EL UPDATE

English Learner Update

Ohio Language Usage Survey

School districts have a responsibility to assess the communication needs and preferences of parents and guardians. To aid in communication with parents during the enrollment process, translations of the Ohio Language Usage Survey have been posted on the Guidelines for Identification and Assessment of English Learners webpage.

Literacy and Language and Instruction for English Learners

Through the State Personnel Development Grant, the Ohio Department of Education supports the implementation of evidence-based literacy and language instruction and interventions especially focused on students with disabilities and English learners. Archived webinars of three Training of Trainers workshops using the What's Different about Teaching Reading to Students Learning English professional trainers curriculum are available on the Center for Applied Linguistics website.

Long-term Goals for English Learners

As part of the Gap Closing component on the 2017-2018 Ohio School Report Cards, the Ohio Department of Education measures school and district progress in supporting English learners to advance their language proficiency. An English language proficiency (ELP) improvement measure will give credit for English learners who achieve proficiency and for those who meet improvement goals for expected progress toward proficiency on the Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA). A technical document details the ELP Improvement Measure that will be reported on the 2017-2018 Ohio School Report Cards. The technical document is provided as a resource on the Ohio Department of Education website.

Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener

Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, districts are required to use the Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener (OELPS) as part of the state's standardized identification process for English learners. The OELPS will be available on Aug. 1, 2018. See "Ohio's Screener for English Learners" available on the OELPA webpage. Additional information is found on the District Test Coordinator Bulletin. As part of the statewide transition, districts must fully implement the OELPS by or before Oct. 1, 2018.