

# The MELANGE

## Perry Township Schools-EL Newsletter



### In this issue:

- ◆ Points of Pride
- ◆ EL Happenings
- ◆ WIDA Links
- ◆ Save the Dates!

### Points of Pride for EL Staff

Indiana Latino Institute hosted the Indiana Latino Education Summit: Solutions that Work in Indianapolis on November 11th, 2015. The summit targeted high school sophomores, juniors and seniors, as well as advocates, educators, and Hispanic community leaders with best practices to increase Latino college completion. The workshop topics and panel discussions provoked students, advocates and parents alike to influence change by implementing Solutions that Work. Between Southport High School and Perry Meridian High School, 40 Latino students attended the summit, choosing from workshops on STEM to filling out FAFSA and finding scholarships. The highlight of the day was listening to Gabe Salazar speak to the students about his journey from being a student with Special needs and an English learner to becoming a teacher, husband, and advocate for other Latinos.



### EL Happenings

#### In the District

Building EL teams have been working hard to plan and implement their EL goals. These plans were then brought to the district EL committee for feedback. Feedback and support is being provided by the district EL team. The hope is to use ACCESS data and the WIDA resources more intentionally to grow our EL students. As a district we continue to meet ALL of our students where they are and grow them to their full potential. Please let the EL department know if there are resources we can help you with.

#### Elsewhere

ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) passed congress Wednesday, December 9, 2015 with a whooping 85-12 vote! Obama signed the law, officially doing away with NCLB on December 10, 2015. This is a landmark law for education in general. Specifically for ELL, it will bring ELs to the forefront for every school. There will be more detailed reporting of data for LTLL (long term language learners) and EL's with special needs. Because ELs continue to be one of the fastest-growing student populations in the United States, English language development will become a priority in statewide accountability systems under Title I of ESSA. To read more about ESSA click [HERE](#).

The US Department of Education's Office of English Language Acquisition EL Tool Kit is [HERE](#)! The Toolkit contains an overview, sample tools, and resources to help English Learners .

Education Week has recently posted several articles featuring ELs. Click [HERE](#) to read an article about teaching ELs the love of writing.

### WIDA Links!

As the ACCESS 2.0 testing window approaches, all buildings and EL teams have been working hard to get their testing plans developed and certification of test administrators completed. It has been amazing to see the hard work and collaborative efforts of everyone to make this assessment a priority while keeping instruction going. Thank you to everyone involved.

Several new documents about ACCESS 2.0 have been uploaded to our [district EL webpage](#). They can be found under the WIDA tab by clicking ACCESS 2.0. Below are links to these documents with a brief description.

#### [2015-16 WIDA Assessment and Accountability Guidance](#)

This document describes English language proficiency testing policy and procedures to ensure the valid administration of the ACCESS for ELLs assessment in Indiana.

#### [ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Online Test Administration Manual 2015-16](#)

#### [ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Paper Test Administration Manual 2015-16](#)

Any questions you may have about administering either the online or paper/pencil version of ACCESS 2.0 can be answered with these two documents. **Remember: Everyone must be certified for the Online testing as well as the paper/pencil (including the speaking for your grade level clusters).** There is information to help you schedule and plan for time that each test may take, the "Do's and Don'ts" for test administrators during the test, and troubleshooting solutions.

#### [WIDA ACCESS Accessibility and Accommodations Guidelines 2015-16](#)

#### [ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 Accessibility and Accommodations Descriptions 2015-16](#)

#### [ACCESSforELLs2.0 AccChecklist 2015-16](#)

#### [FAQs ACCESS2 0 Accommodations 2015-16](#)

These four documents describe in detail any accommodations that students should receive during ACCESS 2.0. There is specific guidance for EL students with and without an IEP or 504 plan.

### Save the Dates!

ACCESS 2.0 testing window opens January 11 and closes February 26, 2016.

### Coming soon!

Spring EL workshops for support and certified staff.

Pearson's SIOP 3-day workshop.