



Indiana Department of Education

Glenda Ritz, NBCT

Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

Monthly Happenings Office of English Learning and Migrant Education

March 2015

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Important ACCESS Dates

Schools can see important dates regarding the validation of results and reports shipped to districts at the [Indiana specific page](#) on WIDA's website under the Important ACCESS for ELLs Administration Dates tab.

ACCESS 2.0

WIDA will be transitioning to a new version of the annual assessment ACCESS, called ACCESS 2.0, in the 2015-2016 school year. The IDOE will be releasing updates periodically, but school corporations may wish to start reviewing new information regarding ACCESS 2.0 [HERE](#). Since much of ACCESS 2.0 will be online, schools may be particularly interested in the technology information, including headset recommendations, found [HERE](#).

Request for Recommendations

The State of Indiana maintains a file of emerging classroom leaders that consists of a cadre of distinguished teachers and principals, which may be considered for membership on advisory boards and task forces, as well as candidates for special recognition programs. The file has a rich base of veteran educators but is lacking representation from newer educators who demonstrate high levels of instructional and leadership abilities. The Office of English Learning and Migrant would encourage recommendations for educators dedicated to meeting the needs of ALL students, including English learners. Supervisors who wish to recommend an educator can see the memo and application [HERE](#)

Check out these great opportunities for professional development!

- **March 16, 2015** *Panel Discussion on English Learner Students with Disabilities*; Webinar from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST. Click [HERE](#) to view the recording.
- **March 21, 2015** *ISTA Good Teaching Conference*; Indianapolis, IN. Click [HERE](#).
- **April 11-12, 2015** *Google Apps for Education Summit*; Franklin, IN. Click [HERE](#).
- **April 12-13, 2015** *IASP Aspiring Principals Conference*; Carmel, IN. Click to [Register Online](#) or use the [Registration Form](#)

Note on Bilingual Dictionaries

Through the Individual Learning Plan (ILP), a limited English proficient (levels 1-4) student has access to an approved, bilingual word-to-word dictionary for use on state assessments, such as ISTEP+, IREAD, or ECAs. A [list](#) of approved dictionaries can be found in Appendix I at www.doe.in.gov/assessment. If a school wishes to use a dictionary not already on the approved list, then please fill out the [Bilingual Dictionary Request Form](#). **No approval is needed from the IDOE if the school wishes to use an approved dictionary, as long as the accommodation is marked within the student's ILP and used regularly in classroom instruction.** A bilingual word-to-word dictionary is only appropriate for LEP students who have at least some literacy skills in their target language.

Article

Read [here](#) how the Superintendent of San Francisco schools, a former EL himself, is putting a premium on bilingual, bicultural education.

Promising Practices Flyer

See the attached promising Practices Flyer from MSD Wayne Township regarding their implementation of WIDA.

In the News

Nora Elementary in MSD Washington Township (Indianapolis) was highlighted on [WISHTV8 in February](#) for their student diversity and how the school is meeting the needs of their English learners.

Program Administrator Guidance

Title III program administrators must annually notify all nonpublic schools within their school corporation's boundaries the opportunity to participate in Title III, even if the school does not have any currently reported limited English proficient students. Program administrators are encouraged to start the consultation process now in order to plan for needs when the new round of federal funds are released in July. See [HERE](#) for guidance regarding nonpublic school participation in Title III.

ESEA Waiver Corner

The IDOE will submit its ESEA flexibility renewal application to the U.S. Education Department soon, which allows for flexibility from some provisions of No Child Left Behind. Read more [HERE](#) to see the current draft, especially the information related to English learners in Principles 1, 2, and 3.

Defining WIDA



Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township

During our LAP Family Night, every school had a WIDA standard to highlight.



WE ARE the MSD of Wayne Township, an urban school district, located on the west side of Indianapolis. We have a total student population of approximately 15,500 students. We have 1 preschool, 11 elementary schools, 2 junior highs, 1 ninth grade center, 2 high schools, 1 virtual school, and 2 alternative programs. Our Free/reduced lunch rate is 77% and our district mobility rate is 17%.

OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES We currently have 2,607 (levels 1-4), 17%, and 3,331 students (levels 1-5, including those in Year 1 and Year 2 of monitoring) 21%, of English Learners. We have 73 languages and 78 countries represented in our district.

OUR TEACHERS We have a total of 30.5 **Language Assistance Program (LAP)** teachers in our program and 44 LAP paraprofessionals. This includes a half time teacher at our preschool and full time paraprofessional.

Percentages of teachers WIDA Trained:
100% of English Learner teachers are trained in WIDA .
95% our paraprofessionals have been trained in WIDA.
100% of all staff developers trained in WIDA.
5 schools at 100% of staff trained.
4 schools at 50-99% of staff trained.
3 schools at 30-49% of staff trained.
4 schools at 0-29% of staff trained.

OUR PROMISING PRACTICE

Wayne's Introduction to WIDA Training defined:

Schools can consider an administrator, EL staff member, and content area teacher trained if the staff member has participated in **any one of the following sessions/trainings at the district OR school level:**

District Level

Any individual who attended Rachel Syrja's two day training in July or October..."Introduction to WIDA and Sheltered Instruction"

- Any individual who attended Rachel Syrja's one day training in October..."Introduction to WIDA"
- Any individual who attended the National WIDA Conference
- Any individual who attended the November 4, training with Rachel Syrja (2-hour sessions) with an emphasis on WIDA.
- Any individual who attended the INTESOL conference
- Any LAP teacher who worked with Rachel Syrja the four days this summer to learn about WIDA and the Model Performance Indicators
- INTESOL attendees

School Level

Content Teachers/Administrators/EL Staff that have participated in a session or several sessions that included **ALL** of the following:

- WIDA Overview of Standards
- Importance of Academic Vocabulary for each content
- WIDA standards as support standards of grade level content standards
- Can Do Descriptors
- Essential Actions and/or Model Performance Indicators (MPIs are embedded in the K-8 Units)
- An understanding of the importance of sheltering instruction/making content comprehensible through visuals, graphic organizers, peer assistance, gestures, etc.

OUR SOURCES: LAP Paraprofessional training...



English Learners working using SI strategies



For more information about our school or corporation, email: Denita.Harris@wayne.k12.in.us or visit our website: www.wayne.k12.in.us and go to the Services & Links tab, click on Language Assistance Program.