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: Seattle

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

1. Names of group members
   Rebecca Cortes
   Luba Bezborodnikova
   Susan Havlovizk
   Christine Cox
   Elizabeth Urmenita
   Belinda Louie

2. Issue/Topic/Activity
   Aligning Early Learning and K-3 ELL Education.

3. Highlights of Discussion/Recommendations/Next Action Steps
   - The driving source for cognitive development and learning for young children is social and emotional well being. Language instruction for ELLs has to be emotionally-socially relevant to PK-3 students.
   - Oral language development is a foundation for literacy skills development. Interaction (formal/informal; adult/student; student/student; big group, small group, 1:1) is the main language/literacy development strategy in PK-K.
   - PK ELL instruction need to promote content/concept development, and content/concept based vocabulary.
   - Bilingual language support is highly needed at the PK level, and may be provided in the kindergarten in the as needed basis.
   - Young students need intentional vocabulary instruction. Strategies may look different based on the age group.
   - Provide professional development to all teaching and family support staff working with young ELLs around language development and second language acquisition.
   - Considering the phonemic nature of English PK ELLs have to receive some exposure to the phonemic awareness instruction.
   - Identification of young ELLs who are in need of special education services can be challenging.
   - Educate parents and communities regarding the value of primary language, and provide guidance, support, and resources.
   - Explore state/region/district alignment models.
   - Learn more about P-12 WA literacy-language framework, national/state K standards and EL benchmarks, etc.
4. **Available Resources**

5. **Follow-up requests**

6. **Next steps/Action Items/Recommendations**

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