

IELLAAC Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2010
Oak Brook Hills Marriott Resort

The committee began with introductions and a review of the minutes of September 28, 2010, but agreed to postpone their approval until they could be compared to the audio recording and integrated with additional member notes.

WIDA and Illinois have been awarded an Enhanced Assessment Grant called *Spanish Academic Language Standards & Assessment (SALSA)*. It will focus on creating Spanish language arts standards, an assessment for K-2 Spanish proficiency, and a K-2 Spanish proficiency screener. Update on WIDA Spanish Language Arts Standards. They will align with Common Core State Standards.

Accommodations statistics

- Boon & Barry have been requesting integrated test data files to analyze the relationship between ACCESS results and the other state tests. Early versions of the file have received but not fully usable yet. The Form LM information is missing.
- A request was made to study of alignment between accommodations and ELP levels on ACCESS & how well affects test performance. The committee agreed.
- There was also interest in a study of accommodations that are significant such as dictionaries and glossaries. A previous attempt at using a glossary with ISAT was not successful. Security issues reduced their usefulness. A bilingual glossary of key framework vocabulary was suggested. They could be helpful but words would need to be presented in context, and students would require practice using them. Glossaries provide emotional as well as linguistic support.
- It was suggested that these analyses may be helpful in demonstrating to the feds the utility of a promotion system with differentiated criteria.
- One comment was that our data may show trends of what people are using but may not allow conclusions regarding effectiveness like a more controlled study could.

A concern mentioned was that our exit criteria may not be high enough. There was strong opposition to adopting the uniform criteria. We should examine the progress of ELLs after transition, for multiple years. The students may still get services, but without the LEP designation, they would not help draw Title III funds.

There was discussion regarding the exiting of students with the Tier A test. Students may currently do so, but it's not in their best interest. Some districts are concerned about allowing K students to exit. IACBE will consider making a statement regarding Tier and exit policy.

The committee favors revisiting the exit criteria policy.

PARCC Discussion

- It plans to create a subcommittee regarding access to content - accommodations for ELLs and students with disabilities. The committee will have 6 members only. It's not apparent what path our committee will have for input, but we should be ready.

- A common definition of ELL for all states will be needed. It should come from broad input, beyond just this committee.
- It was mentioned that the CCSS are quite rigorous compared to current standards. This will direct the exit criteria in future
- A definition of ELL could possible start with definition in the Illinois Code, but make it less of a deficit model. Proficiency could vary by grade level, instead of one for all grade levels.
- A member agreed to meet with a group later in the day to discuss a definition of English proficiency for ELLs.

Alternative ACCESS - field testing will be completed this year (2010)- will be out next year for use.

2011 ACCESS scores were expected to be available in SIS April 15th.

Input was requested for the 2011 State Assessment. What can ISBE do to ease testing Jan-March?

- This year, polymailers will be included to protect used tests during return shipment. There will also be more tape on boxes, and more using freight shipping.
- Let Barry & Boon know if other suggestions

It was requested that ACCESS reports include an analysis of whether individual students met growth targets according to research Gary Cook completed. Could it also be done for AMAOs?

The committee repeated its request for “Formerly LEP” designation in SIS.

The next meeting date was set date April 21st, 10AM - 3PM at IRC if space is available.

Suggested topics included

- SIS
- Common Core & PARCC
- AMAO
- EL definition

Attendees (in order of sign-in) were

Barry Pedersen (ISBE), David Barker (IACBE), Cheryl Wolfel (CCSD15), Wilma Valero (U46), Marilyn Krajenta (Waukegan District 60), Maria Lozano (West Aurora District 129), Harriette Herrera (North Cook ISC, LA Cmte), Boon Lee (ISBE), Judy Yturriago (Northeastern Illinois University), Rosemarie Meyer (CCSD 21), and Julie Colgrove (District 54) Jodi Arvis(Morton HSD 201).