

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Division for English Language Learning (DELL) e-Broadcast #1 2003-2004 School Year

Welcome

On behalf of our new division administrator, Karen Mulatierra and my colleagues, I would like to welcome you to our first installment of the e-broadcast for school year 2003-04. Simply put, our purpose is to provide educators with the most up-to-date information and resources that facilitate ELL/LEP student success. Beginning THURSDAY, September 25, 2003, these broadcasts will occur monthly.

Please note that the term ELL student (English language learners) is being used interchangeably with the term LEP (limited English proficient) student, as they both mean the same. The term LEP is used in state and federal legislation.

Rules and Regulations for Serving ELL Students

See <http://www.isbe.net/rules/archive/pdfs/228ARK.pdf>

Professional Development Opportunities

A number of professional development opportunities exist for teachers and administrators serving ELL/LEP students. For more information see <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/bilingual/htmls/bilcal02.htm>

Announcing: New **TBE/TPI** Program Directors' Meeting | Illinois Resource Center | Des Plaines, Illinois | Save This Date: **October 23, 2003**

Additional details will be mailed and sent via future e-broadcasts.

Notice of NCLB Hearing

State Senator Kimberly Lightford (D-Maywood) has called for a hearing of a State Senate Subcommittee on the Implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The hearing is scheduled for Friday, Sep 12, 2003, at 10:30AM, in Room 16-503 of the James R. Thompson Center in Chicago, 100 W. Randolph St. The hearing notice is posted at the following website:

<http://www.legis.state.il.us/senate/committees/hearing.asp?CommitteeID=134>

Ken Meyer, a legislative liaison from the U.S. Department of Education, will speak first to give an overview on NCLB. Then State Superintendent Schiller will testify. Later, school superintendents, interest groups, parents, etc., can testify depending on time. Written testimony will also be accepted. It is suggested that people bring about 15 copies of written comments. If people want some additional information, they can contact Jonathan Wolf (a State Senate staffer) at 217-782-6965.

Office of English Language Learning (OELA) Conference Announcement

Office of English Language Learning invites you to a Summit Meeting, "Success in School, Everyone's Responsibility, and Every Child's Right" This meeting is designed for all stakeholders working with English language learners. The summit is scheduled to take place in Washington D. C. Registration information is included.

The Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA), U. S. Department of Education, will hold the Second Annual Celebrate Our Rising Stars Summit, Tuesday-Thursday December 2-4, 2003, at the Hilton Washington and Towers Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The theme of this year's Summit is "Success in School: Everyone's Responsibility, Every Child's Right". Sessions will focus on the critical issues that face all communities as they embrace the challenge to include all students--especially English Language Learners--in their high quality education efforts to implement No Child Left Behind. Sessions are planned for teachers and other practitioners, state directors, assessment teams, researchers, administrators, and parents of English language learners. We strongly encourage you to make participation in this year's Summit a priority.

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Hilton Washington for Summit attendees. Rooms will be charged at the prevailing government rate at the time the reservation is made. Through October 1, 2003, those rates are set at \$150 single, \$170 double, and \$20 per additional person for standard rooms. The rates are exclusive of appropriate state and local taxes, currently 14.5%. One night's deposit will be required at the time your reservation is made.

Hotel reservations may be made by:

- 1) Using the Internet and going to the Hilton's website: <<http://www.Hilton.com>>. Locate the Hilton Washington Hotel & Towers and enter Group Code "DOE" to receive the special group rate.
- 2) Telephone either the Hilton Washington Hotel at 202-483-3000 or Hilton National Reservations at 800-774-1500. Request Group Code "DOE" to receive the special group rate.

The cut off date for reservations is October 31, 2003, but we encourage you to reserve your room as soon as possible since space is limited. Information regarding Summit registration will be available in the near future and will be announced on OELA's National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition's website: www.ncela.gwu.edu <<http://www.ncela.gwu.edu>>.

Remember to save the dates: December 2-4, for the OELA Summit, here in the Nation's Capitol. We look forward to seeing you. The summit will not be a complete success without you.

Home Language Surveys

School frequently brings new students to your door on a regular basis. Serving students who come from non-English language background may presents a number of challenges. Stay in the front of the pack (**and in conformance with federal and state law**) by using a home language survey (HLS) to ascertain the language spoken at home by parents, students and other household members. The HLS also helps districts identify those students who need to undergo an English language proficiency assessment (listening, speaking, reading and writing).

<http://www.isbe.state.il.us/bilingual/htmls/noteletters02.htm> contains the HLS form in English and in more than 25 high incidence

Districts are advise to do the following:

- 1) Use the link above to access the HLS, and
- 2) Use the link below

http://www.isbe.state.il.us/bilingual/htmls/parent_notification_of_enrollmen.htm for the current version of TBE/TPI parent notification letters.

3. Disregard the OLD VERSIONS of TBE/TPI parent notification letters found under the RESOURCES BUTTON/Translated Documents at <http://www.isbe.net/bilingual>.

Residency and Student Enrollment

Rather than turn students away from school, guide them to learning. This important resource guides local administrators to positive action for ELL/LEP parents and students.

For more information see

<http://www.isbe.state.il.us/bilingual/htmls/administrators.htm>

No Child Left Behind: Parent Notification Letters

Recent federal legislation makes it necessary to communicate with parents. Parent notification letters are available in 25 high incident languages. See:

http://www.isbe.state.il.us/bilingual/htmls/parent_notification_of_enrollmen.htm
for more information.

No Child Left Behind: Homework Tips in English and Spanish for Parents

Research shows that parent involvement can have either a positive or negative impact on the value of homework. Parent involvement can be used to speed up a child's learning. Homework can involve parents in the school process. It can enhance parents' appreciation of education. It can give them an opportunity to express positive attitudes about the value of success in school.

But parent involvement may also interfere with learning. For example, parents can confuse children if the teaching techniques they use differ from those used in the classroom. Parent involvement in homework can turn into parent interference if parents complete tasks that the child is capable of completing alone.

The U.S. Department of Education publication "Homework Tips for Parents" includes information, in both English and Spanish, about how parents can help their children with homework. It features general homework tips, reading homework tips, and math homework tips. Parents can order a free copy by:

- Calling the U.S. Department of Education's Publications Center (ED Pubs) toll-free at 1-877-4-ED-PUBS (1-877-433-7827); TTY/TDD: 1-877-576-7734; FAX: 1-301-470-1244;
- Ordering online at: www.edpubs.org <<http://www.edpubs.org>>; or
- Writing to request a copy: ED Pubs, P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398.

All correspondence via this communication must comply with the Illinois State Board of Education policy and procedures pertaining to the use of E-mail and the Internet.

Some List Groups may be subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act and may not use this forum to circumvent this Act.

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