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: New York City

As a convener, we would like you to put together a short report from your group describing the following. When you're finished, please type in this report in one of the laptops and hand in this sheet. Thanks!

1. Names of group members
   Julie Hirschler – convener
   Karen Nemeth – note taker
   Christa Gesztesi, Trudi Durrell, Evelyn Marzan, Jacquelyn Pitta, Givuela Leisengang, Katie Kurjakovic

2. Issue/Topic/Activity
   Oral language development preK - 12

3. Highlights of Discussion/Recommendations/Next Action Steps
   - Child who enters school with no oral lang in English
     - Pairwork strategies
     - Intentional oral lang practice
     - Celebrating milestones of development
     - NYC developed a rubric used to observe oral lang in K during choice times and then built it into oral language teaching strategies when used in one K class – those kids did better on NYSESLAT than other k kids in area
     - Getting more intentional about preparing teachers to understand language development
     - Kids using pictures to retell stories
     - Need better strategies for high school kids – but didn’t have time to talk about it
   - Assessments of oral language
   - Child who has low oral lang even in home lang – parents may have low literacy
   - Pre-service training needed for all teachers about development of first and second language
   - Need to address combining academic vocab with content knowledge
   - Transition from oral language to literacy

4. Available Resources
   - Oral language rubric developed for K in NYC – G. Leisengang
   - WIDA standards
   - New Standards - not sure of proper name, one writer is Catherine Snow
   - Rigby ELL Assessment Kit
   - #ELLCHAT group on Twitter and Facebook – has twitter chat group meeting every Mon 9 PM Eastern time – next week topic: Oral Language
5. Follow-up requests
   - Need more guidance and video examples about best practices
   - More info on oral language assessments and markers of progress
   - Need ways to share ideas and resources on regular basis
   - NEED better teacher preparation on first and second language development.