



ESL Family Newsletter

English as a Second Language Department

Vân Truong, Director

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Spring, 2014: I recently had the pleasure of joining my Assistant Directors, Veronica Magallanes and Jeff Taylor as they actively engaged over 250 Spanish-speaking parents at the 4th Annual Latino Parent Conference at Roosevelt High School. Our participation in the Conference marks part of our continued effort to improve the ESL Department's family engagement strategy.

At the conference, Nancy Golden, Oregon's Chief Education Officer noted that the State will give more attention on our ELL students and families. However, we know that "attention" is not enough. We are working to show the district and the state that, ESL students and families must be front and center in our collective education goals.

Two ESL family information nights surrounding recent labor negotiations underscored the challenge of keeping our families informed about department and district news. We will use the momentum of those nights to improve communication in multiple pathways: Rapid broadcast phone calls in our supported languages, quicker distribution of properly proofread translations of district materials and strengthening partnerships with language specific media outlets.

This newsletter is another way in which we hope to keep our families better informed of how we are working to affect positive change in the instruction of ESL students. I welcome you to contact me directly or contact your Community Agent to let us know how we are doing and what matters to you.

Vân Truong
ESL Director

Technology supports ELD learning

The ESL Department is training teachers how to use iPad Apps that support vocabulary, language and literacy development. Students from all grades who have been in school for less than a year will be able use apps on the iPad during the day in their normal ELD and Core Content classes.



ESL has also invested in providing extended day learning opportunities through computer-based language programs like Imagine Learning, Grammar Gallery and Learning A-Z. These programs support and strengthen basic and academic language while providing systematic instruction in phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

ELD on K-5 Report Cards

ELD is now included on the K-5 Report Card. Marks are given in the 4 domains (listening, speaking, reading, writing) to indicate student progress towards moving up one level of language proficiency each year.

ESL Community Agents

If you have questions about navigating the school system or information you receive from Portland Public Schools, please contact a Community Agent to receive support or explanations in your language.

Español, 503-956-4140

Si usted tiene preguntas acerca de cómo navegar el sistema escolar o la información que usted recibe de las Escuelas Publican de Portland, por favor comuníquese con la Agente Comunitaria para recibir apoyo o explicaciones en su idioma.

Việt ngữ, 503-956-2104

Nếu quý vị có bất cứ thắc mắc gì về hệ thống trường học hoặc thông tin nhận được từ Sở Học Chánh Portland, xin vui lòng liên lạc với Nhân Viên Cộng Đồng (Community Agent) để nhận được sự giúp đỡ hoặc giải thích bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị.

廣東話/普通話, 503-956-7329

當您收到波特蘭公立學校所發出的信息，若各位有何疑問或需要解釋問題，請致電到雙語言社區職員詢問。

503-662-9155 ههنا ابوسنينه

إذا عنك أسئلة حول التنقل في النظام المدرسي أو المعلومات التي تتلقاها من المدارس العامة في بورتلان يرجى الاتصال على وكيل الجالية في تلقي الدعم أو تفسيرات في لغتك

Oromoo fi Amhaaraa, 971-271-2128

Wa'e mana baroomsa ubbaachu gaffii oddeefaatno wa'e seera argachuu yoo barbadaan mani baroomsa Ummataa Portland ubbaatna fi gargarsaa karaa bakka bu'a hawaasa keessaan ubbaanna isiiiniif kennu kanafu bakka bu'a hawaasa keessan qunnaama.

Русский, 503-956-2588

Если у вас есть вопросы о том, как работает школьная образовательная система или по поводу полученной от Портлендского школьного государственного округа информации, пожалуйста, обратитесь к специалисту по связи с родителями и общественностью, чтобы получить помощь или объяснение на вашем родном языке.

Somali, 503 956 8323

Haddii aad ka qabto su'aal macluumaad aad ka heshay Iskuulada Degmada Portland ama aad ka ogaato la xiriir, Hashim Fai si aad u hesho macluumaad ama jawaabta su'aashaada

CBELD update

Content Based English Language Development is a new program model in which natural English language acquisition takes place in the context regular class instruction. Studies show that students learn language best when there is an emphasis on relevant, meaningful content rather than on the language itself.

Last summer a group of ESL and science teachers worked to develop a pilot of supplemental materials using the CBELD model around Science from Kindergarten to 2nd grade. The 1st round of CBELD Science Kits (K-Trees, 1st-Pebbles Sand and Silt, 2nd-Weather) have been delivered and are in use in pilot schools.

A second round of kits (K-Liquids and Solids, 1st-Balls and Ramps, 2nd-Balance and Motion) is in production. ESL teachers began ordering new kits in January 13th

ESL Staff and Teachers of Special Areas (TOSA's) have been working directly with K-2 ESL and science teachers at pilot schools to help with training. The goal is to expand the CBELD model beyond science and eventually develop CBELD curriculum in all areas of study for every grade.



PPS expands Dual Language Immersion programs

Studies have shown that Dual-Language Immersion (DLI) is not only most the effective form of bilingual education, it directly contributes to long-term academic success of its students in math, science and social studies.

PPS will establish its first Vietnamese DLI Program in Fall 2014 at Roseway Heights K-8. Spanish DLI programs will be expanded to Sitton and James John and Mandarin DLI to King K-5 School.

Parents interested in knowing how the DLI model help their student to meet or exceed state academic standards are encouraged to contact the DLI Department at 503-916-3151.

International Youth Leadership Conference 2014

The second annual IYLC was a great success. Over 400 ESL high school and middle school students gathered at the Marshal Campus for a day of workshops and trainings on community building, college preparedness, and cross-cultural communication

PPS Superintendent Carole Smith welcomed all the students at the morning assembly and especially recognized the High School Leadership Council members who have spent the year receiving targeted trainings in leadership, consensus building, and goal development.

One of the Council's goals was to play the role of student/cultural ambassadors in the Conference. More than 25 Council members spent the day greeting student, passing out conference packets, escorting presenters and exhibitors to rooms, and serving as hosts during lunch. They also took the photos and videos of the entire conference. (See right)

Oregon Assistant Superintendent of Education David Bautista cheered the work of the students and proclaimed them to be the "the future of Oregon."

Photos of the conference are on the IYLC Facebook page. www.facebook.com/PPS.IYLC

For information about how your student can participate in the IYLC or the High School Leadership Council, contact your community agent.

