What Makes for Quality Education for English Learners in the 21st Century?

What Needs To Be Included and What Actions Can We Take: Lessons Learned from the Past and New ideas for Today

Open Space Report: Los Angeles

As a convener, we would like you to put together a short report from your group describing the following:

1. Names of group members Nori Naylor; Kelly Stuart; Tanya DeLeon; Arthur Chou; Unai Montes; Raul Alarcon; Jonathon Ruiz; Philomena Hall; Rosalba Bermudez-Ballin; Elodia Lampkin

2. Issue/Topic/Activity Lessons from the past and remedies for the future/ Online communities of practice

How can we facilitate collaboration and consistency from the student level to the halls of Congress?

3. Highlights of Discussion/Recommendations/Next Action Steps

   a. Lessons from the past
      There is history of a wave or cycle of advocacy for ELs and dual language programs that rises and falls. Why has this happened?
      1) You can have the best policies for Els, but without the capacity to implement them, they are dead.
      2) Language as a proxy for race
      3) The mixture of immigration status and language issues

   The need for common background knowledge and terminology.

   Educator's Podium is being developed to facilitate an online community of practice.

   The need for more depth in a community of practice beyond surface conversations.

   Have tools there and media for educators and parents.

   The need for more in-depth conversations of issues of race and immigrant status and how that relates to the academic achievement of Els and immigrant students.

   The online space could be open or have groups of common interest.
When you are trying to get information to people, you need to do more than make phone calls. Model after a voting campaign. Door-to-door, radio, television, flyers, etc. Use of smart phones. Caution: Not all communities are plugged in, especially high EL and low SES.

The need to hold State and U.S. officials accountable as well. Caution in how one approaches those with a different viewpoint.

Why would someone join an online community of practice?

Validation
“There needs to be a little bit of unrest for people to want to be a part.”
There needs to be dissatisfaction with “reality.”

The importance of teachers sharing their experiences and expertise with less experienced teachers and the value of intergenerational conversations.

There is concern that we are raising a generation that is ignorant and being kept ignorant. Those who are ignorant are easily manipulated. If we are to compete in a globalized economy, we need all of our students to be intelligent, well educated, and critical thinkers.

Available Resources

CA Migrant Portal is a community of practice and a place to look for ideas.

Look for upcoming developments for an online forum for educators' voices.

5. Follow-up requests Follow-up surveys for the online community in response to the conversation begun here

6. Please type in this report in one of the laptops and hand in this sheet. Thanks!