

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES
OF
SEPTEMBER 4, 2024**

Administrator: Dr. Michelle Erb, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

8. EDUCATION: (Estimated at 60 minutes) **Meeting starting at 5:31 p.m.**

Administrator: Dr. Michelle Erb, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction

8.A. Roll Call:

Megan, Rebecca, Michelle, Terrell, Kris, Becky L., Shannon R., Jake, Ana Luisa, Elana, Maria B., Mike V., Abbi, Emily B., Marya, Scott, Ryan, Terese

8.B. Meeting Minutes Consensus: August 14, 2024

Unanimous Consensus, no objections or changes

8.C. Public Comments (if any) – none noted

8.D. Agenda Items:

- a) Access Data
- b) Seal of Biliteracy Data
- c) ESL Programming
- d) HoLA Programming

Presentation by Ana Luisa Dominquez

Ana Luisa presenting an activity

Access Data

Annual English proficiency assessment is in January-February

Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing.

Does not measure students' academic achievement or content knowledge

Determines continued eligibility or exist from ESL/Bilingual services

Exit Criteria: 4.8 Composite Proficiency Level – Entering to 1.9, Beginning, Developing, Expanding, Bridging are the different levels. 4.8 Is right beneath the bridging.

Comparisons were done from last year to this year. In developing the growth takes longer up to 7 to 9 years per the State. There are students that do get a 5.6 but they do not show on the chart. In previous years we have performed over the State average. This year we don't have this information as of now. Last year there was a large increase of newcomers to the program .Newcomers are students newly arrived to a school district in the U.S. There was a growth of 10% overall in the program.

10% equates to 37 newcomers. Newcomer percentages for 2025 will be increasing. It has to be two years before they are no longer categorized as a newcomer.

Kurt asked what the data is used for by Ana Luisa. She said she looks at the growth each student has from year to year.

Seal of Biliteracy

Awarded by the State, English proficiency started offering in the 2018-19 school year, use SAT/ACT, ACCESS, AP Lang, AAPPL, 37 graduates have received the Seal. Arabic, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Portuguese, Spanish

Apple text is taken prior to the AP exam so it is informative to the student and tells them what they need to do to improve in the areas.

There are also 15 college credits for obtaining the Seal. Some universities offer 15 and some 8. Transcripts are then sent when the Seal is given.

Our multilingual students are taking advantage of the CTE classes as well and technical courses. Through BPac Jake spoke to multilingual families about pathways.

Maria noted all ML students are scheduled first manually before running the main schedules.

Ana Luisa reviewed the philosophy of the District to develop high levels of English proficiency. We need to make sure we value their home language.

ESL Programming

In order to provide services you need less than 19 ML's in that particular language. Core instruction in English but valuing home language as well. Push in or pull out at elementary services.

Secondary – co-taught, ELA, Science, & History

Self-contained: Newcomers English Class I & II (HHS)

Parker Center, Loves Park, Maple, Rock Cut, Harlem Middle School, Harlem High School

433 English learners, 39 different languages, top 5 languages Spanish, Swahili, Serbian & Vietnamese, Arabic and Turkish. Current number is 439 multilingual learners as of today. Over 70% are from Spanish speaking homes.

How do we teach languages we don't have teachers for. ESL teachers become specialists in strategies to support second language learners. Sounds are very different. It is working with the students, helping them feel welcome and teaching how we do school. We use best strategies as well. It is best practice, providing background knowledge, providing essential vocabulary for comprehensive, having student time to think and process. Modeling is also a part of best strategies.

We also use other tools, including Google translate and visuals.

Kurt asked if we are watching for language trends as families increase so we can recruit teachers with various languages.

HoLA

If number is 20 or more of the same language in the same building we need to provide a bilingual program per State law. Core academic instruction in English and the home language and need to provide ESL services.

This is based on the Guiding Principles for Dual Language Education

Elementary – 90/10 Dual Language program

K-5th grade, Parker Center, Machesney

134 students

Secondary – HMS, 2 core classes in Spanish rest are in English.

57 students in the program

Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee is a State mandate and big part of our District. Most of the members are parents of multi-lingual students in the program to collaborate with District leadership, participate in planning, operation and evaluation of EL programs. Help with parent involvement activities and serve as a communication link between staff and other multilingual families.

These parents attend professional development at the State level each year and bring back ideas to the District. Families build networks within themselves. They are Harlem parents and other professionals as well.

Two videos were shown before the meeting adjourned.

8.E. Adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Arduino,

Recording Secretary

Education Committee started at 5:31 p.m.

Roll Call taken

Consensus – unanimous for Minutes

No comments

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