region is also partnering with the WRITE Institute in San Diego, CA to help improve reading and writing skills for the ELL students.

The WRITE Institute was designed specifically to improve ELL students' writing skills and ability. This is done through the use of literature. Currently, the SW region is utilizing the WRITE Institute with about 60 teachers in grades 4 through 9. The region plans to expand the program in the 2005-2006 school year. More schools and more grade levels will be included in the program.

School accountability is also increasing as the Assistant Region Superintendents have begun conducting school visits with the SW region ELL Coordinator. The purpose of these visits is to determine the effectiveness of each school's current ELL program and to develop plans for improvement as needed.

## East Region

### Secondary Schools Kick-off HQSI Implementation

With the ELL population for CCSD reaching over 65,000 students, the East Region has become home to approximately 23,000 identified ELL students accounting for 37% of the CCSD's ELL population. Dr. Maurice Flores, East Region Superintendent has initiated full implementation of High Quality Sheltered Instruction (HQSI) in all East Region Schools.

In October 2004, cadres of secondary administrators, teachers and specialists were trained as Trainer-of-Trainers in the different components of HQSI. The training was provided by the Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations from New Mexico Highlands University. The schools receiving training include: Martin MS, Chaparral HS, Las Vegas HS, Valley HS, Eldorado HS, Desert Pines HS, O'Callaghan MS, Fremont MS, Knudson MS, Keller MS, Harney MS, and Robison MS. School implementation plans have been developed and school site trainings have begun at all secondary schools. The participants of the training learned about the eight components of HQSI and how to use these to develop effective elements of instructional strategies for secondary ELL students at their school sites. The participants also received a Trainer's Toolkit Manual to assist them with presentation skills.

If you are interested in knowing more about HQSI training in the East Region schools please contact Norberta M. Anderson at 799-2137 or at: [nmanderson@interact.ccsd.net](mailto:nmanderson@interact.ccsd.net)



Martha Shotts CESDP HQSI presenter

## Northeast Region

### Northeast Region a CLASS Act

The English Language Learner population for the Northeast Region is approximately 18,167 students as of November 2004. Twenty-three NE Region sites are completing the final training phase of the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol/High Quality Sheltered Instruction (SIOP/HQSI). Twenty-five sites have full time English Language Learner Specialists.

The Northeast Region has been active in providing ELL Training. From September to December, 2004, teachers and administrators received staff development or in-service training on TeachFirst, Visions and High Quality Sheltered Instruction. In addition, strategies for teaching ELL students were introduced in specific presentations on Thinking Maps, Effective Vocabulary for a Diverse Population, ELL Students and the SIP Process, The Change Process, Unwrapping Power Standards and Structured Teacher Planning Time Collaboration.

Middle school counselors were provided an overview of the ELL Program and how to access, read and interpret data on the Student Active List. The counselors appreciated learning how to use this tool to assist them in accurately placing ELL Students.

If you are interested in knowing more about specific training for the Northeast Region, please contact Dr. Greta Peay, ELLP NE Region Coordinator at 799-1719 or at [Greta.Peay@interact.ccsd.net](mailto:Greta.Peay@interact.ccsd.net).



## Northwest Region

### News from the Northwest Region

Rapid growth of the English Language Learner population in the Northwest Region has created a need for more instructional strategies to meet the needs of these students. To meet those needs, Dr. Carla Steinfeldt, the Northwest Region Superintendent, has provided staff development opportunities in collaboration with the English Language Learner Program. These trainings introduce a scaffolding method called "High Quality Sheltered Instruction" or HQSI.

The NW Region held a Trainer-of-Trainers on October 21 and 22 at Becker MS to create cadres of trainers that would then implement the strategies in their own schools. The NW Region schools that participated in this training were as follows: Advanced Technologies Academy, Brinley MS, Cimarron-Memorial HS, Culley ES, Detweiler ES, Fong ES, Fyfe ES, Robert Gibson MS, Katz ES, McWilliams ES, Molasky MS, Neal ES, Pittman ES, Reed ES, West MS, and Western HS.

Future cadre trainings will include staff development to introduce the components of HQSI at each of the aforementioned sites. The training will help teachers make content comprehensible, for general education students as well as for second language learners by providing the scaffolding of instruction to bridge the gap for students whose oral and listening skills are lacking.

If you are interested in knowing more about the HQSI training in the Northwest Region, please contact Mary Sue Morin, ELLP NW Region Coordinator at 799-2137 or [MarySue.Morin@interact.ccsd.net](mailto:MarySue.Morin@interact.ccsd.net).

# Earn your TESL Endorsement- CCSD/ ELLP in cooperation with UNLV

Clark County School District English Language Learner Program, in cooperation with UNLV, is offering a series of graduate level classes for teachers to fulfill their TESL endorsement requirements. These classes will be offered in all four areas of certification: Theory, Methods, Curriculum and Assessment. Classes are appropriate for K-12, general and special education teachers. All of these classes have been approved by the State Department of Education for TESL endorsement in Nevada. Enrollment in these classes is limited to 30 students.

Sheltered instruction techniques including the High Quality Sheltered Instruction (HQSI) and Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) models will be integrated throughout the series of courses.

Any teacher successfully completing and **passing all four of the courses in this series**, and having the endorsement placed on their teaching license will receive reimbursement up to \$1,500.00 (only applies to courses listed in this article). Please direct all reimbursement questions to Jane Parsons, Director Secondary Schools ELLP, CCSD at 799-2137.

Required texts must be purchased at the UNLV Bookstore prior to the first day of classes. Registration must be received and paid prior to the first class meeting. Prerequisites will be waived for students taking this series of classes. Please direct all registration and prerequisites questions to Lori Navarrete, Associate Professor, UNLV. 4505 Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV (702) 895-2966. These classes will fill quickly so register early!

## SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

### **Second Language Methods for Diverse Learners in Inclusive Classrooms** **ESP 770-001 3 credits**

This course will focus on the study and implementation of methods and strategies for teaching English Language Learners with and without disabilities. Learner characteristics and second language development will be addressed, followed by practical teaching techniques including the HQSI and SIOP models.

Dates & Times: This courses will run the entire semester starting January 18, 2005, every Tuesday, 7:00 PM to 9:45 PM.

Instructor: Lori Navarrete  
Location: CBC C225  
Call# 33249  
Estimated Tuition and Fees: \$438.50

### **Theories of Second Language Acquisition** **CIL 753-OMI 3 credits**

This course will address the current philosophies and approaches to second language acquisition and instruction..

Dates: January 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, and February 3, 4, 2005  
Times: Thursday and Friday classes 4:30 PM to 8:30 PM  
Saturday classes 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Instructor: John Haught  
Location: CBC C225  
Call# 77046  
Estimated Tuition and Fees: \$438.50

### **Seminar in Advanced Curriculum Development for English Language Learners** **ESP 717-TS3 3 credits**

This course is a critical study of current curricular approaches for working with English Language learners. TESL competencies will be examined relative to language proficiency levels and state standards.

Dates: March 10, 11, 12, 31 & April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 2005  
Times: Thursday and Friday classes 4:30 PM to 8:30 PM  
Saturday classes 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Instructor: Elizabeth Adler-Coleman  
Location: CBC C225  
Call# 12146  
Estimated Tuition and Fees: \$438.50

### **Diagnostic and Prescriptive Assessment for Diverse Learners in Inclusive Settings** **ESP 709-TS3 3 credits**

This course will assist in the establishment of educationally relevant diagnostic and prescriptive teaching procedures for English language learners and students with disabilities. Emphasis will be placed on both individual and group methodologies.

Dates: April 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30, 2005  
Times: Thursday and Friday classes 4:30 PM to 8:30 PM  
Saturday classes 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Instructor: Lori Navarrete  
Location: CBC C225  
Call# 16847  
Estimated Tuition and Fees: \$438.50

## ELLP FAQ's

### DID YOU KNOW...

- **CCSD has enrolled ELL students from 135 countries of origins?**
- **CCSD's ELL Students speak 76 different languages?**
- **CCSD's top three foreign languages for ELL students are:**
  - **\*Spanish**
  - **\*Chinese**
  - **\*Hmong**
- **There are over 65,000 ELL students currently enrolled in CCSD?**

## Best Practices

### HQSI



- Veteran ELLP Specialists, Karen Harris, Regina Marshall-Smith, Sherri Kidd and Cheryl Leamon presented HQSI Strategies at the December 2004 Specialists meeting.

### TeachFirst™

The English Language Learner Program is pleased to continue offering a new and exciting support model for CCSD schools.

TeachFirst™ is an online professional development tool which is provided through website, [www.teachfirst.com](http://www.teachfirst.com).

Teachers in grades K-6 can log-on to the site and view video clips of teachers elementary literacy, sheltered instruction for ELL Students, mentoring, training and support for new teachers.

Many schools receiving the training have also incorporated TeachFirst™ with their HQSI staff development training as well as during the Professional Learning Communities (PLC) time.

For more information regarding TeachFirst™, please contact your ELLP Region coordinator at 799-2137.

## Adult Education Information

### General Information

ESL (English as a Second Language) classes are offered for all persons who desire to learn to speak, read and write English.

### Who May Enroll?

Any adult 17 years and older, who does not have a high school diploma may enroll.

### What is the Cost of the Classes?

There is no charge for students age 17 and older who do not have a high school diploma. There is a lab fee of \$15.00 per person for each level of instruction.

### How Can I Enroll?

Students desiring to enroll should come to one of the following locations:

Adult Education Programs  
2701 E St. Louis Avenue (Door A)  
Las Vegas, NV  
8:00 am to 8:30 pm (Mon.—Thurs.)  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm (Friday)

Adult Education at Garside Middle School  
(Room 809)  
300 S. Torrey Pines  
Las Vegas, NV  
4:30 to 8:30 pm (Mon.—Wed.)

Adult Education Programs at Nevada Partners  
710 W. Lake Mead Ave.  
N. Las Vegas, NV  
4:30 to 8:30 pm (Thursday)

Adult Education at Rancho High School  
(Portable 2)  
1900 E. Owens  
Las Vegas, NV  
4:30 to 8:30 pm (Mon.—Wed.)

Adult Education at Monaco Middle School  
1870 N. Lamont  
N. Las Vegas, NV  
4:30 to 8:30 pm (Thursday)