

ELL Task Force January 5, 2012

Present: Cecily Wilson, Mary Mahoney, Marie Guagliardo-Day, Chris Haertel, Laurie Bebb

Missing: Gloria Savino, Dale Getto

****DRAFT****

Task	Responsible Parties	Tasks	Time Line/Progress
SIOP Training Update		Schedule Training Plan for teachers to have curriculum development?	<p>Cecily (CW) reports that Dale (DG) and she will present to High School APSTA leaders (Jen Justice, Jim Grove, Marie Taber) tomorrow regarding the proposed training to get an agreement regarding the times, expectations, etc. and confirm the support of APSTA members for this important training.</p> <p>Mary (MM) indicated they are looking for ideas about the time for teachers to develop curriculum. Chris (CH) said that New Rochelle can be a resource as they have full structured sheltered courses. Our proposal does not have a “co-teaching” model, mostly because of the staffing costs. Looking at the other programs (New Rochelle, Utica, etc...) will help provide information about what is working for other schools...</p>
Wilson Reading Update		Arrange Training Dates	<p>DG was working on this... Training is a 3 day commitment. MM, CH, Stephanie (SG-G) and Pam (PM) will participate.</p>
Regents Exams Translators		Check Status of Organization	<p>CW has covered this. ESL teachers were able to provide the first languages of students needing translators. <i>(Have we set the coverage for the rooms that may need extended coverage for students with time and a half? I didn't have that in my notes)</i></p>
Guidance Issues with ESL		<p>Develop Roadmap for placement Time together for scheduling (before the start of school year) Hammer out contentious issues with placement/regulations</p>	<p>Marie (MG-D) will provide a master list to counselors of teachers best-guess placements for ESL classes for next year by the end of January, so counselors can enter the requests... NYSESLAT scores may lead to changes, but this will likely help with more accurate scheduling in the fall.</p> <p>It was noted that in the past, Middle School students have been misplaced in ESL sections, which seems to be a function of counselors at the MS not being completely aware of the different ESL courses—LB will script a letter (for MS counselors, administrators, ESL teachers) regarding the ESL placements MM</p>

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			will review for accuracy, and CW will send once she approves the content. It will suggest that MS ESL teachers do what the HS teachers are doing and make recommendations for placements for the 2012-2013 year. This may help. MM will create a “road map” of how students progress through the program. It was also noted that the course names in the Course Offering Book have not matched the course names in Powerschool. We will request this is resolved.
NYSESLAT Test		Plan timing and rooms	NYSESLAT occurs in May, often coinciding with AP and IB exams. In the past, using the large setting of the Gym has been problematic for listening sections, etc. Suggestion that the tests be moved to the ALC... Approximately 190 kids would need to be tested... Potentially 3-4 rooms a day would be needed. CW thought we might be able to transport the students to ALC from AHS... we need to determine the transportation (logistics—cost, etc.), subs for ESL teachers administering the tests, classroom set up at the ALC...
Grading		Discuss policies found in research	Laurie (LB) found that Schenectady HS does allow their ESL students to get “U”/”S” (Pass/Fail) grades and credits awarded for academic classes. CW said there are AHS folks going to Schenectady for a visit, and they can get more information on this. CH said Utica has a sheltered/grading policy.
Superintendent’s goal for Advanced Students		What are our current ‘test out’ statistics? How many students make up a 30% increase?	??? MG-D noted that there are 7 students who sat for the ELL testing as new entrants, so NEXT WEEK, CH’s Novice class will go from being a class of 16 students to a class of 24 students. History has told us that we see MAJOR increases in the number of ESL students in the spring. Currently, we only have the ONE section of Novice 1,2, 3... This may be a big problem. Next year, wondering if it is possible to have a plan for the increasing numbers. (Last year we ran two full sections of Novice 1and 2, but only had ONE section of Novice 3... That CAN’T be right)